

Langford Parish Council

Meeting: Parish Council AGM
Date: Thursday 9th May 2013
Venue: Village Hall, Langford at 8.00pm

Councillors Present:	Mark Harris	- Chairman LPC
	Andrew Bushnell	- Vice LPC
	Catherine Jones	- LPC
	Jim Johnson	- LPC
	Richard Kemp	- LPC
	Ann Tyldesley	- Clerk LPC

Members of the Public Present:

Rachel Range, Mark Skinner, Andrew Clements

Apologies:

None received.

Minutes

All welcomed by Mark Harris, Chairman

Previous Minutes & Actions

Minutes of the last AGM were discussed. These had been approved at a previous Council meeting and were published on our website.

Rachel raised concerns that they were not available at this AGM.

Mark reported on the actions – The request for more teenage provision in the playground was now under way with the new teenager shelter being constructed following a successful grant application from the Chill Out Fund. Concerning regarding the car parking at the playground had been resolved and discussed with the Cricket Club.

Copies of the previous minutes were then circulated by email after the meeting to Rachel, Mark and Andrew as per their request.

Reports – Langford Parish Council

PRECEPT

The Parish Council took the decision to increase the annual precept from £3071 to £3238. This was largely related to our areas of increased responsibility primarily the playground site. Our annual insurance premium had gone up and we look to rebuild some of our funds following the previous spend of our reserves during 2011/2012 on the playground project.

Langford	2012/13 Precept	£3071
	2013/14 Precept	£3238

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Neighbouring Precepts (for information)	Filkins & Broughton Poggs	£11,459
	Alvescot	£8,595
	Broadwell	£484
	Kencott	£0
	Little Faringdon	£0
	Clanfield	£12,035

COUNCILLORS

For the period of 2012/13 Mark Harris took the position of Chairman and Andrew Bushnell stood as Vice Chairman.

In October 2012 Rod Stewart resigned from the Parish Council during to relocation abroad for work. Following advertising we co-opted Richard Kemp to take the vacant position.

Jim Johnston and Catherine Jones continued to stand as councillors throughout 2012/13.

WEBSITE

We continue to support the village website www.langfordGL7.co.uk and have added new content throughout the year.

PLAYGROUND

Phase One..

Following successful funding from Langford Parish Council, West Oxfordshire Community Facilities, Cottsway Welcommunity Fund, Oxfordshire Community Fund and the Lottery - Awards For All, we finally official opened the new playground at an event supported by St Christopher's School on July 16th 2012. A press photographer from Cottsway helped to document the proceedings and we were featured in numerous local magazines / newspapers. These photos are available to view on our website.

Items remained to be completed are:

- 2 no picnic benches

- Raising the tunnel with new grass over

- Extra grass matting

All items have been instructed by TS Play and are scheduled during Spring 2013. Works have been delayed by the bad weather.

Three trees were planted in memory of Neil Ray who had been a valuable member of the Parish Council acting as Parish Clerk. He helped to kick start a lot of the projects being delivered before he sadly passed away. A plaque is in the process of being organised.

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Phase Two...

Following a further successful grant of £2970.00 from the Oxfordshire Chill Out Fund and in response to local comments, a further phase is underway. This will see a timber structure being built to act as a teenager shelter / hang out spot. The structure is open-sided to allow good sight lines without creating any hiding places. It will be robust and will be in keeping in a conservation village. This work was instructed in the autumn 2012 but has been delayed by bad weather. TS Play are due on site during May 2013.

HIGHWAYS

We continue to report any faults / potholes with the highways to OCC.

During the winter months the councillors distributed salt on the snow covered roads following an allocation of a 1 ton bag of salt from OCC. We will reapply for a 2013/14 allocation.

Following a successful grant application to the Stewardship Fund we have secured funding for a Speed Indicator Device (SID). It will be erected by Oxfordshire CC Highways Dept. at the entrance to the village along the Filkins Road during May 2013. We will look to review its success.

GRAVEL EXTRACTION

We continue to keep a watching brief on any developments with Gravel Extraction however currently there are no proposals for extraction.

STOP WEST CARTERTON

We continue to support the group behind fighting against the West Carterton Development. In August we presented a petition to WODC. The development has not been presented on the Core Strategy Proposals but remains in the background as a potential site.

PLANNING

We continue to report our feedback on proposed village planning applications.

GEOCACHING

In January 2013 the Parish Council launch a village geocache, this is an online world wide outdoor treasure hunt. Players try to locate hidden containers, called geocaches, using a smartphone or GPS and can then share their experiences online. The village cache promotes our village, the church, the website and the playground.

The geocache started life with 3 runaway trackables (these have unique numbers and are moved from one cache to the next by players); these are named the Langford Goat, Hedgehog and Chicken. All are challenged to travel far and wide. The race is on to see who will travel the greatest distance.

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To date we have had 9 logged visits to the cache and the trackables have travelled the distances below:

Langford Goat	256 miles	currently in Northwest England
Langford Hedgehog	521 miles	currently in East Midlands
Langford Chicken	7198 miles	currently in Newlands Forest, Table Mountain National Park, South Africa!!

More details online at <http://www.geocaching.com/>

LITTER PICK - April 2013

Despite only 10 adults and 2 children the annual Langford litter pick still managed to generate 11 full bags of rubbish including 2 tins of paint, clothes, 4 tyres and even an old TV. We disposed of two sites of fly tipping and were disappointed to find numerous bags of dog waste that were dumped in hedges. Also cigarette butts thrown from car windows were also common. Please help to keep our village tidy by picking up litter when you see it and ensuring dog walkers take their dog waste home.

FUTURE OBJECTIVES

Following the successful completion of the projects listed below the Council are now looking to get a new steer on its future objectives. If you have any comments, proposed projects, concerns or items you would like the Parish Council to investigate or invest time into then please contact the Council. Contact us with a note in the post box at the village hall or via email or speak to any of the current Councillors. Previous Parish Council Projects:

Refurbishment of the War Memorial | Village Website | New Playground Project | Teenager Shelter and Picnic Benches | Speed Indicator Device for the Village

Currently we have received no feedback

Reports – Langford Charity

No report was received. It was understood that the accounts were still being put together. The charity has funds available in the village and is open for applications of funds for anyone in need.

Reports – Don Seale (Oxfordshire County Council)

No report was received.

POST MEETING NOTE – we have received a report from our newly elected OCC councillor Pete Handley. He plans to circulate reports to Parish Councils every 2 months. His contact details are Tel 01993 842147.

Reports – David McFarlene (West Oxfordshire District Council)

No report was received.

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Reports – Local Police

No report was received.

Any Other Business

The following issues were raised by attendees:

- Stinging nettles growing at the side of the footpaths plus the accumulation of dead leaves on pavements are proving a problem for residents. In particular, the footpath towards the school between the green bin rubbish bin at Pear Tree Cottage and The Bungalow.
- There are also trees overhanging the Village Hall towards the War Memorial. Catherine Jones to give map of above areas to WODC.
- Reported loose kerbstones at The Elms.
- There are still many complaints concerning speeding cars and through the village and surrounding roads. In particular an Ocado van regularly speeds through the village. It is hoped that the installation of the new speed device will help to reduce this.
- Also mentioned that another Speed Indicator Device would be appreciated at Ley View. This is already under review by LPC

Parish Council Meeting Dates

2013

August 1st 7pm

October 10th 7pm

December 12th 7pm

2014

Feb (TBC) 7pm

May (TBC) (AGM 8pm)

August (TBC) 7pm

October (TBC) 7pm

December (TBC) 7pm