

Minutes of
Langham Annual Parish Council Meeting
Langham Community Centre
9th May 2023 7:30pm

Attendees: Cllr Bottwood, Cllr Thorpe, Cllr Brockman, Cllr Freeman, Cllr Ogawa, Cllr Armstrong
Present: Carol Harbach – Clerk
1 Members of public

23/21 Election of Chair

Cllr Bottwood asked if there was anyone willing to stand as Chairman for the Council. No one wished to stand and Cllr Bottwood offered to stand as Chairman. This was proposed by Cllr Thorpe and Seconded by Cllr Freeman Agreed by all.

23/22 Chairman to sign Acceptance of Office form

Cllr Bottwood signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office form and was elected the new Chairman.

23/23 Election of Vice Chair

Cllr Bottwood asked if there was anyone willing to stand as Vice Chairman for the Council.

Cllr Thorpe offered to stand as Vice Chairman. This was proposed by Cllr Freeman and Seconded by Cllr Armstrong. Agreed by all.

23/24 Vice Chair to sign Acceptance of Office form

Cllr Thorpe then signed the Declaration of Office and elected as Vice Chairman.

23/25 Welcome and apologies of absence

There were no apologies received.

A thank you card was read out which was received from Sue Armstrong following her retirement as manager of the Langham Community Centre.

The Chairman stated that there have been a lot of successful events and achievements during the past year which were originally identified in the village surveys undertaken in 2021. The council were thanked by Cllr Bottwood for their help over the past year.

23/26 Committee Structure for 23/24

As there is still a vacancy for a parish councillor at the moment the new committee structure will be decided when a new councillor has been appointed. The current committee structure and representatives will remain unchanged until the council has a full compliment. It was hoped that an appointment could be made before the next main council meeting on 14th June and the committee structures would then appear as an agenda item for this meeting. Cllr Thorpe sent her apologies for that date as she will be unable to attend that meeting.

All councillors present were happy to continue on the council and happy to stay on the committees they are working on. Councillors stated which committees they did not want to represent in the future. Changes may occur when a new councillor has been co-opted.

23/27 Declaration of Members Interest

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

23/28 Agree Parish Council Representatives for Community Centre Trustees and Community Centre Finance Committee

Cllr Bottwood stated that the chair of the Parish Council had in the past been the representative for these two bodies and could see no reason why this should change. Cllr Bottwood would therefore continue with this role. The chair of the Recreation ground committee was asked whether they were happy for the Recreation Ground representative on the Langham Community Centre Trustees body to remain unchanged. This was confirmed and Bob Schofield was asked whether he was prepared to continue in this role. This received a positive response from Bob. It was proposed by Cllr Armstrong that Bob continue in this role seconded Cllr Freeman all agreed.

23/29 Agreement of Minutes for the last Annual Parish Council Meeting

23/29a Last Annual Parish Council Meeting (18th May 2022)

These were taken as a true and accurate account.

Proposed Cllr Thorpe seconded Cllr Bottwood All agreed.

23/30 Matters arising from the last Annual Parish Council Meeting on 18th May 2022

No matters arising completed and discharged.

23/31 Public Open Forum (Maximum 15 minutes)

The collapsed ditch outside The Oaks has been reported on the Highways website as the road edges have fallen into the ditch. This will be checked that this report is still on the site.

The 30mph sign that had fallen over in Greyhound Hill has now disappeared. This will be reported to Highways. The trees on Wick Road still have not been trimmed. The trees in question are opposite the property Petrina and will be reported again to Highways for trimming.

23/32 Visitors Reports (CCC and County Councillors)

No councillors present.

There was an election last week and Cllr Thomas Rowe was elected to replace Nigel Chapman for Colchester Rural North Ward. Cllr Rowe will be at the Annual Assembly on the 1st June 2023.

23/33 Finance

23/33.1 Matters arising from the Finance Committee on 3rd May 2023

Nothing arose from that meeting.

23/33.2 To approve payments in accordance with the 2023/24 Budget
Cllr Armstrong declared an interest in one of these payments.

East Essex Event Hire Ltd – Marquees Coronation event	£245.00
Clerk Salary March 23	885.66
Heelis & Lodge Internal Audit fee	320.00
Contractors Invoice 04/23	108.00
James Todd & Co payroll provider	26.40
BHIB Insurance for 23/24	1,030.75
Mr. Burrage – singer coronation event	300.00
Beeline Bouncers – fun rides coronation event	600.00
M. Bottwood – Pylon flyers and leaflets	74.29
L. Winter – Donation for LCC Manager’s leaving present	100.00
Fox, Wiggle & Sass – singers coronation event	500.00
Wave Water bill – standpipe for field	18.18
C. Harbach – reimbursement for Pylons meeting refreshments	28.30
Kompan payments for play equipment	50,000.00
Kompan payments for play equipment	13,054.74
Essex Playing Field association – competition	42.00
Langham Community Centre – Hall hire	264.00
L. Ogawa – coronation event reimbursement	136.33
Langham Community Shop - Coronation plants	23.40
Langham Community Shop – donation for Bonfire event	100.00
B. Schofield – gates for play area	52.88
	=====
Total	£ 67,645.93

Proposed Cllr Thorpe seconded Cllr Freeman all agreed.

The annual Interest on the NS&I income bonds statements is £392.21 which has gone to the Langham Community Centre (LCC) directly.

There was another invoice that was not expected for the hire of an extra tent at the coronation event that was passed on to the shop. This will be followed up and checked before this was agreed to be paid. No invoice has been received by the council at present.

23/34

Update on the Pylons’ Presentation on 29th April 2023

This was well represented and had approximately 80 people in attendance.

This was a successful event and attended by three villages, Langham, Dedham and Boxted - but mainly Langham Residents. It was mentioned that if residents were concerned about the Pylon’s project then they should respond to the Five Estuaries Windfarm consultation which closes on 12th May. A typical response has been posted on the PC website and can be used by residents as a template.

23/35 To confirm date and time of the Annual Parish Meeting (Annual Assembly) and discuss content for this meeting

This will take place on Thursday 1st June 7:30pm. Residents will be asked to nominate agenda items that can be the subject of open discussions.

23/36 Confirm the date for the next Parish Council Meeting

Date of next meeting 14th June 2023 7:30pm this was previously advertised as the 7th June 2023.

23/37 Chairman closes meeting.

Meeting was closed by the Chairman at 20:45pm

Signed

Cllr Bottwood

Date