

DRAFT

Minutes of Langham Parish Council (LPC) Meeting

24th July 2024 Langham Community Centre 7:30pm

Attendees: Cllr Armstrong, Cllr Bottwood, Cllr Brockman, Cllr Piper-Hunter, Cllr Anderson

Present: Clerk – Carol Harbach
2 Members of the public.
Cllr Tom Rowe

24/069 Welcome and apologies for absence
Apologies were received from Cllr Ogawa and Cllr Freeman.

24/070 Declaration of Members interests
Any declarations of interest will be brought up and declared as they arise on the agenda.

24/071 Agreement of Minutes of the meeting on 5th June 2024
These minutes had been previously circulated and were taken as a true and accurate account.
Proposed Cllr Anderson seconded Cllr Hunter All agreed.

24/072 Matters arising from the meeting on 5th June 2024
Pointing at monument – the quote was withdrawn so LPC will start the process again.
Bus shelter – this has been followed up but is unlikely to meet the eligibility criteria recently set out by Essex County Council. Cllr Rowe will follow this up with Cllr Barber. This item will be removed from the agenda unless confirmation is received from Cllr Barber that this might be viable.
Other items outstanding are on this agenda.

24/073 Public Open Forum (Maximum 15 minutes)
Questions may be noted and answered at the next meeting.
A resident stated that it nice to have the kerb reinstated outside the Community Centre.
It was confirmed that everything is in place for the unveiling of the plaque on Friday.

24/074 Visitors Reports (CCC and County Councillors)
Cllr Rowe was at the meeting and informed everyone that Colchester City Council (CCC) have sent their objection to the pylons to the National Grid. Cllr Rowe reported that there is a Waste and recycling consultation being undertaken and the objectives are in place for the county to meet more recycling targets. Wheelie bins will be replacing recycling bins and black bags, containers will be distributed in the future.

In response to LPC's earlier questions regarding potential funding contributions to a new public toilet at the Langham Recreation Ground, Cllr Rowe confirmed that no funding was available from CCC for either the initial construction or ongoing cleaning and maintenance. Cllr Rowe suggested writing to "Changing Places" who may be able to help with some funding.

Cllr Rowe was thanked for the comments that had been put forward regarding the traffic survey that had been undertaken and Cllr Rowe will continue to follow this up.

There are gullies and road side problems around the village. Some have been cleared but further work is required. Cllr Rowe will speak to Cllr Barber to see if they can work together with getting the road swept for a start. Birchwood Road is the worst one in the area at the moment. Cllr Rowe will try and make a request for a road clean in the area, particularly Birchwood Road, Grove Hill and Nightingale Hill.

24/075

Finance

076.1 To approve payments in accordance with the 2024/25 budget

Cllr Armstrong declared an interest in this item.

Details of payments to be put forward for agreement have been circulated to the Finance Committee and are proposed as follows;

Clerk Salary July	£1,000.36
James Todd & Co	£ 26.40
James Todd & Co June	£ 28.80
Moser Groundcare	£ 480.00
Contractor	£ 126.00
Impact Medical Insurance	£ 600.00
Bob Schofield Brewers donation	£ 100.00
Bob Schofield new gate chain	£ 15.49
Choir – D-Day event donation	£ 200.00
CALC – subscription fees	£ 35.00
James Building Services Ltd	£ 888.00
Langham Community Shop	
Teas for D-day event	£ 72.00
LCC Hall hire May hire	£ 13.50
LCC Hall hire June hire	£ 183.50
LCC Hall hire items missed off above	£ 30.00
Xenace license fees email	£ 411.26
Croft Castings Ltd	£ 552.00
P. Armstrong flywheel website	
Hosting	£ 120.54
RCCE subscription fees	£ 59.70
Barclaycard –	
123reg domain renewal	£ 14.39
Sage Ground Maintenance Services	£110.00

Payments due for August as council do not meet until September

DCM Surfaces wet pour	£2,220.00
Swing repair Wicksteed	£ 405.00
Playequip RoSPA inspection	£ 258.00

Total payments **£7,949.94**

These payments will be started by Cllr Bottwood and seconded authorised by Cllr Brockman. Proposed Cllr Anderson seconded Cllr Bottwood All agreed.

