



KINGS LANGLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 5th April 2022.

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

Also Present: Mr Paul Dunham, Clerk to the Council. Mrs Riddle, The Common

1. Apologies for Absence.

1.1 Members received and accepted apologies for absence from Cllr Sinclair.

2. Declarations of Interest.

2.1 All Members of the Council declared a Personal Interest in item 3.2.2.1 (Dacorum Borough Council - Licensing Act 2003 – LA2003 s.34: Premises licence - Full Variation application – Ye Olde Red Lion) because of the support the licensee(s) give to local events.

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

3.1 Public Participation / Question Time.

3.1.1 Mrs Riddle of The Common raised two issues:

- a) The illegal stopping / parking of vehicles at the bottom of Common Lane, which frequently caused a blocking of the road and dangerous manoeuvres. [NOTE: The Clerk would contact County Cllr Roberts and the local PC.]
- b) The poor state of the trees in the small coppice in “Rockcliffe Park” which were weighed down by ivy and neglected. Mrs Riddle volunteered to be part of a small workforce to help resolve this but had been met with little support from Dacorum Borough Council. Cllr Johnson was due to meet a Borough officer shortly and would raise this matter, which the Clerk would then follow-up if necessary.

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)
22/00752/FHA	27 Osbourne Avenue	Demolition of existing conservatory and erection of single storey rear extension. Extension to existing patio.	No objection	
22/00353/MFA	Kings Langley Service Station and adjoining land, Hempstead Road	Provision of an Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Station, together with new residential development comprising 10 no. affordable homes and associated parking, landscaping and access improvement works.	Objection	The Council objects to this proposal as it feels it would be an inappropriate development in the Green Belt and would significantly harm its openness. The applicant has not presented any appropriate special circumstances to support development in the Green Belt. This objection refers mainly to the residential housing part of the proposal; the Council would likely look more favourably on a



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				separate proposal to develop the fuel station to include electric charging points.
22/00727/FUL	Caretakers Bungalow, Kings Langley School, Love Lane	Single storey extensions to former caretaker's bungalow to provide sixth form centre (amended scheme).	Objection	The Council objects to this application because the tree survey, which should have been completed before any works took place, has not been supplied, and trees have already been removed.
22/00863/FHA	8 Ridgeway Close	Single storey side and rear extension.	No objection	
22/00849/UPA	1 The Orchard	Additional storey to a maximum height of 8.3m with 4 windows to front and 2 to rear.	Objection	The Council objects to this proposal because of its height / size being too large for the plot, would be unattractive and have a detrimental impact and be out-of-keeping with the street scene / neighbouring properties.
22/00632/FHA	75 Watford Road	Double and single storey rear extension and side dormer projection.	No objection	

3.2.2 Other Planning & Licencing Matters.

3.2.2.1 Dacorum Borough Council.

Licensing Act 2003 – LA2003 s.34: Premises licence - Full Variation application – Ye Olde Red Lion.

3.2.2.2 The Council agreed to submit an objection to this application as follows:

“The Council objects to the parts of this application specifically relating to extending the hours permitted for either kind of music to 02:00 the following morning, and outside, with respect to the effect on public nuisance. The noise from the premises already has a long-ranging impact, and this application, if approved, would exacerbate the issue.”

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

3.2.3.1 None.

4. Police Matters and Other Services.

4.1 Crime reports.

4.1.1 No reports had been received.

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 County Cllr Roberts had given his apologies.

5.2 Highways Matters.

5.2.2 Cllr Button reported that further surface dressing work would start on 10th April in Vicarage Lane. It was noted that this had been well publicised.



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- 5.3 Speed Indicator Device – Watford Road southbound
- 5.3.1 The Council had received an email from Cllr Roberts confirming his offer of £3,000 towards the cost of the above with the balance of £2,100 being required from the Parish Council. There was some discussion regarding whether it would be possible to provide a pole so that the device on the northbound side could be switched.
- 5.3.1.1 The Clerk was asked to ascertain from Cllr Roberts a price for just a post, ask how the switching might be achieved in practice and where it would be located.

6. Minutes of Previous Meeting(s).

- 6.1 It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED that:

The minutes of the meeting(s) held on 1st March 2022 be adopted as a true record.

- 6.1.1 The Chair then signed the Minutes.

