



# KINGS LANGLEY PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES of the Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2022.

Present: Cllrs Anderson, Angiolini (Vice Chair), Button (Chair), Collins, De Silva, Johnson, McLean, Morrish, Rogers and Sinclair.

Also Present: Mr Paul Dunham, Clerk to the Council.

1. Apologies for Absence.

1.1 None.

2. Declarations of Interest.

2.1 None.

3. Public Participation / Question Time / Urgent Planning & Licencing Matters

3.1 Public Participation / Question Time.

3.1.1 None.

3.2 Urgent Planning & Licencing Matters

3.2.1 Consideration of Planning Applications as listed here:

Reference	Address	Details of Application	Submission	Reason (if any)
22/00128/RET	51 Beechfield	Retention of removal of 1 x glazed door and the repositioning of the exiting double glazed window. Infill of the opening. Addition of external render.	No objection	
22/00094/FUL	Darkwood, Rucklers Lane	Demolition of existing dwelling and outbuildings and construction of a single storey detached dwelling with associated landscaping and works.	No objection	

3.2.2 Other Planning & Licencing Matters.

3.2.2.1 None.

3.2.3 Any Other Planning & Licencing Business (Not Requiring Formal Decision).

3.2.3.1 The Clerk advised that the error on the Planning website regarding the Council's submission (objection) to the recent application for 34 Coniston Road had been corrected.

4. Police Matters and Other Services.

4.1 Crime reports.

4.1.1 No reports had been received. As PCSO Agallili had now transferred to Tring, the Clerk would ensure that the contact he had provided received a copy of the agenda.



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4.2 Any Other Police and Neighbourhood Watch Matters.

4.2.1 None.

5. Hertfordshire County Council Matters.

5.1 General Matters.

5.1.1 Cllr Roberts was not present for this item.

5.2 Highways Matters.

5.2.2 Cllr Roberts was not present for this item.

6. Minutes of Previous Meeting(s).

6.1 It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED that:

The minutes of the meeting(s) held on 11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> January 2022 be adopted as a true record.

6.1.1 The Chair then signed the Minutes.

7. Matters Arising.

7.1 None.

8. Reports.

8.1 Standing Committees.

8.1.1 Planning & Licensing Committee.

8.1.1.1 The minutes of the meeting(s) held on 21<sup>st</sup> December 2021 were adopted as a true record.

8.2 Chair's Reports.

8.2.1 No report.

8.3 Reports from Chairs of other Committees / Groups.

8.3.1 No reports.

8.4 Clerk's Report / Action List.

8.4.1 No report.

8.5 Village Warden's Activities, Priorities and Planning.

8.5.1 The Clerk advised that the Warden had today given a guided talk to the pupils of Sarratt Primary School which had encompassed a visit to the site of the Royal Palace, the Priory, and Edmunds's tomb in All Saints' Church. All agreed that this was good publicity for the village and to raise the Council's profile. Further consideration would be given to whether this could be offered to Kings Langley schools.



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## 9. Finance Matters

### 9.1 Schedule of Payments for January 2022.

#### 9.1.1 It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED:

That the payment schedule for January 2022 in the sum of £9,860.13 be approved, and that the Clerk be authorised to issue the appropriate payments.

#### 9.1.2 The Chair then signed the schedule of payments.

### 9.2 Examination and signing of the Council's Bank Account Statements (as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021). Members had received copies of the summaries.

#### 9.2.1 The Chair examined the Council's bank account statements and signed a statement to that effect on behalf of the Members that the balances as at the above date were:

Current Account:	£5,000.00
Reserve Account:	£89,424.51
NS&I Investment Account:	£45,869.91

#### 9.2.2 The Clerk advised that as a result of his communication with it, the bank would not be introducing charges.

## 10. Dacorum Borough Council and Other Public Bodies.

### 10.1 Dacorum Borough Council.

#### 10.1.1 Cllrs Anderson and Johnson – Reports and Members' questions

Cllr Johnson reported that there had been a brief full council meeting which was essentially to agree items from Cabinet.

## 11. Members Items / Reports and Questions (not included elsewhere).

### 11.1 Parish / Neighbourhood Plan Reports.

#### 11.1.1 Neighbourhood Plan (Cllr Morrish).

Cllr Morrish advised that the final consultation phase has now expired. The comments would now be examined by Dacorum Borough Council's Planning Team and then the results shared with the Council. The plan will now be considered by an independent examiner. This part of the process should take about six weeks.

