

Langley with Hardley

Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting held Tuesday 07 May 2019 in the Langley with Hardley Village Hall at 7.30 pm

(Subject to amendment until signed by the Chairman at the next Annual Parish Meeting in 2020)

Parish Councillors (5) present:

Councillors Nigel Sullivan (Chair), Richard Watson, John Wheeler, Stephen Wilmott, Frances Kirkpatrick

Also in attendance: Carla Petersen (Clerk)

Members of the public: 2

1	Welcome to the meeting by Parish Council Chairman The Chairman welcomed everyone to the Langley with Hardley Annual Parish Meeting.
2	Apologies for absence Apologies received from Cllr Caston due to holiday.
3	To agree minutes of Annual Parish meeting held on 01 May 2018 Minutes were approved and signed by the Chair.
4	Parish Council Chairman's report The Chairman read out his report for the year.
5	County Councillor's report Councillor Barry Stone provided an annual report via email. The full version is on the parish website.
6	District Councillor's report No report provided.
7	Langley Poor Trust report (Stephen Lutkin) The Langley Poor Trust have meetings in June and December. In 2018 there were 20 recipients who had received donations. A request was made for Sam Frost and Tom Bartlett to be re-elected and this was confirmed. There are funds available for those in need to come forward with a request to be considered. If anyone is interested in being considered or knows anyone, please contact Barbara Leathersich on 528888, Sam Frost on 520662 or Tom Bartlett on 520657.
8	Hardley Windmill report (Anthony Timmins) 2018 was a very successful year with the mill open for visitors on Saturdays and Sundays from April to October and frequently on weekdays during the summer months. This was made possible due to our dedicated team of volunteers under the direction of Frances Kirkpatrick. Engineering and maintenance work continued on Tuesdays and Thursdays with Mike Stephenson, Mike Baker and Wally Gould the key helpers. Main events of the year were the Frolic in June and the Music & Barbecue evening in August. The combined profit from these events was £1950. During the winter the millwright has constructed new fantail blades and it is planned to fit these in May. Much needed work on the brickwork in the bottom section of the mill tower is planned for June 2019.
9	Hardley Bird Hide report (Frances Kirkpatrick) Managed to visit the Bird Hide with the help of friends where we collected two large bags of bottles, tins and rubbish. Young people are obviously visiting despite the closure of this section of the path. The Hide door has been left open causing the door to warp and close with difficulty. The door closure is not working. The immediate access to the Hide along the bridge and adjacent area is greatly damaged and handrails are broken. The whole area will be expensive to repair. The Parish Councils of Chedgrave, Loddon and Langley with Hardley have written a strong letter to NCC regarding the ongoing closure which is totally unsatisfactory. This closure is affecting tourism and business in the locality.
10	Langley Cross report (Frances Kirkpatrick) The Cross remains in excellent condition since all the work undertaken in 2016. The whole area surrounding the Cross continues to look good. I continue to visit and keep the Cross free of weeds.
11	Hardley Cross report (Frances Kirkpatrick) The Cross continues to be in fairly good condition. The plaque which was replaced last year is fine. The Cross receives many visitors from the Wherryman's Way and boat owners moored nearby. I visit and keep the area fairly free of weeds.

Signed:..... Dated:.....

12	<p>Village Hall report (Richard Watson)</p> <p>There has been renewed interest in the Village Hall. There have been a few losses in bookings due to the necessary rent increases. The damage to the windows last year due vandalism cost £500 which had to be paid out of the bank account. The bank account currently stands at £3000. It has been decided that it is not viable to continue doing the bar on a monthly basis. 3 quizzes and bingo have been organised over the last year. The last quiz was attended by 40 people and raised £400. The next bingo event will be held on 31st May 2019. The Chairman thanked Mr Watson for all his efforts in helping to promote the Village Hall.</p>
13	<p>Tree Warden report (John Wheeler)</p> <p>It has been a challenging year for our trees and wildlife. More particularly last summers prolonged hot dry weather which was offset a bit by a mild winter. However, our mature trees came through largely unscathed by digging deep and shutting down earlier and have now burst into beautiful new growth and fresh life. Several new saplings planted last spring I see didn't make it and a few others we won't know just yet. Nature has a wonderful way of dealing with nearly all that is thrown at it, but I sadly note that there are clear signs of ash die back both in some mature and younger planted trees.</p> <p>I have continued to remove some ivy on a few trees, one a flowering crab in Langley Street was lost when high winds blew it over owing to the shear weight of ivy on its canopy, so I have cut through some ivy on some others that might suffer the same fate.</p> <p>I will apply to get some free small hedging and trees to plant in the autumn to fill gaps and for Langley Church yard.</p>
14	<p>Parish Councillor reports</p> <p>Cllr Willmott – Reported the Village Sign has just been repainted by Mr Rob Barnes who has done a super job and in record time.</p> <p>Cllr Watson – Reported on an update regarding Bee-Lines. A former resident of Langley with Hardley, had also raised the issue about verge cutting with the Parish Council. It is important that verges are not cut until after wildflowers have finished flowering and dropped their seeds. If grass is allowed to grow it is also acknowledged that it can cause visibility problems. Important to encourage people to set aside an area in their gardens for wildflowers and perhaps the Parish Council could consider setting aside an area in the Play Area to set an example in the hope that others will follow suit. An interesting link has been added to the parish website regarding Buglife. Articles on this topic will be written for Chet News and Contact magazine.</p>
15	<p>Local groups & organisations reports</p> <p>No reports provided.</p>
16	<p>Public participation</p> <p>Retiring Vice-Chairman Anthony Timmins – Reported on the Play Area. At April routine inspection and clean up all apparatus in good condition. Very few bird droppings on equipment. Grass cutting generally good but cut too short under zip wire thus shredding mat in places. Safety notice has been repaired. No longer any protective cover on 'baby swing'. I have made two in the past and both have I assume been thrown deep into the bushes. Over to somebody else to make number three.</p> <p>Retiring Vice-Chairman Anthony Timmins – Reported on Traffic Signs. Earlier this year the two 30mph discs that were badly faded were replaced and within the last couple of weeks the rotten 40mph repeater posts in Langley Street have been replaced by galvanised steel posts as requested. Not bad after multiple reporting and an 18 month wait! The remaining area not covered is this replacement of the wooden direction sign adjacent to the village hall. My observation now however is that all these wooden signs in the parish need replacing.</p>
	<p>Meeting closed at 8.27 pm.</p>

Signed:..... Dated:.....