7. Matters Arising.

- 7.1 Cllr Rogers provided some background regarding the status of the cycling event, that it was British Cycling has stated that working with the Berkhamsted Club “did not align with its strategy”, and supporting the speedway in Watford instead.

8. Reports.

- 8.1 Standing Committees.

- 8.1.1 Planning & Licensing Committee.

- 8.1.1.1 The minutes of the meeting(s) held on 15th February 2022 were adopted as a true record.

- 8.2 Chair’s Reports.

- 8.2.1 Nothing to report.

- 8.3 Reports from Chairs of other Committees / Groups.

- 8.3.1 Christmas Lights. It was agreed that the event would be held on 26th November.

- 8.4 Clerk’s Report / Action List.

- 8.4.1 The Clerk reported that this and forthcoming agendas for the Annual Meeting of the Council and the Annual Parish Meeting have been keeping him busy.

- 8.5 Village Warden’s Activities, Priorities and Planning.

- 8.5.1 The warden had started the re-staining of the hitching rail and would also be re-painting the white posts.

- 8.6 Mill Lane verge – placement of logs.

- 8.6.1 It had been agreed at the previous meeting that the Council would place logs on the damaged grass verge in Mill Lane, but it had not established how this would be achieved. After some discussion it was agreed, at Cllr Andersons instigation, that the Clerk would contact Dacorum Borough Council’s Chris Conley to ask if he could help.



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9. Finance Matters

9.1 Schedule of Payments for March 2022.

9.1.1 It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED:

That the payment schedule for March (29th) 2022 in the sum of £16,069.19 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 28th February 2022). 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:	£67,505.33
NS&I Investment Account:	£45,869.91

9.3 Annual Risk Assessment and Management (for the period 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022).

9.3.1 The Accounts and Audit (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2006 require the Council to review its risks and to minute that it has done so. The Clerk added that he had not made any amendments to the plan for the above period.

It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED that:

That the Annual Risk Assessment and Management (for the period 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022) review had been satisfactorily completed.

9.4 Review of the Effectiveness of Internal Audit and Control Systems 2021-22.

It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED that:

- a) The review of the effectiveness of the Council's Internal Auditor had been satisfactorily carried out
- b) The review of the Council's control systems had been satisfactorily carried out and that it was adequate, robust and efficient.

9.5 Asset Register as at 31st March 2022

9.5.1 The report and amendments thereto, most of which were those recommended by the Internal Auditor, were considered by Members, and so it was recorded that the Council had reviewed, noted and agreed the contents of the Asset Register.

9.6 Application for financial assistance - Kings Langley Bowls Club.

9.6.1 The Bowls Club sought assistance towards the replacement of outside furniture.

It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED:



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That Kings Langley Bowls Club be granted £250 re the above.

9.7 Trim Trail in Green Park.

9.7.1 The following quotes had been received and

It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED that the action to accept the quote from contractor 3 be approved:

Contractor	Amount	Notes
1	£7,775	Excludes installation
2	£7,118	Excludes installation
3	£9,210	Includes installation (£3,675) and delivery (£475) - ACCEPTED

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 Anderson provided some details of the “Chiltern Beechwood” issue raised by the Government Agency, Natural England, which had occupied the Borough recently and which means that any planning applications where they involve increasing the population will be put on hold for several months.

Cllr Johnson reported that the Borough would be selling off £0.5m worth of garages for reinvestment into housing stock

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 progress is being delayed because of the Chiltern Beechwood (see above).

11.1.2 Parish Plan – Environment Group (Cllr Button).

There had not been a further meeting.

11.1.3 Parish Plan – Leisure Group (Cllr Johnson),

Cllr Johnson had provided notes (see appendix 1) of the meeting held in March and he invited questions. There were none.

11.1.4 Parish Plan – Transport Group (Cllr McLean).

Cllr McLean had provided a report (see appendix 2) and he highlighted the main items.

11.2 Geographical Areas Reports

11.2.1 Abbots Rise area (Cllr Angiolini).

Cllr Angiolini had nothing to report. The Clerk had arranged for the overgrown hedge on Abbots Rise to be reported to Herts Highways.

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

No issues.

11.2.3 Hempstead Road areas (Cllr Collins).

The damage to the verge at the junction of Rectory Lane / Hempstead Road was raised with little success. The football club had agreed to deal with the verge damage at the bottom of Coniston Road / Hempstead Road when the weather allows. The village sign by Rectory Lane is to be moved 1.6m northwards.



