



Edmund de Langley
&
Isabella de Castilla

KINGS LANGLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Council held at 7:30pm on Tuesday 10th October 2023.

Present: Cllrs Button (Chair), Angiolini (Vice-Chair), Anderson, Coxill, De Silva, James-Saunders, Johnson, Lydon, Morrish.

Also Present: A member of the public.

1. Apologies for Absence

1.1 Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Rogers.

1.2 The Clerk to the Council, Mrs Owen, was also unavailable, having given her apologies. It was agreed that Cllr Johnson would take the minutes of the meeting.

2. Declarations of Interest

2.1 There were no declarations of interest.

3. Public Participation

3.1 There was no public participation.

4. Planning & Licensing Matters

Consideration of Planning Applications as listed here:

Reference	Address	Details	Decision
23/02198/FHA	18 Abbots Rise	Amended application from 22/02681/FHA. The amendment is for pitched roofs over the front dormers.	Noted.
23/02045/FHA	21 Rectory Lane	Car parking spaces to front garden incorporating retaining wall and steps.	No objection.
23/02263/FHA	12 Avenue Approach	Single storey rear extension with rooflight	No objection.
23/01362/FHA	30 Belham Road	Single storey side extension and single storey rear extension with basement and pitched roof over front gates. Construction of garden shelter.	Noted.



Edmund de Langley
&
Isabella de Castilla

KINGS LANGLEY PARISH COUNCIL

23/02184/FHA	2 Le Corte Close	Removal of a single storey timber-framed extension; replacement of all external access and garage doors, gates, windows, soffits and fascias, gutters, garden shed and other minor improvements to the property's appearance	No objection.
22/02333/MFA	Apsley Two, Brindley Way	Proposed demolition of existing buildings, and redevelopment to provide within buildings up to 5 storeys, office floorspace (Use Class E(g)(i), Retirement Living Plus (Extra Care) units (Use Class C2) and residential units (Use Class C3), together with widening of public footway, associated public realm, landscaping, car parking and servicing arrangements, cycle parking and stores, and all other associated and ancillary works.	No objection.

5. Other Planning & Licensing Matters

5.1 None.

6. Any Other Planning & Licensing Business (not requiring formal decision)

6.1 None.

7. Police Matters & Other Services

7.1 The police report for September had been circulated.

7.2 Cllr Johnson explained the travellers illegally occupying land adjacent to the A41 by-pass off Barnes Lane would be leaving the site at the end of the week, following consultation with local police and Hertfordshire County Council.



Edmund de Langley
&
Isabella de Castilla

KINGS LANGLEY PARISH COUNCIL

8. Hertfordshire County Council Matters (County Cllr Roberts)

a) Lamp Column Outside St Laura's - Missing Switch Equipment / Unlit Column

8.1 The Chair reported the problems were still outstanding and he would follow them up with County Cllr Roberts.

b) General Matters

8.2 There were none.

9. Highways

a) To receive any updates on Highways matters / outstanding items (Cllr Button / County Cllr Roberts)

9.1 The Chair reported that a wide part of the village was being consulted on a scheme to introduce a one-way system in Vicarage Lane. Due to the matter being a County Council matter and strong differences in opinion, it was agreed that the Parish Council would not respond to the consultation, but would encourage local residents to do so. The Chair said he would ask the Warden to post the consultation on noticeboards.

b) Traffic Light Control & Pedestrian Crossing of High Street Crossroads (Cllr Coxill).

9.2 Cllr Coxill reported he had been contacted by a resident about the danger posed to pedestrian safety on the Vicarage Lane side of the High Street crossroads. Cllr Coxill was advised that moving the pedestrian crossing outside Saddlers Walk to the crossroads, and traffic light controlling the crossroads, had been identified through the Neighbourhood Plan as the top priority for future significant CIL funding received by both HCC & KLPC. However, there was no harm in lobbying County Cllr Roberts in the short term, to make sure he remains aware of the project and its priority.

