

**Local Government Act 1972**



Local Government for Langton Green, Speldhurst, Ashurst and Old Groombridge

**Minutes of the Full Council Meeting**

**Held at 7.30 pm on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2024 at Ashurst Village Hall, Ashurst**

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**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Cllrs Curry (Chair), Lyle (Vice-Chair), Cleaver, Dickens, Ellery, Leach, Muress, Norton, Rowe, Tarricone and Turner.

**OFFICERS PRESENT**

K Neve, Clerk and C Barrett (CB), Assistant Clerk (minutes).

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Borough Cllr Sharratt was in attendance.

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

There were 4 members of the public present.

**24/191 To enquire if anyone intends to record the meeting**

The Chair read out the following statement: "An audio recording has been started. It will be used to ensure our minutes are accurate, but be aware that your voice may be recorded, and the recording could be requested from us via Freedom of Information."

**24/192 To accept and approve apologies and reasons for absence.**

Apologies had been received from Cllr Davies (health reasons), together with County Cllr McInroy (prior commitment), Borough Cllr Britcher-Allan (health reasons), and Borough Cllr Sankey (prior commitment).

**24/193 Disclosure of Interests**

Councillors' ongoing disclosures were noted:

Cllrs Curry, Ellery and Rowe have shares in the Speldhurst shop and post office.

**24/194 Declarations of Lobbying**

There were none.

## **24/195 Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2024**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes, previously forwarded to members were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

### **24/196 Public Open Session**

Andy Thompson was attending to speak about Langton Green Community Sports Association's (LGCSA) decision to resubmit their application for a 3G artificial pitch on land adjacent to Langton Green Recreation Ground. He said he hoped the parish council would be more proactive in thinking of ideas that would benefit the application this time, for example, improved sustainability through planting wildflowers and installing bat boxes to offset biodiversity losses. He felt the parish council had overlooked the financial benefits if the application was approved, such as a greater footfall at the pavilion café. He felt this revenue would help maintain the building and asked the parish council to carry out financial modelling on this. He also asked the parish council to approach a new application with a more neutral view than before.

He added that he was concerned about the parish council taking a loan of £800,000 to finance the purchase of Speldhurst Chapel as a location for the Speldhurst Community Shop. He said it was a business run by volunteers and asked what would happen if they left and staff had to be employed. If the business failed, would the parish council have to sell the chapel? He was concerned the chapel was only being purchased to stop it from being developed. Cllr Curry replied that he had already asked whether LGCSA would be able to action any advice from the parish council when it came to amending the application, as it had initially been written by third party planning consultants on behalf of the Football Foundation. LGCSA replied that they were always open to suggestions.

In reply to the question about the chapel, he said that the purchase of the chapel had been carefully considered, with much work done to safeguard the parish council's investment. The parish council were not purchasing the building to prevent it from going to developers, but because the lease on the current site was coming to an end, and was not likely to be renewed, and the chapel site presented a viable alternative.

Cllr Rowe advised Andy Thompson that the council had not taken out a loan of £800,000; the actual loan amount was £325,000. He said that the community shop had traded profitably since its formation. The parish council had built safeguards into their contract with Speldhurst Community Shop to be able to exit if necessary, and he believed they had taken all the necessary steps to mitigate risks. Furthermore, if the shop were to fail the parish council would be left with an asset greater in value than they had invested, as the community shop would have undertaken the refurbishment. Cllr Rowe added that the parish council had carried out a parish-wide consultation before deciding to take out a loan to buy the chapel and voted to proceed with the support of a majority of respondents.

It was confirmed that the parish council would not be responsible for paying for maintenance and repairs to the chapel. Once they purchased the building it would be the responsibility of the community shop to maintain. If the shop failed, the parish council would resume responsibility for its upkeep and would likely offload the asset and cancel the loan at the earliest opportunity.

It was confirmed that the parish council was responsible for the cost of maintaining Langton Green Pavilion.