Current account 30/6/24

Income	£ 41,669.36
Expenditure	£ 19,600.41

Balance as at 30/6/24

Community Account 30553093	£ 48,655.48
Savings account 30553085	115.36
Tennis account 50634468	15,232.00
Bonfire account 40553182	16,481.87
LCC S106 80168297	74.20
	=====
	£ 80,559.11

A request has come in after the agenda had been published to have a refill station at the shop. This was discussed in more details and it was looked at how this would be supporting local community as a whole. A donation was requested for this to go ahead and the Langham Community Centre (LCC) will also be asked to contribute to this project. A report regarding this item from the shop was read out. The quote is for £3,345.00 + VAT the council were asked to support this project that was brought forward from the Finance Committee. The council will be asked for no more than half of the costs (£1,700) and it was thought that this was a good community project from all parties. This was discussed further and it was proposed to match fund this project. Clarification that there is no come back to the parish council, and that there is likely to be the uptake for this service will be followed up, but it was agreed that we should proceed with funding support on a matched funding basis. Further information will be circulated.

Proposed Cllr Bottwood seconded Cllr Hunter. All agreed.

24/076

Planning/Housing

077.1 Items from last planning meeting 17th June 2024

The LPA list of applications has nothing else to be added at the moment.

077.2 Planning Applications Decisions Received

240844 - East Pole, Langham Lane, Langham Colchester CO4 5HY

Proposed side extension and front porch. Approved conditional

240931 - Apex 12, Old Ipswich Road, Langham Essex CO7 7QR

Application for removal or variation of a condition 3 following grant of planning permission. (182553) No comment.

077.3 Planning Applications Received

241022 - Six Acres, High Street, Langham Colchester CO4 5NT

Application for static caravan to be placed on site during internal construction works. This has been approved.

241246 - Land at, Lodge Park, Lodge Lane, Langham Colchester CO4 5NE

Application to discharge condition 9 (architectural details) of planning permission 212967. No comment.

It was noted that there has been no application for a change of use for the car cleaning business which seems to have started up in Birchwood Road. The council has received complaints about this and it will be picked up with the CCC planning team.

24/077

Norwich to Tilbury National Grid Scheme Public Consultation 10.4.24 to 26.7.24

The Parish Council submission has been drafted and circulated and was discussed further. This reply was agreed and will be sent after tonight's meeting to meet the deadline of the consultation. Positive feedback has been received on social media with the response prepared by the Parish Council. Cllr Armstrong was congratulated on the response that he had put together on the council's behalf. Social media will be used to ask residents to respond individually to this consultation ahead of the imminent deadline.

24/078

Anglian Water (AW) Flooding Current Status

The last email from AW stated that they were going to start the monitoring of the site on the 15th July, but this has not yet been confirmed. The Local Planning Authority (LPA) website shows the planning application for the 12 homes in Wick Road, and AW have recently posted a comment that the Waste recycling centre (WRC) does not have capacity to cope with this application. It also states that if the LPA say this can go ahead the onus has to be with them in the future. We will seek fresh dialogue with the LPA to discuss this matter further.

24/079

Recreation Ground Committee updates

080.1 Matters arising from meeting on 19th June 2024

Unfortunately, Cllr Ogawa was unable to attend this meeting and a report was given by Cllr Anderson in her absence.

A few maintenance issues are being addressed including the RoSPA inspection.

The plaque opening unveiling is this Friday and everyone is welcome.

An advert will be placed on a flyer to go around the village to advertise the Classic Car show in September.

A request from the committee was put forward for a budget of £600 towards expenses for the classic car rally that is scheduled for 8th September. There is a site visit for this on 29th July 2024. Proposed Cllr Bottwood seconded Cllr Armstrong. All agreed. Further details will be discussed and updated to the council when known.

Firework night discussions are being undertaken and ongoing.

Badminton at the LCC – a draft business plan has been put together by the Recreation Ground Committee and will be passed on to the LCC for further consideration.

Hiring out of the marquees was agreed by the committee and the insurance on these will be checked and followed up.

