

Minutes of Langham Parish Council (PC) Meeting held on
Wednesday 1st June 2022

Present: Cllr Bottwood (Chair), Cllr Thorpe, Cllr Armstrong, Cllr Freeman
Attendees: Carol Harbach -Clerk Langham Parish Council
12 Members of the public

22/442 Welcome and apologies for absence

Cllr Bottwood welcomed everyone to the meeting.
Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Palmer, Cllr Ogawa and Cllr Brockman.

22/443 Declaration of Members interests

Any declaration of interest will be brought up and declared as they arise on the agenda.
None arose.

22/444 Agreement of Minutes of last meeting 6th April 2022.

These were agreed by all.

22/445 Matters arising from the last meeting

Planning - Flora Dene – the wording was amended on both applications before being submitted to Colchester Borough Council (CBC). Completed and discharged.
School Road – Williamson’s site the wording was amended before submission to CBC. Completed and discharged.
Oakbury – the PC submitted an objection to two new houses on the Old Ipswich Road adjacent to the A12 as the site was outside the village settlement boundary and also raised an issue with drainage that might affect the lack of capacity at the Langham Water Re-cycling Centre. CBC Rejected this application.
Sir Bernard Jenkin and Anglian water - sewage overflow problems - still ongoing. The PC are considering collecting feedback from residents via social media.
Details of the fly-past have been added to the website. Completed and discharged.
Paperwork for new councillors from Clerk. Completed and discharged.
Up-date from Jubilee committee member - no members of the Jubilee Committee present at the last meeting
Enovert Grant – Cllr Armstrong will pick this up later on the agenda.
Essex Cricket evening club due to start Friday 10th June. The draft contract will be looked at by the Recreation ground committee at the next meeting. Completed and discharged.
Email addresses - new email addresses have been requested and should be with us soon.
Clerk still looking at combined training for councillor with two other local parish councils.
Ongoing
Other items are on this agenda.

22/446 Confirmation of Committee Structure

Cllr Freeman signed his declaration of acceptance of office and returned this to the clerk.

The committees were agreed as follows;
Recreation Ground Committee – Chair Cllr Thorpe, Cllr Palmer, Cllr Ogawa. Bob Schofield as a member of the public with voting rights.
Planning Committee – Chair Cllr Bottwood, Cllr Thorpe, Cllr Freeman, Chris Graves and Tony Ellis as members of the public.
Finance Committee – Chair Cllr Bottwood, Cllr Brockman and Cllr Armstrong
Publicity and footpath Officer – Cllr Armstrong
Roads and transport – Cllr Bottwood

22/447 Public Open Forum (Maximum 15 minutes) Questions to be noted and answered at the next meeting.

The National Grid project was the main topic of conversation and will come up later.

22/448 Visitors Reports (CBC and County Councillors).

No visitors to report

22/449 Finance

449.1 Matters arising from previous finance meeting on 12th May.

A new process was discussed for signing off urgent payments for the jubilee event. The PC now need a new signatory as there is only currently two instead of three after the resignation of Cllr Mansell-Thomas. The new added signatory to the account was proposed as Cllr Armstrong. Proposed Cllr Freeman and seconded Cllr Thorpe. All agreed. Approval of the village sign – this became a larger refurbishment job than first thought and costs had increased. Ongoing Cllr Brockman. Cllr Thorpe asked for a record of thanks to go to the Clerk for the work given to the auditor for the audit and his complimentary comments. The Clerk was thanked by all.

449.2 To approve payments in accordance with the 2021/22 Budget for March 22

C. Harbach - Clerk Salary	£992.70
HMRC – NI Contributions	124.85
Contractor invoice 4-22	174.00
New padlock	21.98
James Todd & Co – payroll	24.00
Langham Community Centre Inv. 5143	147.00
Bee-Line Entertainment Jubilee Event	832.00
Karzees Ltd – Jubilee event	228.00
JNV Print Ltd – Chairmans boards in LCC	60.00

Total	2,604.53

Remoras Band for Jubilee event paid for Jubilee Event on 2 nd June	£400.00
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Payments were agreed. Proposed Cllr Armstrong seconded Cllr Thorpe. All Agreed.