Cllr Curry suggested that Andy Thompson stay on to listen to councillors discuss the latest Chapel Project update under agenda item 13 and joint matters with LGCSA under agenda item 17.

### **24/197 Borough and County Councillors' Reports**

#### **Borough Cllr Sharratt:**

- There were currently 2 consultations in circulation, the draft strategic plan, and the draft borough climate change consultation – links would be circulated for these.
- Borough Cllr Astra Birch, Cabinet member responsible for housing and communities, had been in contact asking for ideas about what youth services were needed in Speldhurst parish. Cllr Sharratt requested that councillors let her know if they thought of anything.

#### **Borough Cllr Britcher-Allan was unable to attend but sent the following report:**

- It was the last chance to answer the KCC transport survey. Cllr Britcher-Allan had attended a presentation on this.

- It was worth noting that the current Draft Strategic Plan consultation had not been costed or put through comprehensive scrutiny by officers before its release.

**24/198 Chair’s Report**

Cllr Curry had also received an email from Cllr Birch asking about the need for youth services. He replied that Langton Green Community Hub with Thrive Langton and LGCSA, all operating out of Langton Green pavilion, offered activities and services to support young people in the community. Cllr Birch would return with more information about how the borough and parish council could work together. Cllr Curry said it would be helpful to establish who, out of the community hub/Thrive Langton, LGCSA, and the parish council, should apply for any available funding.

**24/199 Clerk’s Report**

The Clerk reported the following:

- **Police:** PC Lisa Whitehead had visited the office after supporting a Speedwatch session outside the entrance to Langton Green Village Hall car park. She said an arrest had been made in connection with the recent indecent exposures and a press release was scheduled. PC Whitehead was following up on anti-social behaviour reported by a parish landowner, and parking issues in Speldhurst.
- **Kent Rail Summit Invitation:** The Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport at KCC sent an invitation to attend the 2024 Kent Rail Summit. It would be a Teams Meeting at 6.00 pm on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October. The invitation and joining instructions had been circulated.
- **Meeting Dates for 2025/26:** Proposed dates had been circulated, and unless councillors had any objections, the Clerk would confirm the dates and book meeting rooms as appropriate. She confirmed that Amenities, Environment, and Air Traffic meetings would be organised as necessary during the year.
- **Langton Green Village Hall** had sent thanks for the £15,000 grant towards the solar panels, with work due to start in mid-November.
- **Ashurst McDermott Village Hall:** The minutes of the Trustees meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> September had been circulated.
- **Parish Chairs Meeting:** Minutes and slides from the Parish Chairs Meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> September had been circulated.
- **TWBC Draft Statement of Licensing Principles – Gambling Act 2005 - 2025/2028:** Comments on this draft policy must be submitted by 29<sup>th</sup> October via the Tunbridge Wells engagement portal: <https://talkingpointtunbridgewells.uk.engagementhq.com/consultation-for-draft-statement-of-licensing-principles-gambling-policy>
- **Finance Conference:** The Clerk attended the recent KALC Finance Conference in Sevenoaks and reported back to the Finance Committee. One of the presentations was about KCC’s device recycling scheme. The Clerk originally intended to dispose of computer hardware through CeX but this project aimed at supporting those in the community who need a device. The Clerk asked councillors for their thoughts, and it was **RESOLVED** to approve the disposal of hardware using the device recycling scheme.
- **Clerks’ Conference:** The Clerk and Assistant Clerk (KH) would attend the KALC Clerks’ Conference on 12<sup>th</sup> November.
- **Annual Leave:** The Clerk would be on holiday from 14<sup>th</sup> October to 5<sup>th</sup> November. The Assistant Clerks would be available in her absence.