Two contract renewals are due for the football teams and there needs to be a new contract with the Tennis Club. Meetings will be arranged to get these finalised. Some safeguarding and housekeeping issues have been raised by LCC in respect of the increasing number of football hires. A joint LPC/LCC working party have met to discuss these issues and work together to find solutions. This work is ongoing.

A meeting will be set up to assess a clearout of the container/pavilion. An additional marquee purchase has been approved by Council and this is being followed up.

The field area map for the hire costs of the field will be updated and made available to the LCC.

An online calendar for the hire of the car park etc will be looked at by Cllr Armstrong.

080.2 Traveller's disruption, procedures and deterrents

New locks have been purchased by the committee and are in place after the travellers removed the previous lock.

There are a written set of procedures that have been produced and are followed in these cases and these will be shared with the LCC.

The committee are looking into further deterrents for the future to make it harder for entry to be made into the field.

Quotes are being obtained and updates will be reported back when available.

080.3 Any other matters

None.

24/080

Planning & Infrastructure Committee Update

081.1 Matters arising from the meeting on 17th June 2024

A meeting was held on the 17th June with Glenn Williamson regarding the extension to the recreation area between the current Recreation Ground and his proposed development site, to include allotments and a new public car park. Mr Williamson will talk to his builder and come back to us.

Impact on any planning applications regarding the pylons – there are some concerns regarding this specially at Springfield Farm, in Grove Hill. The application and any applications in that area in will be affected by the pylon's swathe. The person who the LPC need to speak to is on holiday at the moment and will be contacted when they return.

Guy Williamson's application in Wick Road is subject to concerns raised by AW and there is an extension date made on this for final discussions.

There has been ongoing discussion (as yet unresolved) as to whether Langham should write a Neighbourhood Plan. The LPA currently does not

know how many sites will be brought forward. When this information is available the surveys for the village will then be sent out.

Highways matters – some issues have been covered under Visitors' Reports. Additionally the SID sign is still in the pavilion due to lack of installation approval at the proposed site in Wick Road. If this problem remains insoluble then a potential fallback option might be to install the SID sign in Park Lane as a replacement for the non-working VAS sign there. Cllr Barber will be contacted to chase regarding replacement of the VAS battery and also raise this new fallback option for his thoughts.

Cars parked close to the Park Lane/Moor Road junction were raised as a concern as there are a lot of parked cars which block the view around the corner.

Congratulations were given to Cllr Bottwood for getting the kerbs completed.

Toilets – an update report was provided regarding contact with various potential suppliers regarding specification and costs for low maintenance toilet facilities. Current suppliers are all EU rather than UK based.

081.2 Any other matters

None

24/081

Basque Plaque

This is being installed on Thursday ready for the unveiling at the LCC coffee morning on Friday morning. There have been donations from various organisations and individuals towards this totalling £450.00. All are welcome to attend this event. Ian Hollands was thanked for all his work on this.

24/082

Website update for Committee structures and new Councillors

These need to be completed but the website is being updated. Ongoing for photos.

24/083

New Councillor email addresses

Cllr Hunters password will be reset so he can be added to the email addresses for the council.

Photos of both new councillors will be put on the website.

Cllr Hunter left the meeting at 9pm

24/084

Councillor's Reports

No decisions are made or action points allocated in this section

Cllr Armstrong – no report

Cllr Bottwood – no report

Cllr Brockman – no report

Cllr Piper-Hunter- no report

Cllr Anderson -no report

24/085 Clerk's Report and Correspondence

Ideas are requested for the Locality budget that has been offered by Cllr Barber. This will be on the next agenda. A resident has requested an update on the situation with the new battery at the VAS sign in Park Lane. This is being followed up by the LCP with Cllr Barber.

24/086 Training/Events

Training events have been circulated by the clerk, with a reminder that these are particularly important for all new councillors and Chairs.

Cllr Armstrong is going to Great Dunmow to attend a website accessibility course next Monday.

24/087 Items for the next agenda

Locality budget

Items from above

VAS/SID proposals put toward Cllr Barber.

24/088 Chairman's closure of meeting

Chairman closed the meeting at 9:37pm