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11.2.4 Blackwell Road area (Cllr De Silva).

Nothing to report.

11.2.5 London Road area (Cllr De Silva).

The water leak outside Shendish Edge has now been fixed. The footpath at the bus stop outside West Way is being raised.

11.2.6 Watford Road area (Cllr Johnson).

Nothing to report.

11.2.7 Rucklers area (Cllr Morrish).

Cllr Morrish is still awaiting news of the implement of the speed / volume device promised by Cllr Roberts. There is some discussion regarding a road closure for the Queen's Jubilee.

11.2.8 High Street area (Cllr Rogers).

Cllr Rogers had nothing to report.

11.2.9 Coniston Road area (Cllr Sinclair).

No report.

11.3 Village Garden (Cllr Johnson).

11.3.1 The volunteer morning will be this coming Friday. They will be planting the rose bushes donated by the National Roses Centre, the varieties of which will be unknown until they have flowered.

11.4 Litter Picks

11.4.1 There were three volunteers at the last pick.

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 The next market would be on Easter Saturday.

12.2 Kings Langley Community Association.

12.2.1 Cllr Rogers reported that the Chairman and treasurer were returning and that there was considerable concern that there was difficulty finding replacements. However, someone has now stepped forward (Jeremy Taylor).

13. Council Surgeries.

13.1 The next surgery would be on Saturday 16th April.

14. Other Matters.

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

Cllr Johnson confirmed that preparations for the “garden party” in the village garden and surrounds on Sunday June 5th were moving along nicely; it was expected to be a fairly simple event with music, tea and cakes etc.

14.1.1 Queen's Jubilee Tree (Cllr Johnson).

Cllr Johnson had presented a paper containing options. Members' preference was for a Tibetan Cherry, which the Clerk and Cllr Johnson would arrange to purchase.



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14.2 Annual Parish Meeting 20th April.

14.2.1 The finalised agenda and arrangements for the evening were discussed understood and agreed.

14.3 Local Government Code of Conduct.

14.3.1 Members agreed to adopt the latest national Code of Conduct (updated 19th January and 17th May 2021).

14.4 Parliamentary Boundaries Review.

14.4.1 Cllr Anderson reminded Members that this review proposed that the Kings Langley was moved to a different parliamentary constituency that included Three Rivers. However the date for any further submissions had now passed.

14.5 Ukraine appeal.

14.5.1 The Clerk and Cllr Anderson informed Members that the Parish Council had no powers to contribute to this appeal. Members agreed to make personal donations.

14.6 Environmental Initiative Award.

14.6.1 The winners of the award, students from Kings Langley School, would be invited to a presentation at the APM. It was noted that the award for this would be £200. The Clerk would also send an application form to claim via the small grants scheme for the additional money needed to implement their proposed scheme.

14.7 Village Garden and Allotments tree safety survey.

14.7.1 Cllr Johnson advised that the recent survey showed that the Council owned trees had not suffered too badly in the recent storms. There were two trees in the village garden that need to be removed and a further two in Sunderlands Yard with some others that need to be pollarded and a further eight with “severe ivy” that need to be dealt with as part of a three year programme. Cllr Johnson is seeking quotes for the urgent work. Cllr Anderson confirmed that there was sufficient in the Council’s budget to cover this.

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

15.1 Cllr Anderson advised that he was organising the “Beating of the Bounds” for the 22nd May, hopefully in collaboration with Fr James, who would like it to be a family affair (although this may not be feasible).

Meeting closed 21:03.



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APPENDICES

Appendix 1.

Briefing note on Kings Langley Parish Council Leisure Group 29th March 2022

Present: Eric Martin, Derek Collins, Alan Johnson. Apologies: Debbie James-Saunders, Mark Rogers

Repair Shed

No update in the absence of Debbi. Alan Johnson agreed to obtain an update before the next meeting from Abbots Langley and/or Sunnyside. Action: Alan

Commons and woods

Alan explained the paths had been cleared, but DBC did not have the funding from Herts County Council or inclination to keep the footpaths clear. This may be something the parish council will wish to consider funding in future if this remained the case.

Trim Trail

Alan explained planning approval had been given and DBC had subsequently agreed to assume responsibility for the equipment. The invoice would therefore be sent to DBC for payment and the parish council will reimburse DBC; it is likely the parish council will be asked for some funding towards the running costs..