#### 11.1.2 Parish Plan – Environment Group (Cllr Button).

Cllr Button advised that he was planning to organise the Group's next meeting after the forthcoming meeting with Kings Langley Football Club.

#### 11.1.3 Parish Plan – Leisure Group (Cllr Johnson),

Cllr Johnson had provided notes of the meeting held in January which had been issued with the agenda and is attached as appendix 1. He highlighted that the work cutting back the paths in the woods should now have been completed.

#### 11.1.4 Parish Plan – Transport Group (Cllr McLean).

Cllr McClean reported that a meeting to follow up the previously agreed priorities would be on the Wednesday of next week.



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## 11.2 Geographical Areas Reports

### 11.2.1 Abbots Rise area (Cllr Angiolini).

Cllr Angiolini reported that a neighbour had raised concerns about a build up of boxes at a Rucklers Lane garage / hard standing which backs on the Abbots Rise. As this was on private land, the Council did not feel it could take any action.

### 11.2.2 The Common, Vicarage Lane / Langley Hill / Great Park (Cllr Button)

There will be some road works in Vicarage Lane next week which may create some challenges.

### 11.2.3 Hempstead Road areas (Cllr Collins).

Nothing to report.

### 11.2.4 Blackwell Road area (Cllr De Silva).

Cllr De Silva reported that the main issue in the area was the damage to the verges in Mill Lane. There was a fly tip of a black sofa on Hempstead Road opposite the football club. This had been reported by Cllr Johnson.

### 11.2.5 London Road area (Cllr De Silva).

Nothing to report.

### 11.2.6 Watford Road area (Cllr Johnson).

Nothing to report.

### 11.2.7 Rucklers area (Cllr Morrish).

Cllr Morrish reported that there is extensive drain clearance activity in Rucklers Lane, which was excellent news. However this would not resolve the long term issue which emanates in the rural part of the lane where there is no surface drainage.

### 11.2.8 High Street area (Cllr Rogers).

Cllr Rogers reported that some of the hospitality providers had not been aware of the latest government grant, so he had provided details. He added that "The Old Palace" was up for let.

### 11.2.9 Coniston Road area (Cllr Sinclair).

Cllr Sinclair noted how large the development at 34 Coniston Road was and awaited the outcome of latest planning issue.

## 11.3 Village Garden (Cllr Johnson).

### 11.3.1 Cllr Johnson would be resuming the Friday morning sessions, this week, with a check of the work needed.

## 11.4 Litter Picks

### 11.4.1 These would re-start on 27<sup>th</sup> February.

## 11.5 Sunderland's Yard Allotments

### 11.5.1 Nothing to report.

## 12. Kings Langley Parish Council Representatives on Outside Bodies.

### 12.1 The Kings Langley Community Benefit Society (KLCBS) (Cllr Morrish).

#### 12.1.1 Nothing to report.

### 12.2 Kings Langley Community Association.

#### 12.2.1 Nothing to report,



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## 13. Council Surgeries.

13.1 The next surgery would be on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> February.

## 14. Other Matters.

### 14.1 Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations.

Members had indicated that they wished to consider what could be organised to celebrate this special occasion. The Clerk had provided some paperwork related to the Queen's Diamond Jubilee event in 2012 for ideas and guidance. He stressed there was a lot of effort involved. It was noted that the High Street traders had begun to discuss the idea of an event in the High Street similar to the one they organised for Christmas, but, possibly, with the closure of the High Street too. The Clerk and Loretta Anderson of Community Action Dacorum (joint organisers of the Council's Christmas Lights events) had already advised the shopkeepers' organising group of some of the costs and requirements of closing the High Street.

Cllr Johnson advised that he had been approached by Matthew Cooper of Christ Church Baptists who had suggested that it might be an idea to organise something in the village garden and the grounds of All Saints', in a similar way to events held there in the past. Members supported this idea and Cllr Johnson agreed to discuss this with Fr James. This might also find favour with the High Street group, although their preference it to hold it on the Saturday (4<sup>th</sup> June) which goes against the official recommendation of the Sunday (5<sup>th</sup>). It was further agreed that the Council would set money aside for this and also to support other street parties in the village, subject to Cllr Anderson checking the budget. Consideration would also be given to planting a commemorative tree or a bench.

