

**Minutes of Langham Parish Council Meeting  
Held on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2018  
At Langham Village Hall**

|            |  |         |
|------------|--|---------|
| Attendance | Cllr. B Palmer – Chairman<br>Cllr. Duncan<br>Cllr. Higgins<br>Cllr. Hosmer<br>Cllr. Manning<br>Cllr. Ovington<br>Cllr. G Palmer<br>Cllr. Wright<br>C.Cllr. Hemsley<br>Helen Duckering – clerk<br><br>2 members of the public   |         |
| Apologies  | Cllr. Sweeney  |         |
|            |  |         |
| Item       |  | Actions |
|            | <b>The meeting opened at 7.30pm</b>  |         |
| 1          | <b>Declarations of Interest and Dispensations</b><br>None  |         |
| 2          | <b>Minutes of last meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2018</b><br><br>These were agreed and signed by the Chairman.<br><br><b>Proposed Cllr. Duncan</b><br><b>Seconded Cllr. Manning</b><br>.   |         |
| 3          | <b>Matters Arising</b><br><br><b>Actions from the previous meeting</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cllr. Higgins advised that the Dog Walking Code for England and Wales is in existence. It was agreed that Cllr. G Palmer would draft a version for Langham for the next meeting.</li> <li>• Peterborough Diocese has advised that the consecration of the additional land at the burial ground can take place on the 16<sup>th</sup> October.</li> <li>• All other actions completed.</li> </ul> | GP      |
| 4          | <b>Clerks Report</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rutland County Council have advised that the cost of the election next year will be passed to Parish Councils for the first time and financial provision will need to be made. Costs will be advised in September.</li> </ul>  |         |

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| 5 | <p><b>Correspondence</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• St George's Barracks development – letters received from various Parish Councils, which have been responded to advising that Langham Parish Council will monitor developments with interest.</li> <li>• Letter received advising that some hedges on Melton Road are overgrown and impeding the footpath – these have now been cut back.</li> <li>• Letter received expressing concern regarding trees growing on the bank of the brook – the brook itself is flowing freely and not of concern. Cllr. B Palmer will write to the homeowner to confirm this and suggest that the neighbours are approached regarding the overhanging trees, as these are not a matter for the Parish Council.</li> <li>• Letter received confirming the location of tree obstructing the view of traffic at the Whissendine turn – Cllr. Ovington will advise the clerk who owns the land where the tree is located and Cllr. B Palmer will write to them asking for the tree be cut back.</li> </ul> | BP<br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br>PO/BP |
| 6 | <p><b>Report from Munday's Close Working Group</b></p> <p>The report was received appendix 1 attached. Cllr. B Palmer will write to the MCWG to thank them for their work.</p>  | BP  |
| 7 | <p><b>Meeting with RCC regarding CIL</b></p> <p>Cllr. Ovington advised that a meeting between herself, Cllr. B Palmer, the Head of Planning RCC and Head of Finance RCC had taken place to attempt to establish what monies have been collected via CIL or the development levy and what may be due to Langham. RCC have agreed to check what agreement was made in 2010 and will consider the paperwork sent to collect monies. Cllr. Ovington will report back at a future date once further investigations have been made.</p>   | PO  |
| 8 | <p><b>Report on Parish Forum</b></p> <p>Cllr. Higgins gave a report on the recent Parish Forum meeting regarding the development of St George's Barracks. Appendix 2 attached.</p>  |   |
| 9 | <p><b>Planning</b></p> <p>Appendix 3 attached</p>   |   |

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| 10 | <p><b>Parish Council projects and priorities</b></p> <p><b>Following a discussion, the following 3 projects were agreed as priorities for the Parish Council to progress:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Langham website – to develop a mobile friendly, updated website to meet the requirements of the Parish Council and be accessible to village groups. Cllr. Duncan will take the lead on this project and present a specification to the July meeting.</li> <li>2. Green spaces – to pursue the status of the Baptist church grounds and the green at the junction of Bridge Street and Church Street as Local Green Spaces. Cllr. Ovington and Cllr. G Palmer will report back September.</li> <li>3. Maintaining and improving footpaths – to make the footpaths more accessible and useable. Cllr. B Palmer to make contact with MCWG initially and report back in January.</li> </ol> <p>Other projects for the future included the expansion of the burial ground and the making of a directory of local groups, as an addition to 1 above.</p> <p>It was agreed that the Chairman would write to the Langham History Group asking for further details and the completion date of a survey being completed for the Council for British Archaeology.</p> <p><b>Cllr. Manning left the meeting at 8.30pm</b></p>                                     | <p>PD</p> <p>PO/GP</p> <p>BP</p> <p>BP</p> |
| 11 | <p><b>AOB</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flooding on Burley Road – C.Cllr Hemsley confirmed having met with RCC regarding action being taken to prevent flooding in future.</li> <li>• Village Hall parking – the status of the highway area adjacent to the village hall entrance has been queried. This area is public highway and has no parking restrictions. It was agreed that confirmation of this would be sought from RCC and a letter confirming this sent to the resident and village hall trustees.</li> <li>• Ivy on churchyard wall – the ivy has now been cut back and the hedge will be cut back by early July.</li> <li>• Burley Road verge near arch to Harewood Close – a small area of verge has been omitted from the grass-cutting contract. Cllr. B Palmer agreed to add this to the contract specification.</li> <li>• Signs on Whissendine turn – a number of signs/hoardings are being placed at the junction. It was agreed that out of date signs would be removed.</li> <li>• Verge opposite 48 Well Street – machinery from building work appears to be being stored on the verge and causing an obstruction to mowing. Cllr. Ovington agreed to contact the owners and ask that it be removed.</li> <li>• Fingerpost on Ashwell Road – the damage to the sign has been reported to RCC already and chased for action.</li> </ul> | <p>BP/HD</p> <p>BP</p> <p>PO</p>           |