Cycling

In the absence of Mark, Derek explained the anticipated support for a local cycling event had receded and the nearest planned events would be in the Watford area.

Community Toilet Scheme

In the absence of Debbi, there was no update.

Heritage Trail leaflet

This had not been updated since the last meeting. Action: Alan

Signage

Village map

The proposed additional Village Map along the towpath still awaited a response from the Canals and Rivers Trust. Alan agreed to contact Abbots Langley Parish Council to ask for an update on towpath improvements between Tooveys Mill and Red Lion Lane and 'piggy back' the map enquiry on the back of this. Action: Alan

Village sign

Graham Prentice had completed the 'Historic Village' addition for the signs at either end of the village. Both signs needed refurbishment, but the one on Hempstead Road also needed to be moved.

Stencils

The suggested colour was yellow. The signs would be sprayed during the Easter break.

Rectory Farm

There was a brief discussion about the current proposals for the site, specifically public toilets in the café and a Repair Shed solely for the use of village residents. The Primrose Hill Repair Shed was to be jointly funded by the two parish councils and HACRO.



Appendix 2.

Transport Group Action Points from meeting of Wed 09/02/2022.

Note: Full notes of the meeting are attached to this document and can be read as necessary.

Item 2) ARUP fall-back position/Neighbourhood Plan.

Ensure Safety Issues included in Neighbourhood Plan: **Action J.**
Morrish.

Item 4) Resolution of inch Point.

Examination of historic traffic data to validate restriction timings. **Action: B. Mclean.**
Pursue necessary permissions to implement single yellow line option. **Action: A.**
Freeman.

Item 6) One Way System feasibility.

Given potential funding delay, defer item; problem has not been a major issue during the pandemic due to reduced traffic flow. **Action: Defer.**

Item 7) Primary School Crossing/Manual.

Pursue implementation in time for September Term. **Action: A.**
Freeman.

Item 7) Primary School Crossing/Electronic.

Linked to decision on Rectory Farm Phase Two, awaiting outcome. **Action: Defer.**

Item 8) Traffic Lights Nap/High Street.

Monitor traffic incidents and move to highest priority if proven to be a major safety issue. **Action: Monitor.**

Item 9) Tow Path Completion.

Red Lion Lane congestion.
Rucklers Lane Double Yellow Lines.
Allow Andrew to progress these issues as background tasks. **Action: A.**
Freeman.

Transport Group Update: Wed 09/02/2022.

Present: Bob Mclean, Howard Button, John Morrish, Richard Roberts, Andrew Freeman.

Apologies: James Markham, Andrew Tempany.

Chairman opened the meeting thanking attendees and suggested that the Priority list from the meeting of 13/12/2021 be used as the agenda in order to ensure a rapid and focussed meeting.

Item 2) ARUP fall- back position/Neighbourhood Plan.

John stated that the Neighbourhood Plan consultation was now complete, the results were to be collated by Dacorum and the next steps were hopefully that a referendum take place in the Spring. This process of result analysis being undertaken by an Independent Examiner appointed by the Council. If proven to be satisfactory then the plan would be formally adopted.

Item 4) Resolution of the Pinch Point.

The plan, as discussed at the last meeting was to enter into an immediate consultation. Subsequent to the meeting an idea had been discussed, which, if possible, may be less controversial and achieve the desired outcome.

The alternative was to look at introducing a single yellow line option along the whole length of the parking areas on Rose and Crown side of the High Street with specific restricted parking times in line with the heaviest traffic usage, nominally key windows, at peak times in the morning and afternoon.

The benefit of this approach was that there would be no 'permanent' loss of parking spaces other than those time limits which would need to be determined. In order to get a sensible handle on this it was agreed that the data recorded over the past three years (mainly pre-covid) would be made available and assessed to determine those specific times. The general consensus pointed to 0730 to



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1000 and 1430 to 1630 weekdays. It was felt that it was important to assess the data and this would add to the validity of the decision.

Subsequent to the meeting the data source had been made available and the Chairman would try and obtain effort to do the necessary analysis.

The consultation would therefore be deferred until the data has been fully examined.

Politically important in the run up to the 2023 local elections.

Item 6) One Way System, feasibility study.

