

Draft Minutes of Langham Parish Council
Remote Meeting held on
Wednesday 3rd February 2021 7:30pm

Present: Cllr Martin Bottwood- Chair for meeting, Cllr Tony Ellis. Cllr Annette Thorpe,
Cllr Sally Brockman, Cllr Tony Emms.
2 members of the public
Clerk Carol Harbach

20/113 Welcome and apologies for absence

Cllr Bottwood welcomed everyone to the remote meeting of the Parish Council (PC) and went on to explain the rules of the meeting. Apologies were received from Cllr Dawson and Cllr Chapman.

20/114 Declaration of Members Interest

Any declarations of interest will be brought up and declared as they arise on the agenda.

20/115 Agree Minutes from the last Parish Council (PC) meeting 6th January 2021 and Extra Ordinary Meeting 21st January 2021.

These minutes were proposed by Cllr Ellis and seconded by Cllr Thorpe.
Agreed by all.

20/116 Matters arising from last meeting held 6th January 2021.

Local Council Award scheme - Cllr Emms refreshed and explained the scheme again to the councillors. Cllr Emms suggested the Council apply for the Foundation Award Level first which he believed the council could achieved fairly easily.

Vote to take on this award scheme. Proposed by Cllr Thorpe Seconded by Cllr Ellis. Agreed by all.

20/117 Public Open Forum (Maximum 15 minutes) Questions to be noted and answered at the next meeting.

A resident stated the village were surprised to see the contractors on School Road yesterday.

20/118 Visitors Reports (CBC and County Councillors)

No Councillors present.

20/119 Finance

119.1 Matters arising from the Finance Committee on 23rd November 2020, 5th January 2021 and 21st January 2021

The committee is recommending to the full council to amend the finance regulations for payments to be made during August and December when the PC do not meet. This is on the agenda for full council next month – March 2021.

The Finance committee suggest an audit trail to the Recreation Ground committee for large item expenditure for example the grass cutting.

This would involve the Recreation Committee checking the dates and the quality of work that is taking place and notifying the Finance Committee so they would be able to recommend payment to the main council.

The Recreation Ground committee will need to discuss and agree this process. **Action Recreation committee and Clerk**

The committee recommended that the Precept and budget figures were taken to the Full council. These were agreed and filed. Completed and discharged.

119.2 To approve payments in accordance with the 2020/21 Budget Recommended for approval from the Finance Committee

For January 2021;

Expenditure;	
Contractor Invoice 1	150.00
Mrs. C. Harbach – Clerk Salary January 2021	785.80
HMRC Employers – NI contributions	13.29
Mr. P. Dawson reimbursement for New Noticeboard	1,609.55
Mr. M. Bottwood reimbursement for Business envelopes-survey	78.00
Wave Water – Recreation Ground standpipe	21.66

Total	£ 2,658.30
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Proposed Cllr Thorpe seconded Cllr Ellis. All agreed

These payments these payments will be authorised by Cllr Ellis and Cllr Bottwood/Cllr Dawson but not for their own reimbursements.

Proposed Cllr Thorpe seconded Cllr Brockman. All agreed

20/120 Planning/Housing

120.1 Applications for discussion at meeting.

Williamson Developments Ltd flyer.

This is still speculative at the moment as part 2 of the Emerging Plan is not yet passed.

The PC has produced it's own questionnaire for the residents to complete and to collect their views on this proposal. This survey will involve the core of the village. These questionnaires will be distributed shortly to residents with a free post reply envelope, and will also be available on the PC website. Hopefully this will be completed and in the public domain by next week. This will then be collated and shared with the developer whose date for this has been extended to the end of February. The residents deadline has also been extended to the 8th February 2021 for the Williamson Developments Ltd flyer.

Once this has been completed the PC expect the outline planning permission application from Williamson Developments Ltd by mid March.

Guy Williamson has been contacted by Cllr Bottwood to obtain a contact on the Linden homes site to act as a contact point for any queries. Cllr Bottwood thanked Cllr Thorpe for suggesting this idea as it may help all concerned. There may be properties ready for occupancy by the end of the year.

Planning Applications 210097, 210108/9, 210048

The PC comments for these applications will be available on the CBC planning website.

120.2 Planning Applications – Observations conveyed under delegated authority since last meeting.

Will be available on the Colchester Borough Council Planning website.

20/121 Clerk Report and Correspondence

121.1 Correspondence

1. There has been a lot of interest in the vacancy for another parish councillor. This will be picked up later on the agenda under 20/125.
2. The PC has received many letter of thanks for the Christmas Hampers that were distributed to residents at Christmas.
3. The PC had a query via the website online contact forms regarding a speed sign post in Park Road that was damaged. This has been responded to and dealt with it by the PC.

20/122 Councillor's Reports

Cllr Thorpe – Cllr Thorpe has contacted Gigaclear representatives regarding the siting and size/look of the green boxes around the village. Cllr Thorpe was told she would get back an official reply at some time from Gigaclear and when that arrives Cllr Thorpe will report back. It may be possible to put up some trellis and put flowers around these boxes to help with them aesthetically. There may be some Highways issues as this could block the views of the highways when people are coming out of their drives.

Cllr Brockman – Has something's she would like to raise but will talk to Recreation ground committee first.

Cllr Ellis – Langham cottage, High Street – A new planning application has been received for 4 bungalows at this site. This had previously gone to appeal and was turned down by the authority. The new application is very similar but with a new access point.

The Council has now seen the S106 agreement signed off on application no. 191830 and the village should now see some benefits become available for the projects requested. This money is payable on the first occupancy of the site. The PC and stakeholders need to think of other projects that may come up in the future. The PC will act as the coordinator for this and will be talking to the LCC and the Church as to what projects both parties may have in the future. S106 money now covers small projects as there is no minimum number of houses, so there could be S106 money coming in from different areas. There are already three smaller planning projects that have gone through, but currently the PC do not know how much S106 money that will bring in.

Cllr Bottwood – Most of what Cllr Bottwood was going to say has been covered.

Cllr Emms - no report.

20/123 Discussion on the unreconciled accounts from 19/20.

These were discussed and it was agreed that the Clerk would contact the parties concerned to see if they are going to present cheques and if they still want payment for these items. The Clerk/RFO is following this up. **Action Clerk**

20/124 Discussion of amount of money held in one bank (exceeds FSCS limit)

This was discussed and thought that with the projects that are coming through this year the balance is expected to be near or below the £85,000 limit. So the decision was made to leave the accounts in one place for the time being. The PC could also think about putting the separate tennis club "sinking fund" fund into a different banking institution if needed, but confident at the moment that the PC will obtain the balance below the FSCS limit.

20/125 Update on Councillor vacancies

The advert for PC councillors has been produced a lot of interest. The PC are now considering the applications and will be setting up zoom meetings to take this further. The PC will ask the remaining 6 candidates if they are still interested in the position. The PC are currently in the process of setting up independent interviews on zoom. This is likely to be started next week. The PC will contact the candidates regarding their availability for interviews.

20/126 Items for next Agenda

Any items for the next agenda are to be sent to the Clerk.
There will also be public committees meetings prior to this next meeting,

20/127 To confirm date and time of next LPC Council meeting

Date of next remote meeting: Wednesday 3rd March 2021 at 7:30pm

This meeting will be via a Zoom call.

The Council meeting finished at 8:22 pm

Signed

Cllr Bottwood

Date