10. Minutes

10.1 The minutes of the Council meetings held on 5th September were adopted as a true record.

11. Matters Arising from the Above Minutes

11.1 There were none.

12. Planning & Licensing Committee Report

12.1 There was nothing to report.

13. Minutes

13.1 The minutes of the Planning & Licensing Committee meeting held on 15th August were adopted as a true record.



Edmund de Langley
&
Isabella de Castilla

KINGS LANGLEY PARISH COUNCIL

14. Charter Court Lease Renewal

- 14.1 It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED that the Chair, Cllr Button, and the Covering Proper Officer, Mr Dunham, would sign the new lease on behalf of the Council.
- 14.2 Whilst on the subject of Charter Court, Cllr Anderson reported that whilst works in one of the toilets had been completed, attention had turned to resolving the problem with the outside wall, where the bricks up to a height of about 2 to 3 feet had become badly eroded by rain water splashing from passing traffic in the road.
- 14.3 The project, which would require a traffic regulation order to close off one side of Vicarage Lane whilst the work was completed, was beyond the Council's means to tender, organise and manage. The landlord (DBC) had made it plain that it was the Council's responsibilities to maintain the wall and to pay for the works, but had offered to take care of running the project, so that it could take place, and the Council could demonstrate that public value for money was achieved through DBC's processes.
- 14.4 Cllr Anderson advised that it was anticipated that the Council should be able to afford the works, due to the windfall refund the Council had received on its business rates, and that the matter would be put on the agenda for the Council's November meeting.
- 14.5 Whilst members were broadly supportive of the project, it was felt that the Council should not agree to any works until it has received a clear indication of the works involved, and the total cost, as the Council was paying for the project.
- 14.6 In response to the Chair's request, Mr Faulkner, who was attending the meeting as a member of the public, said he would be willing to provide details on the works required and/or the likely costs involved, so that these could be compared with DBC's offer.

15 Chair's Report

a) Funding for PCSO for Kings Langley

- 15.1 Cllr Coxill reported he had been advised by Herts Police that there were insufficient PCSOs at the current time, but the situation may change in 6 months' time.

b) Bench in Vicarage Lane (adjacent to the Glebe)

- 15.2 The Chair reported he had received a complaint about anti-social behaviour on occasions at this location in the late evening/early morning. It was noted the bench had been installed at this location so older residents could take a rest as they climb the hill, and it was felt this had to take priority over isolated anti-social behaviour problems that could be reported to and actioned by the Police, or the Senior School Headteacher.

c) Staffing Update

- 15.3 The Chair gave an update on the Clerk's position and reported that the Village Warden had resigned, and that the vacancy would be advertised next week.



Edmund de Langley
&
Isabella de Castilla

KINGS LANGLEY PARISH COUNCIL

d) Staff Mobile Phones

15.4 It was noted that staff had been using their own mobile phones for council business. The Chair advised that all staff will be issued with Council mobile phones in due course. Cllr Coxill offered his help in easing how photos of Environmental problems taken by the Warden could be transferred to the Admin Assistant's office computer.

e) Village Entrance Signs

15.5 The Chair had presented before the meeting started a slide show of the 3 design options for which he had received quotes. The Council expressed a preference for the field gate design with 2 bars, and the Chair said he would ensure that all the options would be presented to the Council at its November meeting, so the decision could be formalised.

16. Reports from Chairs of other Committees/Groups

a) Christmas Lights

16.1 Good progress had been made with the majority of technical and practical aspects of the arrangements for the Christmas Lights Festival on Saturday 2nd December. The invitation to Sir Mike Penning as guest of honour would be 'followed up', as this would be the last Christmas at which he would be the village's M.P.

b) Gardens Competition - Presentation Evening

16.2 The presentation evening was a great success, thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated by all involved. The money raised had been paid into the Council's bank account. It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED to make a contribution to the Sunnyside Rural Trust, which rounded up the net amount received to the nearest £50.

17. Clerk's Report

17.1 There was no written report.

18. Village Warden's Activities, Priorities and Planning

18.1 There was no written report.

18.2 It was agreed the Chair would organise receiving the outgoing Warden's handover details, including the contents of/exact whereabouts of/need for the Council's garage.

19. Financial Matters

19.1 The schedule of payments for September 2023 was approved.

It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED:



Edmund de Langley
&
Isabella de Castilla

KINGS LANGLEY PARISH COUNCIL

That the payment schedule for September 2023 in the sum of £12,810.65 be authorised, thereby approving the Clerk to have made appropriate payments.

The payment schedule was signed by the Chair and Vice-Chair.

- 19.2 The Chair examined the Council’s bank account statements as at 31st August, and on behalf of the Council signed a statement to verify the accounts had been checked.

The balances as at the above date were:

Current Account:	£5,000.00
Reserve Account:	£240,916.47
NS&I Investment Account	45,912.60

- 19.3 The Council examined and noted the income and expenditure statements 2022-23.

- 19.4 The Council noted the Internal Audit Fee Letter for the year ending 31/03/24.