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|    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Play area – Cllr. Sweeney has reported an increase in detritus left in the playing field, appearing to relate to the smoking of substances. Cllr. Hosmer agreed to contact PC Appleton and ask that the area be visited.</li> </ul> | RH |
| 12 | <b>Playing field inspections</b><br><br>July & August BP<br>September RH<br><br><b>Date and time of the next meeting</b><br><br><b>24<sup>th</sup> July 7.30pm</b>   |    |
| 13 | <b>Meeting closed at 9pm</b>   |    |

| <b>Summary of Action Points</b> |  |             |           |
|---------------------------------|--|-------------|-----------|
| Number                          | Description of Action  | Responsible | Due Date  |
| 1                               | Cllr. G Palmer to draft a Langham dog walking code   | GP          | 24/07/18  |
| 2                               | Chairman to write to homeowner regarding trees overhanging garden from brook.                    | BP          | ASAP      |
| 3                               | Chairman to contact owner of land adjacent to Whissendine turn requesting that tree be cut back. | BP          | ASAP      |
| 4                               | Chairman to write letter of thanks to MCWG   | BP          | ASAP      |
| 5                               | Cllr. Ovington to report back on CIL once RCC respond  | PO          | ASAP      |
| 6                               | Cllr. Duncan to prepare a specification for website.   | PD          | 24/07/18  |
| 7                               | Cllr. Ovington & Cllr. G Palmer to report on Local Green Spaces                                  | PO/GP       | Sept 2018 |
| 8                               | Cllr. B Palmer to contact MCWG to discuss footpath improvements                                  | BP          | Jan 2019  |
| 9                               | Cllr. B Palmer to add grass verge on Burley Road to mowing contract                              | BP          | ASAP      |
| 10                              | Cllr. Ovington to contact 48 Well Street regarding removal of equipment from verge.              | PO          | ASAP      |
| 11                              | Cllr. B Palmer to write to VH trustees and resident regarding parking                            | BP          | ASAP      |
| 12                              | Cllr. Hosmer to contact PC Appleton regarding the playing area.                                  | RH          | ASAP      |

## Progress Report for Langham Parish Council. 9 June 2018

1. Seven members of the MCWG met at Munday's Close on 2 June. Principal objective was to review, on site, a revised draft five-year development plan for the Wildlife Park woodland that had been prepared by Min Burdett in consultation with expert woodland wildlife conservation experts. Her plan concludes that the trees in the woodland area are now too close together and the smaller ones are having difficulty surviving. Many of the problems including the poor state of the hedges and the infestation of ivy has resulted from the dense canopy. Thinning the trees, removing the blackthorn and letting light through will allow better and healthier growth in the remaining trees and will allow ground level flora to flourish. Detailed work plans resulting from this review will include tasks that are both within the capability of our group of volunteers, and others that will require hiring external contractors. Some tasks involving felling or major pruning of trees (9 trees) will require Rutland County Council planning permission. A detailed work programme is in process of being prepared for Parish Council approval prior to seeking planning permission and preparing an invitation-to-tender document for external contractors.
2. Other matters arising:
  - a. A Building Society account used by the original founders and dedicated to the early development of the wildlife park has been identified and offered to MCWG. It has a small credit balance. New signatories are being appointed to replace some of the original members. Helen Duckering has accepted an invitation to be an account signatory to represent the Parish Council's ownership of the wildlife site. Donations already made to MCWG will be transferred into the account.
  - b. A donation has been received to support the purchase of a bench in memory of Laurence Martyn whose inspiration led to the founding of the wildlife park. Another donation will be used to purchase on-site signage. Both are being progressed. It is proposed both purchases should be made via the Parish Council.
  - c. An application to the Woodlands Trust for free trees has been successful. We anticipate 30 trees will be delivered in September suitable for in-filling the bordering hedges of the woodland site and supplement any hedge layering.
  - d. Work to clear and tidy up the ground cover of the woodland has been halted during the bird-nesting season. This will continue in the autumn. Improvements to the walkways and stile entrance to make these more wheel chair accessible will continue. Plans for a wet area are on hold.
  - e. Regular wildlife surveys are continuing.
3. Comment from the floor following the MCWG presentation at the Parish Council annual meeting questioned if MCWG should extend its agenda to include the maintenance of Langham Brook. This was subsequently discussed by MCWG. It was decided that any such involvement would require co-operation from all of the residents bordering the brook and this was unlikely to be workable. However, MCWG could consider including in its remit any section of the brook where the banks were owned or maintained by the Parish Council.
4. MCWG would be pleased to receive comments and suggestions from Councillors on any aspects of our work.