**24/200 General Matters – Actionable tasks which do not fall to a committee.**

| Ongoing | Summary   | Owner  | Created  | Status        |
|---------|---|--|----------|---------------|
| 07/24   | Set up meeting to discuss ongoing relationship with LGCSA.<br><i>This item to be closed now that SPC is assessing how to move forward constructively.</i> | Cllrs Davies, Muress, Chris Allen & James Bowdidge | 08/01/24 | <b>Closed</b> |
| 20/24   | Contact TWBC Licensing regarding alcohol licence for the Pavilion.  | Clerk  | 06/02/24 | In progress   |

|       |   |                      |          |             |
|-------|---|----------------------|----------|-------------|
| 58/24 | Add Cllrs Curry and Norton as signatories to Nationwide BS account.   | Clerk                | 05/08/24 | Complete    |
| 59/24 | Transfer £30,000 from Nationwide BS to Unity Trust Bank account.  | Clerk                | 05/08/24 | Complete    |
| 60/24 | Proceed with purchase of Speldhurst Chapel.   | Cllr Rowe/Clerk      | 05/08/24 | In progress |
| 63/24 | Liaise with LGCSA on wording of possible joint statement.   | Cllr Muress          | 05/08/24 | Complete    |
| 65/24 | Confirm and pay refurbishment costs for benches at Groombridge Green.   | Asst Clerk (KH)      | 05/08/24 | Complete    |
| 66/24 | Confirm and proceed with rubber matting replacement at Junior Playground.   | Asst Clerk (KH)      | 05/08/24 | In progress |
| 68/24 | Confirm the resolution not to seek the renewal as an asset of community value of the current Speldhurst shop / post office. | Clerk                | 02/09/24 | Complete    |
| 69/24 | Post notice of conclusion of AGAR on website / noticeboards.  | Clerk                | 02/09/24 | Complete    |
| 70/24 | Order wreaths for Remembrance Sunday Services.  | Clerk                | 02/09/24 | In progress |
| 71/24 | Circulate date options for Annual Parish Meeting.   | Clerk                | 02/09/24 | Complete    |
| 72/24 | Confirm SPC appointed Trustee to LGVH.  | Clerk                | 02/09/24 | Complete    |
| 73/24 | Forward Community Hub Update to councillors when received.  | Clerk                | 02/09/24 | Complete    |
| 74/24 | Publish LGCSA/SPC joint statement on website.   | Clerk                | 02/09/24 | Complete    |
| 75/24 | Confirm reappointment of Internal Auditor.  | Clerk                | 02/09/24 | Complete    |
| 76/24 | Renew website provision subscription when received.   | Clerk                | 02/09/24 | TBA         |
| 77/24 | Dispose of redundant IT equipment via CeX.  | Clerk                | 02/09/24 | In progress |
| 78/24 | Put Governance Committee ToFR, CCTV and recording of meetings policies on website.  | Clerk                | 02/09/24 | Complete    |
| 79/24 | Write to cabinet member re Highways proposal.   | Cllr Norton/Clerk    | 02/09/24 | Complete    |
| 80/24 | Draft email regarding Emirates flight pattern.  | Cllr Tarricone/Clerk | 02/09/24 | In progress |
| 81/24 | Schedule Air Traffic Committee Meeting.   | Clerk                | 02/09/24 | In progress |
| 82/24 | Notify TWBC Parish Chair that Cllr Tarricone will attend meeting in place of Cllr Curry.                                    | Clerk                | 02/09/24 | Complete    |