449.2 Auditors Report and recommendations after Internal Audit

The Clerk had received the auditor's report back and had circulated this to all councillors. The recommendations were as follows:

- 1) To net off against the original payment which will reduce both receipts and payments by £900.00. Reviewed AGAR forms need to be signed off again for the external auditor. The final figures are for income £25,585.42 and for expenditure £30,001.06. The amended AGAR Forms were then signed after agreement ready to be sent to the external auditor. Proposed Cllr Thorpe seconded Cllr Armstrong. All agreed.
- 2) Register with the ICO for Data Protection (cost approx £35). EALC have been contacted, they recommend this is undertaken. This was discussed and agreed that the PC would be registered with the ICO by the Clerk. Action Clerk.
- 3) To include reference to GDPR in the Council's Risk Assessment (2022 Risk Received and needs to be completed). This will be added during the Risk Assessment draft which is being completed
- 4) The precept amount needs to be minuted.

The precept amount was on various paperwork but was not actually minuted.
The precept for the forthcoming year 2022 2023 was for £20,425.

- 5) The council should establish a policy for the level of General Reserves it needs to maintain.

The reserves had all been allocated to projects but there should be some shown in general reserves before the forms go to the external auditor.
Currently these reserves are;

New play equipment payment of £50,000 Delayed due to access and delivery issues
Tennis Club Account £14,932 Tennis courts maintenance account reserves
MUGA & Highways Projects £20,399 Payments to be added to S106 contributions which have been delayed.

Total £85,311.

The agreed amount will be discussed at the next finance meeting.

- 6) It is a requirement to appoint the Internal Auditor and record the decision in the minutes of the meeting.

It was proposed to have Heelis & Lodge as the internal auditors next year.
Proposed Cllr Freeman seconded Cllr Thorpe All agreed,

22/450

Planning/Housing

450.1 Planning Applications

221119 - National Grid Planning consultation on high voltage transmission network
Report on consultation event at Lawford on 28th May 2022

Cllr Bottwood had attended the public meeting at Lawford and gave a report of the event.
Cllr Bottwood explained that the PC had produced a draft response to the consultation and will take account of any other comments from residents tonight before submitting the response.

Cllr Bottwood read out the draft PC response and stated that this is the preliminary consultation stage and the official consultation on this starts next year. The main objection is that this stage has been reached without any proper consultation. The PC response will concentrate on the lack of transparency that the process has demonstrated so far. The PC will be following Sir Bernard Jenkin's approach that this should be taken to government by MPs highlighting the fact that there is a complete lack of regard to the other options available. The response from Sir Bernard Jenkins was also read out by Cllr Bottwood and will be available on line.

The PC response will be posted on the website and the response will go to CBC planning and to Sir Bernard Jenkin's office.

Residents also added that there are quite a few people in the village who do not have computers or access to websites and they may be concerned about this project.

A leaflet drop was suggested by a resident. Cllr Armstrong stated that there would be information regarding this matter posted at the jubilee events this weekend. The latest newsletter does also have a good article on this subject.

A local group will be sending out their own flyer information around the village to ask people to get involved.

Cllr Bottwood stated that the PC have to collect the views of the residents and put these views forward in the response sent to our MP. The residents present wanted the PC to know that they do not want this pylon option to go ahead and to pass this on to Sir Bernard Jenkin and government.

Resident's commented on the Pylons going through the Dedham Vale ANOB and through swathes of historic woodland. It was also pointed out East Anglia is an Agriculture and tourism area and suggested that the farming and food production side of things be mentioned in the draft.

A resident would provide a paragraph of these suggestions and send it to the Clerk.

The PC are currently interacting with Ardleigh and Dedham PCs and are working as a group on this. The PCs believe the National Grid are trying to go around the democratic process and there has been little time to react to the recommended solution.

There will be a joint response from Parish Councils, CBC and ECC which will go via Sir Bernard Jenkin's office to the Government.

When the draft response from the PC has been finalised, it is anticipated that this will be available in hard copy in the shop, on notice boards, on the website and linked to social media.

The residents present then left the meeting.

220746 - Oakview, School Road, Langham (demolition & relocation of existing outbuilding)

If CBC chose to approve this the PC would like a condition that is not to be used for residential purposes.

221046 - Bramble Cottage, Moor Road, Langham (window replacement, listed building) No objection.

221207 - Land at Park Lane Farm, Langham Lane (lawful development certificate application) This was objected to by the PC last time due to the speed limit and heavy farm traffic. This will be discussed at the next planning meeting.