## Appendix 2

Report to Langham Parish Council June 26<sup>th</sup> concerning Parish Forum May 29<sup>th</sup> 2018 Councillor Higgins

The Parish Forum was attended by both Councillor Gail Palmer and Janet Higgins on behalf of Langham Parish Council.

A presentation was given by Leader of Rutland County Council entitled the future of St Georges Barracks. Helen Briggs present also and available to answer questions.

The main points covered were: the closure of the Barracks by the MOD in 2021 will affect the whole of Rutland.

MOD to work in partnership with RCC “ to control the situation”, (never been done this way before apparently). Main concept is that the County Council will be able to orchestrate the planning of this huge site, rather than piecemeal, uncontrolled development by private sector developers, if sold off elsewhere.

A beautiful County, make sure we get this right.

Need growth to support a younger generation

Infrastructure first. £2.3bn bid to infrastructure fund to frontload.

3000 homes planned, National need (?? RCC numbers offset,)

Needs to look like Rutland

Public Transport/ parking needs?? S Luffenham Train Stn . No 12 bus

Minerals extraction will occur for first 10years in top half of site

Local Plan needs updating for St Georges Barracks

Full “consultation “ ,for this , plus also Local Plan consultation too.

Planning Application Outline Plan will come from the MOD

Papers presented included:

A full pack on “The future of St Georges Barracks”

Also, a full detailed and complex 4 page document of their position from the local villages concerned. N Luffenham, Edith Western (and? Empingham and Manton) outlining reasons for challenging.

Most powerful, reasoned interception came from County Councillor Gale Waller, Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee who made the case that RCC having made St Georges Masterplan Consultation, THIS WAS NOT A PROPER COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, as the Masterplan was formulated without the key involvement of the villages concerned. A consultation was not anywhere near the position of community engagement.

Councillor Waller made the case that as the whole of Rutland was to receive another town the size of Uppingham and was to increase in population by a 25% further, others should be involved at the formative stage, i.e. Uppingham, Oakham, the villages involved and also a representation of the “other” villages.

(There were 2 letters in last week’s Rutland Times, which were very helpful

Appendix 2 cont.

One from Edward Baines and the other from Gene Plews, giving different views of the development outcome.)

Councillor Baines spoke at the meeting said the key to the whole matter is what is agreed in the prior Local Plan no matter what applications may be made and by whom.

Other Town Councillors from Uppingham spoke about slowing the time- controlled process down, so that if it goes wrong at any point there is time to correct matters and for adjustments to be made.

Councillor Gail Palmer

(LPC) had a later discussion with Councillor Gale Waller after the meeting concerning RECENT development of plans to build a large new school in N Luffenham, prior to new housing, which may affect other villages school closures and numbers etc.

Letters to Rutland Times submitted to LPC Meeting also.

**2018/0411/CAT 21 Fairfield Close**

**Reduce height of 1 No. Conifer by approx. 4 metres.**

This conifer is growing to the rear of the above property. From the road, it can just be glimpsed above the roofline. It does not contribute to the street scene or the Conservation Area and therefore, the proposed works are acceptable.

**Recommend Approval**

**Langham Parish Council**

**3rd June 2018**

**2018/0414/CAT 37 Manor Lane**

**1 No. Norway Maple tree – crown raise to 3m. 1 No. Cherry Tree to be reduced by approx. 2m.**

Norway Pine – This tree is in a prominent position and readily viewed from Manor Lane but it is close to an adjacent tree and hedge. The proposed works are appropriate and will enable the tree to thrive and reach its full potential.

Cherry Tree – This tree has been positioned too close to the above tree and it has been difficult for either tree to achieve its expected spread. Some branches have been lopped at some time, perhaps to restrict growth. The proposed works should help the tree to grow without restricting the form of its neighbour to any great extent.

**Recommend Approval**

**Langham Parish Council**

**3rd June 2018**