### 14.2 High Street - Electricity Feeder (the Clerk).

14.2.1 The Clerk had provided a copy of an email from Ringway showing the requirements for specifying this work. The Clerk expressed his concerns that having already paid £3,000 in advance for the installation of the supply to this feeder, the Council may be faced with a similar sum for this part of the work, and given that the shape of the Christmas event may change in the light of 2021 event (organised by the High Street traders), he raised the question of whether the feeder would be needed. It was noted that the fee for the supply installation was refundable. He added that as it now seems that the supply to the feeder will have to be metered, there may be regular standing charge too.

It was agreed that the Clerk would get the information needed and respond to the email accordingly in order to fully understand the costs.

NOTE: Grants of up to £10,000 are available from the UK Community Foundations.

### 14.3 "Rectory Farm extension proposal" (Cllr Rogers).

The Council's current position on this topic, agreed in Part II of its meeting held on 11th January 2022, is that should further development of Rectory Farm take place, it would be in the best interests of the village that the Parish Council assumes ownership of the proposed area designated by the developer as community land and that it leases it with full responsibility to a third party.

This does not mean that the Council supports the development.



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Cllr Rogers had requested that this item be discussed in a open Council meeting so that members of the public could participate. This had been agreed subject to proper consideration being given to any confidential matters.

Cllr Rogers raised his concerns about the long term implications of the Council's stated position and also the question of the legal appropriateness raised by email by a resident, who suggested that the Council had acted improperly in accepting what he called "a gift".

The Chair responded that the Council's resolution was based on what it felt was in the best interest and betterment of the village. Cllr Anderson added that an accusation of improper behaviour would have to demonstrate that the Council had changed its view as a result of receiving ownership of the land, which it hasn't; it has not given any indication that it is in favour of any further development of the site.

Cllr Rogers raised more detailed concerns but other Members were satisfied and assured that these had been covered in discussions with the potential third party partner.

### 15. Any Other Business ((Not Requiring Formal Decision)).

15.1 Cllr Anderson advised the Council needed to consider any changes to its Financial Regulations and asked that Members examined these, which can be found on the website, and to pass any suggestions to him or the Clerk.

15.2 Cllr Morrish updated Members on the progress on the improvements being considered for the library. It would seem that because of a lack of potential funding, this would be limited to opening up and enhancing the garden area.

Meeting closed 20:39.



## APPENDICES

### Appendix 1.

#### **Briefing note of the January 2022 Leisure Group meeting**

##### Repair Shed

Discussions have taken place with Community Action Dacorum who will now be seeking quotes to bring the property back into use as a Repair Shed.

##### Kings Langley Links

A small number of organisations have either provided information, i.e. parish council meeting dates, or agreed to provide information for the website. Once there are sufficient entries there will be more publicity given, including flyers, Facebook posts and a 1 to 1 approach involving High Street shops and businesses, Noticeboards, libraries etc.

##### Commons and woods

The Sunnyside Trust finished their clearance of 1000 metres of woodland footpaths last month. Dacorum Borough Council have been asked to keep the footpaths clear in future.

##### Trim Trail

The planning application for the Trim Trail has been published. Dacorum have offered to purchase the equipment if the parish council then reimburses DBC. In this way, DBC will assume responsibility for the maintenance (although they may seek a contribution)...

##### Cycling

Unfortunately the community activator role due to lead on the national cycling project has still not been filled. The cycling club will be running 4 national events..

##### Community Toilet Scheme

Dallings to participate at no cost; Saracens Head/Fred and Gingers will be approached..

##### Heritage Trail

The addition of more Village Maps was still being investigated as problems were identified at Tooveys Mill in terms of potential locations..

##### Signage

The stencils have been ordered for the pavement 'signs.'

##### Historic Village sign

The preferred option was agreed at the January parish council meeting.

##### Rectory Farm Community Land

This was raised in relation to the Parish Council's decision to take responsibility for the community land in the event that development on the rest of Rectory Farm is permitted, The Council decided to do so in these circumstances and contract with a third party to manage the community land. The suggestion was made the detail of what was proposed for the site should be made public. It was explained that, until there was a formal application, the only decision was in respect of the community land but not the use to be made of the community land which may be made. Until then, it was solely conjecture about which the council had no information, i.e. why x instead of y, which was a matter for Angle. Now a third party had been identified, but it was 2 years before the Local Plan was considered at an Examination in Public by the planning inspector. The development timescales were even longer.