Much discussion on this item which had been indicated that an immediate feasibility study into a pilot scheme should be undertaken. Again, it was stressed, that this item had a lot of local support but really from a limited number of residents living in Vicarage Lane and not directly from other parts of the village. If such a feasibility study was to be undertaken it would need to be supported by Highways and be funded, maybe from Richard's locality budget. If this was possible it was indicated that in the current financial climate any actual implementation maybe some 3 years away. Howard felt very strongly that although the one-way option should stay on the priority list this was not anywhere near as important as the crossing at the High Street and Nap junction. Thankfully, since opening there has been no major issues of traffic or parking at the nursery entrance, clearly the owners were doing a great deal to monitor and control this situation.

Politically, this may have an impact on the 2023 local elections, it therefore needed to have a consistent focus from the group. Notwithstanding, if a major traffic concern developed associated with the Vicarage Lane and High Street junction which caused road safety concerns then this would indeed take precedence over the one-way system pilot.

Item 7) Primary School Crossing: Manual.

Andrew was able to report good progress on this item. It was hoped this would be available and in place for the September term. There were hurdles to overcome, not least the potential recruitment of an individual to act as the crossing person and availability was not readily available. It was felt that if the post was agreed and funded that it could perhaps be undertaken on a voluntary basis in the first instance local 'social media' could be used as a possible recruitment/advertising mechanism.

Item 7) Primary School Crossing: Electronic.

Recognised that although a desirable situation this was inexplicably linked to any further development on Rectory Farm phase two. No decision had at this stage been made on this and certainly this was the only potential source of CIL monies that could be identified which may fund the development.

It was agreed this would stay on the priority list since dependence on manual effort was at best, potentially unreliable but recognising that the feasibility of the more permanent electronic solution was dependant upon decisions yet to be made and which, at the very least, were contentious.

Again, politically important in relation to the 2023 local elections.

Item 8) Traffic Lights @ Nap / High Street.

Partly covered in the item under the One-Way system. Howard reiterated his view that this was indeed the highest priority but accepted this had not, to date, been identified as more dangerous since the opening of the Nursery which had been opposed, due to its location, by the Parish Council. Should this become a major safety issue there was still the question of funding. The cost has been identified in the region of £200k and would, if available at some future date, swallow up any CIL monies from Rectory Farm phase two should that be forthcoming.

It was agreed to keep this under review and react should the safety record at this junction become a real threat, particularly to individuals crossing to nursery, primary or secondary school routes.

It was felt that should this become of major concern then the solution that would need to be implemented should include the raised platform identified in the ARUP report and also should include the integration of the current SPAR pedestrian crossing fully integrated solution.



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Andrew indicated that a consultation was to be undertaken in the near future under the LCWHIP process where a source of money may be available. If the proposed scheme could indicate a particular level which warranted and would support funding, this need to be in the area of at least 4/5 and his view was that with demonstrable safety concern the Nap/High Street junction may well qualify.

He would keep us informed regarding when this exercise would be taking place and ensure we were able to feed into that discussion.

Major impact on the forthcoming local elections.

Item 9) Tow Path Completion.

No discussion on this issue due to shortage of time, believe it may be planned so watch this space.

Item 10) Red Lion Lane congestion.

Issue here seems to be 'political' as the Local Councillor for Nash Mills seems to be unsupportive of any yellow line implementation unless she gets agreement to a car park at the far end of Red Lion Lane.

This seems to be an unlikely outcome and the dangers of the 'width' issues in the road continue to cause major problems.

Richard agreed to discuss with Jan to see if any form of compromise can be achieved.

The group recognise that the implementation of double yellow lines along the whole length of Red Lion Lane is unlikely to be supported but a part solution involving double yellow lines at the key points, traffic islands, junctions and at the canal bridge section would go a long way to improving the situation and would support this move.

Again, a significant vote winner running up to local elections.

Item 11) Double Yellow lines, entrance to Rucklers Lane.

Partly tied in to the resolution of the Red Lion Lane issue and the completion of the original junction improvements at Rucklers Lane, watch this space.

Any Other Business:

John wished to raise the issue of an increasing problem of speeding in Rucklers Lane. As attendees were pressed for time it was agreed John would address this issue directly with Richard off line.

It was felt that overall the Transport Group were beginning to make significant progress on a number of issues and that we should begin to promote these good news stories, maybe at the Annual Parish meeting which was scheduled for the 20th April.

It was agreed a separate meeting should be convened between Howard, John and Bob to collate and construct a suitable and positive report for presentation.

Chairman thanked individuals for their time and positive contributions and declared the meeting close @ 2035.