

# Langley with Hardley Parish Council

Minutes No: 2021/03

## Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 14 September 2021 at 7.30 pm in Langley with Hardley Village Hall

<b>Parish Councillors (5) present</b>	Nigel Sullivan (Chair), Mike Caston, Frances Kirkpatrick, Roger Stone, Tibby Bunn
<b>County Councillor</b>	Cllr Kay Mason-Billig
<b>District Councillors</b>	Cllr Kay Mason-Billig
<b>Also in attendance</b>	Carla Petersen (Clerk)
<b>Members of the public</b>	2

A risk assessment had been carried out prior to the meeting. Coronavirus guidelines were adhered to, and hand gels were available along with signage.

### 1. To receive and approve apologies for absence

District Councillor Jeremy Rowe.

### 2. To receive any declarations of interest from Members & consider requests for dispensation

Cllr Caston an interest in Hardley Church.

### 3. To approve minutes of Council meeting held on 13 July 2021

Minutes were approved and signed by the Chair.

### 4. To confirm that due to non-attendance and in accordance with Local Government Act 1972, s85 (1) & (2) Stuart Adcock is no longer a Member of the Council.

Regrettably due to the non-attendance of Stuart Adcock at meetings in the last six months he is no longer a Member of the Council. It was acknowledged the Clerk had followed correct procedure and was doing her job properly. All agreed Stuart Adcock had been a valuable member of the Parish Council. The Chairman will speak with Stuart Adcock to see if he will resubmit another application. The Clerk has already advised South Norfolk Council about the vacancy and the notice is on the parish website.

### 5. Adjournment for Public Participation (15 minutes allowed for)

Carol Carpenter reported the Wartime booklet had gone to print. Her intention is to revise the green Langley with Hardley booklet which was written many years ago. Loddon PC contributed towards the cost of printing the Wartime book. Carol enquired if the PC would consider contributing £200 toward the printing costs of the revised Langley with Hardley booklet. See agenda item 10.

### 6. Reports from:

- **Parish Clerk** - No interest has been received for the Councillor vacancy, advised South Norfolk Council about the vacancy due to Stuart Adcock no longer being a member of the Council, circulated by email planning applications and uploaded details on the website, contacted CGM again as they have been invoicing monthly and not per cut, the grass cutting tender with CGM ends this year and the tender process will need to start at the end of the year, thanked Andrew Milner for attending the last meeting, received a complaint about the overhanging trees on Langley Street (see agenda item 9), ordered 3 packs of free trees, completed the Langley with Hardley Parish Trust Charity Commission Annual Return 2021, updated the outstanding invoice to Mr Hagger for dog bin servicing and the balance outstanding is £215.45 which remains unpaid, ordered the wreaths for Remembrance Sunday, uploaded relevant information/documents onto the website.
- **County & District Councillor Kay Mason Billig** – Reported that a lot of drains have been found to be blocked and if there are any in the parish causing problems to let her know. Work has started on the Loddon roundabout and there is a 40mph speed limit. It is hoped the roundabout will be finished in March 2022, however this will depend on weather conditions. A new

Signed.....

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environmental officer is being appointed who will be a specialist officer for ditches. Broads Authority and Norfolk County Council are due to repair the footpath to Hardley Flood and will dredge onto the bank and after it has settled will re-profile. It is expected to open in Summer 2023.

- **District Councillor Jeremy Rowe** - A copy is available on the parish website.
- **Tree Warden John Wheeler** – Autumn is upon us, and our hedgerows look lovely furnished with an abundance of autumn fruit and lovely colours, and on a sunny day like today there is an abundance of Red Admiral butterfly's feeding on the blackberries. The hedge row blackberries are so tasty and why people go to supermarkets and buy them is beyond me they don't taste half as good!

I have noticed the narrowing of verge cut back has allowed new seedlings to grow into saplings and should result in new trees and hedging as a result to thicken up what is there. There has been so much growth this year and landowners will need to carry out some remedial cutting back where branches have bent over roadways. This cutting back done in the right way by Tree surgeons will help to prevent accidents and will save the trees from being damaged if hit by high-sided vehicles when branches just get ripped off and can lead to disease in the main tree. We have ordered some free trees from County Council, and I am growing some myself which I will plant around the parish in due course.

I am pleased to see that the new government agricultural schemes set to replace the old countryside stewardship schemes give landowners funding and credit for creating new woodland and the management of existing ones.

So often so many landowners I see have paid little attention to woods and trees on their land apart from if they fall down and block roadways, as there has been little in it for them apart from financial outlay!

Hopefully, these new schemes should encourage our landowners to plant more trees and spend time and resource on this. It is the landowners that are the key to this. We can all help by planting trees in gardens and playgrounds but must have our key farmers and landowners on board to maintain and create new woodland in a sustainable way. Chris Skinner at High Ash farm is a shining example and what is needed from us all.