#### **New – Items arising since last Full Council Meeting**

|       | <b>Summary</b>   | <b>Owner</b>          | <b>Created</b> | <b>Status</b> |
|-------|--|-----------------------|----------------|---------------|
| 83/24 | Follow up email from Cllr Astra Birch re Youth Funding.  | Cllr Curry            | 07/10          |               |
| 84/24 | Contact KCC regarding IT equipment recycling.  | Clerk                 | 07/10          |               |
| 85/24 | Take out a Public Sector Deposit Fund with CCLA.   | Clerk                 | 07/10          |               |
| 86/24 | Update the following on the website and cllrs' folder:<br>Finance Committee Terms of Reference, Internal Financial Control System and Investment Policy. | Clerk                 | 07/10          |               |
| 87/24 | Confirm and pay the following grants:<br>Speldhurst Lunch Club and All Saints' Church.   | Clerk                 | 07/10          |               |
| 88/24 | Include agenda item for next Full Council to confirm purchase of Speldhurst Chapel.  | Clerk                 | 07/10          |               |
| 89/24 | Circulate draft documents for purchase of Speldhurst Chapel to councillors.  | Clerk                 | 07/10          |               |
| 90/24 | Set up interview for co-option candidate.  | Clerk                 | 07/10          |               |
| 91/24 | Include in minutes receipt of LGCSA email with their intention to resubmit their 3G pitch planning application.  | Clerk/Asst Clerk (CB) | 07/10          |               |

|       |   |                   |       |  |
|-------|---|-------------------|-------|--|
| 92/24 | Circulate information being sent by LGCSA on artificial pitches.  | Clerk             | 07/10 |  |
| 93/24 | Prepare document of positive steps to send to LGCSA.  | Cllrs Curry/Muess | 07/10 |  |
| 94/24 | Include possible parking stress survey on next Full Council agenda.                                       | Clerk             | 07/10 |  |
| 95/24 | Confirm approval of quotation for CCTV Wi-Fi link.  | Clerk             | 07/10 |  |
| 96/24 | Seek extension for consideration of grounds maintenance contract and include on next Full Council agenda. | Clerk             | 07/10 |  |

#### 24/201 Finance Committee – Report by Cllr Rowe, Finance Committee Chair

Report by the Chair including any Committee Meetings held since the last Full Council meeting, the minutes having previously been forwarded to all Members. A meeting was held on 23<sup>rd</sup> September.

- a) Interim payments since the last meeting: Five payments were reported to the Finance Committee at their meeting (see minutes for details).  
**Mastercard:** £28.87\* to Langton Green Service Station for fuel for van; £6\* for Land Registry Search on Courtenwell.  
**Unity Trust Bank:** £75 to Mr D Mortimer for deposit for work on Groombridge Benches; £36.90 DD Bank Charges for Unity Trust Bank Account (Quarterly Service Charge); £1.20 DD Bank Charges for Unity Trust Bank Account (Manual Handling)
- b) Delegated decisions are starred\* above.
- c) Terms of Reference – **RESOLVED** to approve the addition of a description of the Finance Committee’s purpose.
- d) Internal Financial Control System – **RESOLVED** to approve amendments relating to item F on the agenda.
- e) Investment Policy – **RESOLVED** to approve amendments to the policy relating to item F on the agenda.
- f) To consider investing in a Public Sector Deposit Fund with Churches, Charities and Local Authorities (CCLA) Investment Management Limited. Until now surplus funds could only be deposited in bank accounts, with few deposit accounts open to parish councils. The Finance Committee proposed to amend the parish council’s investment policy to be able to invest up to £50,000 into a public sector deposit fund. This fund would only allow the parish council to invest in AAA schemes. Other local parish councils were also starting to invest in this fund. The Finance Committee would review the fund at each meeting and report back to Full Council. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the investment, and the investment policy would be amended accordingly.
- g) To consider the following grant applications:
- Speldhurst Lunch Club (£220) – **RESOLVED** to approve this amount.
  - All Saints’ Church, Langton Green, Annual Churchyard Maintenance (£1,000) – **RESOLVED** to approve this amount.