220801 - Taihape, Park Lane, Langham (single storey rear extension, amended description)

This is an amendment to last planning application there might be an ownership of land issue. No objection.

450.2 Planning decisions received since last PC meeting

220681 - Oak Bury, Ipswich Road, Langham Colchester CO4 5NQ - Refused

220513 - Floral Dene, Park Lane, Langham, Colchester, CO4 5NN - Refused

220737 - Rayners Pond, Wick Road, Langham, Colchester, CO4 5PE - Approved Conditional

220827 - The Laurels, High Street, Langham, Colchester, CO4 5NT – Approved Conditional

22/451

Vistry Homes Planning Application 191830

Work has started on site and there has been no more interaction with the planning authority so it appears things are in order at the moment.

22/452

Meeting with Anglian Water & Sir Bernard Jenkin, Quarterly Review

The PC have asked for dates from Anglian Water and heard nothing so now will engage with Sir Bernard Jenkins Office. The PC want to collect the info on the survey regarding the sewage before the next meeting so we can show completed research.

22/453

Queens Jubilee event update

Cllr Armstrong stated that this is still ongoing and final plans are being gathered. The Insurance has been sorted out and H&S, security etc. are all in place. The Jubilee committee has some funding left in the budget and requested that some video or photo reference be purchased to refer to in the future. The thought was to try and get a big team photo and put

this on wall in the LCC. A possible print with a cost of £100 was suggested. The PC had no issue with this providing the expenditure was within the overall budget allocated for the event.

22/454

Children's play area update

The Cllrs concerned were not present to update the council on the play area project. The PC are aware there is a lot of information to go through when Cllr Palmer is back. The Recreation Ground committee met on site and the area around the Beacon was checked for the extra space required by one of the suppliers. It was agreed that the additional space required would not interfere with the Beacon area and would not cause a problem. The favored option from the quotes will be decided, but the quotes currently are only valid for 2 weeks due to the constant price changes in materials. The Enover grant review cycle is coming up and Cllr Armstrong will look at grant for approx £50,000 for the area and the PC will also make a large contribution and use any S106 money available for this project. Cllr Armstrong will progress the grant application and bring back the findings to the council.

The S106 funding will need to be looked at for several projects, this will be followed up by Cllr Thorpe.

22/455

Bonfire Night event update

No Cllrs were available to update the council on the event. The working group have a spreadsheet for this event and will be speaking to security companies after this weekend for pricing information.

22/456

Essex Cricket's request for use of the Recreation Ground for a Cricket team

- All Stars Junior Cricket 10th June for 8 weeks (Fridays 5-6pm)
- Update on the main project

This is on schedule to start on the 10th June. Draft terms and conditions will be sent over to Cllr Thorpe. If there was any grant money available then practice nets and Astro turf for the centre square could be options.

22/457

S106 update

Cllrs had attended a zoom call with Yana Saxby of CBC regarding S106 funding and the call was very useful. The wording in the Vistry Homes S106 contract covering Leisure, Parks & Recreation was discussed and it was agreed that the wording would give the capability to include other projects in addition to a multi-use sports facility.

LPC and LCC have a scheduled meeting with CBC Community Facilities enabling officer on 14th June 2022.

22/458

Councillor's Reports

No decisions are made or action points allocated in this section

Cllr Thorpe – nothing to report

Cllr Armstrong – still waiting to get a response back from marketing team regarding the website. Ongoing.

Cllr Freeman – nothing to report

Cllr Bottwood – nothing further to report

22/459

Clerk's Report and Correspondence

There have been communications regarding the National Grid Project which has been covered earlier in the meeting.

Blue Plaques were requested by the Historical group for a previous resident of the village and for the Basque Children who were at The Oaks School 1937-9. This item will be discussed by the Recreation Ground committee.

22/460 Training/Events
Nominations for new events
No training at moment.
Clerk to check on planning training for Cllr Thorpe and Cllr Freeman.

22/461 Items for the next agenda

Let the Clerk know of anything that is to be added to the agenda.

22/462 To confirm date and time of next meeting
Date of next LPC meeting: Wednesday 6th July 2022 7:30pm

Meeting closed at 9:19 pm

Signed

Cllr Bottwood

Dated