**7. To receive an update on Barclays and agree banking arrangements for the year. To consider alternative banking providers. Agree on a course of action.**

Cllr Stone reported the evidence required by Barclays now needs further updates. The Clerk explained the risk that the Barclays Bank account could become unusable as there are insufficient signatures on the account. Should the council move to Unity Trust Bank there would be a £6 per month fee. The Clerk explained the amount of time spent holding on the phone when trying to sort things out with Barclays - £6 per month would be cheaper than queuing on the phone for an hour each month with Barclays. Cllr Stone proposed a move to Unity Trust Bank. A vote was conducted and 2 voted yes and 3 voted no. The PC for the moment will remain with Barclays.

**8. To receive an update on the actions required in the RoSPA report dated 22 June 2021.**

A clean-up in the play area has been conducted and required actions have been carried out which were raised in the RoSPA report. Cllr Caston confirmed he would arrange for the removal of rotten wooden bench in the play area. Cllr Bunn reported that the Village Hall Committee would like to purchase a bench and install it in the play area to replace the rotten bench.

**9. To receive an update on the overhanging trees on Langley Street. Agree upon a course of action.**

The Clerk reported sending letters to the landowners Mr & Mrs Harrison-Jones. They are currently sourcing three quotes for the tree work. The Clerk reported she had telephoned Mr Townsend about his section of trees, and he has completed his works already.

**10. To consider a donation towards the revised booklet on Langley with Hardley being updated by the Loddon and District Local History Group.**

All agreed to a £200 donation from the PC towards the revised booklet which will include a map. The Clerk will include this figure in the budget calculations for 2022/23.

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**11. To consider arranging a Big South Norfolk Litter Pick. Agree upon a course of action.**

A Big South Norfolk Litter Pick will be held on 30 October 2021 and 31 October 2021.

**12. To receive an update on allocating sites for the Chet Valley B-Line. Agree upon a course of action.**

The Clerk had been appointed at the last meeting to go round with Andrew Milner to allocate sites. After contacting Andrew Milner, it was decided it would not be possible for the Clerk to physically visit the locations. Cllr Stone offered instead to work with Andrew Milner on allocating sites.

**13. To consider the quotation letter for Internal Audit Services from Catherine Moore for the financial year ending 2022. Agree upon a course of action.**

The quotation letter from Catherine Moore had been circulated before the meeting. All agreed to accept the quotation of £60 for next year's internal audit.

**14. To consider making a donation to Chet Contact. Agree upon a course of action.**

A Langley with Hardley newsletter page will be compiled by the Chairman and Cllr Stone and submitted to Chet Contact before the 8<sup>th</sup> of the month. The Chet Contact is delivered to all households in Langley with Hardley, Chedgrave, Loddon and surrounding villages. All agreed to donate £100 to Chet Contact. Clerk to action.

**15. Planning:**

- **To receive new planning applications and make comment**  
None.
- **To receive results and updates on outstanding applications**  
None.

**16. Highways:**

- **To receive a report on outstanding highways issues**  
About halfway up and at the top of Church Lane there are massive potholes.

**17. Finance:**

- **To consider any grant applications received in accordance with Langley with Hardley PC Grant Awarding Policy.**  
The previous year's accounts for Hardley Church had not been provided since the last PC meeting. To be carried forward to the next meeting.
- **To receive the income and expenditure figure.** It was noted.
- **To note the bank balance as at 14 September 2021 - £7173.69**
- **To note receipts: -**
  - Barclays Bank. Interest. £0.05
- **To approve payments.**  
It was noted that an invoice had been received from CGM Group. The invoice has been calculated incorrectly and a revised invoice has been requested. It was agreed the payment will be processed as soon as the correct invoice has been received. All expenditure approved. Proposed by Cllr Caston and seconded by Cllr Kirkpatrick.

Signed.....

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<b>Payee</b>	<b>Value</b>	<b>Description</b>
Mrs C Petersen	£531.49	Salary & administrative expenses
HMRC	£94.20	Income Tax
CGM Group	£132.00	Grass cutting
Cllr Roger Stone	£129.00	Reimbursement SAM2 expenses
<b>Total</b>	<b>£886.69</b>	

**18. To receive updates from individual Council Members (for information only).**

Cllr Kirkpatrick reported on Hardley Cross being very muddy and suggested writing a letter to Broads Authority.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Caston for stepping in at the last minute and chairing the last meeting.

**19. To receive any items for inclusion on the next agenda (for information only)**

Budget, grant application, update on Stuart Adcock.

**20. Confidential: Clerk annual appraisal.**

The Clerk annual appraisal was conducted by the Chairman and Cllr Stone. A copy of the appraisal will be given to the Clerk, and one held on file. SCP to automatically increase by one point to SCP10.

**21. To confirm date of the next meeting as Tuesday 9 November 2021 in Langley with Hardley Village Hall at 7.30 pm.**

Confirmed.

The meeting closed at 08.45 pm.

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Date.....