It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED:

That, for the year ending 31/03/25, the Council will continue with the same level of internal audit as it has undergone previously.

- 19.5 The Council noted the 2022/23 External Auditor Report and that the last stage of work for the 2022/23 audit would involve publishing the report on the website.

20.. Dacorum Borough Council and Other Public Bodies

a) Dacorum Borough Council

- 20.1 Cllr Johnson gave a short report about the last full Council meeting.

b) Borough Councillors Report

- 20.2 Cllr Anderson added DBC was currently consulting on car parking charging proposals. Whilst the proposals no longer included introducing charging at The Nap or Langley Hill car parks, the consultation still included heavily loaded questions designed to make people currently paying for parking complain about those who are not paying in the free car parks, and there was a suggestion that charging may be introduced in Kings Langley High Street, with the universal minimum stay and charge of 2 hours and £2. Cllr Anderson urged all councillors present to complete the survey on the DBC website and also to encourage residents to respond.

- 20.3 Cllr Anderson reported that a new Local Plan was due to be consulted on before Christmas. The majority of Green Belt sites had been removed, with the bulk of the proposed housing going to unspecified sites in Hemel Hempstead. Cllr Anderson felt this was unlikely to be agreed by the Planning Inspector at the end of the Local Plan process, and was concerned that whilst the housing supply dwindled, developers would



Edmund de Langley
&
Isabella de Castilla

KINGS LANGLEY PARISH COUNCIL

be allowed to build what they like, where they like, so that DBC lost all control.

- 20.4 Cllr Anderson advised that the applicant for Rectory Farm phase II development was in the process of mounting an appeal against non determination of their application, as DBC was refusing to take a decision on the application.

c) Polling District and Polling Place Review 2023

- 20.5 Cllr Anderson reported that DBC was carrying out its usual 5 yearly consultation on polling districts and polling stations. Whilst the DBC review was unlikely to receive any comments or make any recommendations, the Local Government Boundary Commission for England had started a separate, two year process to review principally the wards and ward boundaries in the Borough. Unfortunately, there was a risk that the Boundary Commission could propose merging the two Kings Langley and Nash Mills wards as a single 3 member ward, as an easy solution to solve there being too many electors in the current Nash Mills ward. There were other solutions, and Cllr Anderson hoped the Council would join a campaign against the merging should it be proposed. It was still early days on a very long process, and the Council will be consulted at each step.

21. Parish Plan Reports

a) Parish Plan - Environment Group

21.1 There was nothing to report.

b) Parish Plan - Leisure Group (written report attached to agenda)

21.2 Cllr James-Saunders agreed to ask Derek Collins to contact Cllr Lydon about the proposed Friends of Kings Langley Common.

c) Parish Plan - Transport Group

21.3 Cllr Morrish advised that London Road between Nash Mills Lane and the Dolittle Roundabout had been suggested for resurfacing, in addition to the section of Chipperfield Road identified by County Cllr Roberts.

22. Geographical Areas Reports

22.1 There were no reports.

23. Village Garden

23.1 A report had been circulated.

24. Litter Picks

24.1 A report had been circulated.



Edmund de Langley
&
Isabella de Castilla

KINGS LANGLEY PARISH COUNCIL

25. Sunderland's Yard Allotments

25.1 There had been a further flood in September due to a blocked culvert. This had been resolved. Concerns had also been raised about tree works carried out along the towpath/River Gade at Home Park Mill Link Road. The Environment Agency were in touch with the landowners to ensure the chippings and detritus were removed from the River Gade.

26. Kings Langley Parish Council Representation on Other Bodies

a) Kings Langley Community Association

26.1 The Annual Parish Meeting had been booked for 18th April 2024.

27. Council Surgeries

27.1 A report had been circulated.

28. Other Matters (as specified on the agenda)

a) Remembrance Services

28.1 There will be a short Remembrance Service at the War Memorial on Saturday 11th November. There will be a Church Service in the cemetery by the War Memorial the following day at 3pm. The Council will provide refreshments in the church hall following the service. All councillors were welcome to attend and help with the refreshments.

29. Any Other Business (not requiring a formal decision)

29.1 Cllr Morrish reported the Village Market would be moving into the church and church hall for January, February and March.

29.2 Cllr Anderson apologised to the Chair that the Chair's Report on the agenda had omitted the issue concerning the moving of the planters from inside Little Hayes to outside the gates. The Chair said the Fire Service would be asked if they could assist in organising the moving of these extremely heavy objects.

Meeting closed at 8.45pm.