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| Clerk: Erica Williams  E-mail: [langleyclerk@googlemail.com](mailto:langleyclerk@googlemail.com)  13 Princes Close, Balsham, Cambridgeshire CB21 4EE  A MEETING OF LANGLEY PARISH COUNCIL  HELD AT LANGLEY COMMUNITY CENTRE ON  **MONDAY 14h April 2025 at 8.00pm** |

**MINUTES**

**Attended:** Cllr Elkington (Chair), Cllr North (Vice-Chair), Cllr Clark, Cllr George, Cllr Barnes, Cllr Anderson, Cllr Gadd, Cllr Oliver arrived at 8.40pm.

**Minutes:** Erica Williams (Clerk)

**1.** **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr Smith did not attend.

**2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

It was proposed and agreed by all that Langley Parish Council is the registered owner of the village green and Councillors declare general

interests in all agenda items relating to the village green. Any other interests would be declared in the usual way.

* Cllr Elkington: 7.1 non-pecuniary, member of the Parish Council that owns the land on which the community centre is built.
* Cllr North**:**  7.1 non-pecuniary, member of the Parish Council that owns the land on which the community centre is built.
* Cllr Clark**:**  7.1 non-pecuniary, member of the Parish Council that owns the land on which the community centre is built.
* Cllr George: 7.1 non-pecuniary, member of the Parish Council that owns the land on which the community centre is built.
* Cllr Barnes: 7.1 non-pecuniary, member of the Parish Council that owns the land on which the community centre is built.
* Cllr Anderson: 7.1 non-pecuniary, member of the Parish Council that owns the land on which the community centre is built. 8.8 & 8.9 prejudicial and financial interest (resident of Long Ley)

**3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION WITH RESPECT TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA AND OTHER MATTERS THAT ARE OF MUTUAL INTEREST**

3.1 Three members of the public attended. One parishioner commented on issues with verges being eroded and it was suggested that these are logged onto the Essex Highways portal.

**4.** **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

4.1 Councillors were asked to review the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 10th March. All agreed and Chair signed them off.

**5.** **FINANCIAL CLARIFICATION**

5.1 **Financial Report** *–* Bank reconciliation as at 31st March, the current account balance was £14,397.08. PC unpresented payments, £615.90 resulting in a current account balance of £13,781.18 \*Amended due to incorrect figure in the Summons & Agenda\*. Broken down as follows: Playground H&S funds £239.37, Ditches funds £1,670.00, Speed sign funds £4,014.14; PC funds £7,397.67. PC deposit account £10,657.43 (interest received of £66.68).

5.2 All Cllrs reviewed and agreed BACS run.

5.3 Clerk received two quotes for gov.uk email addresses. Cllrs to further discuss at next meeting.

5.4 Clerk to research new PC website as current one is outdated.

5.5 Annual Village Meeting will be held on Thursday 15th May at 8pm in the Community Centre. The Annual Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 12th May at 7.45pm.

5.6 Cllrs agreed to engage last years auditor to carry out internal audit for year 2024/5.

5.7 Cllrs discussed a grant offering from the Hundred Parishes Society and will discuss further at next meeting.

**6. PLANNING APPLICATIONS/PROPERTY**

6.1 None received.

**7**. **LANGLEY VILLAGE PROJECT**

7.1 Successful jumble sale that benefited local resident. Midsummer BBQ on 28th May to raise funds for the Church and the Friends of Langley Church.

**8. LOCAL ENVIRONMENT**

8.1 Grass cutting schedule has commenced with the first cut having been carried out in all areas.

8.2 Trees have been uplifted on the Village Green. No further tree works scheduled due to nesting season.

8.3 Cllr George has received quotes from two contractors for further ditch clearance works. Further updates to follow.

8.4 Cllr Elkington and Clerk to approach Natural England for advise regarding the management of ponds due to the presence of newt DNA.

8.5 Permission still outstanding for the VAS speed signs.

8.6 Beacon Event on 8th May to commemorate the 80th anniversary of VE Day. This will be an evening event with involvement from the British Legion. Cllrs gave permission for the Village Green to be used. Family event on 5th May – bring your own picnic.

8.7 Following a request from the fete committee to use the Village Green for the fete in August, Cllrs gave permission.

8.8 \* Cllr Anderson left the room during the following discussions\* As of 8th April, the PC are advised by UDC that their Legal Team are deliberating as to whether Long Ley is classified as Private Road or Highway. Signage can be discussed after a decision has been made. However, any restriction of access to the Village Playground will be contested by the PC.

8.9 Following the submission by a parishioner of the first formal complaint against the PC, Cllrs discussed at length the individual points raised. A formal response will be sent to the parishioner by the Clerk and the parishioner will be provided with Ombudsman details should they wish to escalate the complaint. \*Cllr Anderson re-entered the room \*

8.10 Cllrs Elkington, North and George to review the Essex Village of the Year entry form.

8.11 Deed of Access document signed by Cllrs Elkington and North for a resident. Letter to go to resident stating that access across the Village Green is approved for connection of services on the proviso that the Village Green is made good again.

**9. PLAYGROUND**

9.1 Clerk has sent inspection report to playground contractor for a quote.

**10.** **DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCIL**

Cllrs Gadd and Oliver provided an update to Cllrs and answered questions.

**11. BACS PAYMENTS**

11.1 Council agreed the following BACS payments to be made:

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| **Langley Parish Council – BACS payments for April 2025** | | | |
| Crown Tree & Garden Care | Tree works (paid during March 2025) | BACS | £1,440.00 |
| GWB Horticulture | Grass cutting (paid during March 2025) | BACS | £3,540.00 |
| Print Juice | Printing costs for Low Cost Affordable Housing update (paid during March 2025) | BACS | £37.00 |
| Erica Williams | Clerks salary | BACS | £467.09 |
| EALC/NALC | Affiliation fees | BACS | £148.81 |
|  |  | **Total** | **£615.90** |

**12. MATTERS TO BE RAISED BY MEMBERS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA**

**13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:**

13.1 The next meeting will be on Monday 12th May 2025 at Langley Community Centre at 7.45pm.