#### 24/202 Accounts for Payment

**RESOLVED** that the invoices as listed below and checked by Cllr Muess be paid.

| Date Paid  | Payee Name                     | Reference | Amount Paid £ | Transaction Detail            |
|------------|--------------------------------|-----------|---------------|-------------------------------|
| 08/10/2024 | Agrifactors (Southern) Ltd     | MT2787    | 2,100.00      | Pitch Maintenance             |
| 08/10/2024 | Catherine Barrett              | MT2788    | 34.65         | Travel Expenses               |
| 08/10/2024 | Brooklynn Monk                 | MT2789    | 200.00        | Pavilion Cleaning             |
| 08/10/2024 | Cloudy IT                      | MT2790    | 268.32        | IT Services                   |
| 08/10/2024 | Dyno-Rod                       | MT2791    | 228.00        | Unblock Drain                 |
| 08/10/2024 | KBS Depot Ltd                  | MT2792    | 6,686.76      | Steel Bollards for Car Park   |
| 08/10/2024 | Katie Neve                     | MT2793    | 39.15         | Travel Expenses               |
| 08/10/2024 | KALC                           | MT2794    | 84.00         | Training - Finance Conference |
| 08/10/2024 | Langton Green Charitable Trust | MT2795    | 47.50         | Room Hire                     |

|            |                                |            |          |                              |
|------------|--------------------------------|------------|----------|------------------------------|
| 08/10/2024 | Langton Green Charitable Trust | MT2796     | 50.00    | Underlease Payment           |
| 08/10/2024 | Langton Life                   | MT2797     | 375.00   | Magazine Articles Oct/Nov    |
| 08/10/2024 | M R Lawrence                   | MT2798     | 350.00   | Mowing and Strimming         |
| 08/10/2024 | Mount Cook (Kent) Limited      | MT2799     | 1,260.00 | Pavilion Maintenance Report  |
| 08/10/2024 | Speldhurst Village Hall        | MT2800     | 105.66   | Room Hire                    |
| 08/10/2024 | Tivoli                         | MT2801     | 140.63   | Canine Waste Collection      |
| 08/10/2024 | Viking Direct                  | MT2802     | 73.18    | Stationery/Pav Toilet Roll   |
| 08/10/2024 | m:power accounting             | MT2805     | 57.60    | Payroll Administration       |
| 08/10/2024 | Streetlights                   | MT2806     | 27.84    | Street Lighting Maintenance  |
| 08/10/2024 | Langton Green Charitable Trust | MT2807     | 19.00    | Room Hire - Sept             |
| 10/10/2024 | N.E.S.T. Pension Scheme        | DD         | 678.79   | Pensions                     |
| 10/10/2024 | Talk Talk Business             | DD         | 27.54    | Pavilion Broadband           |
| 10/10/2024 | BT PLC                         | DD         | 26.93    | Office Mobile                |
| 15/10/2024 | KCC (KCS)                      | DD         | 126.95   | Photocopier Quarterly Rental |
| 16/10/2024 | Unity Trust Mastercard         | Credit Car | 43.87    | To bring balance to zero     |
| 17/10/2024 | Castle Water                   | DD         | 17.16    | Castle Water                 |
| 20/10/2024 | EDF Energy                     | DD         | 667.00   | Pavilion Electricity         |
| 20/10/2024 | Employees                      | MT2803     | 5,160.59 | Salaries                     |
| 22/10/2024 | HMRC                           | MT2804     | 1,196.24 | Ni and Income Tax            |
| 28/10/2024 | Veolia                         | DD         | 325.56   | Waste and Recycling          |
| 30/10/2024 | BT PLC                         | DD         | 69.42    | Office Phone and Broadband   |

#### 24/203 Speldhurst Chapel Project

- Cllr Rowe reported that the Chapel Project had now fundraised £400,000 with National Lottery funding also being investigated. He understood that they were close to appointing a builder. A planning application had been submitted and a biodiversity net gain report had been requested by the planning officer.

A report by Michelmores Solicitors on the results of the searches carried out on the chapel had been circulated by the Clerk. Cllr Rowe noted that no one had given feedback and would assume that councillors were satisfied with the results.

Cllr Rowe advised that the parish council's legal fees would be higher than initially anticipated – although still within the set budget. The main reason was that the project had gone on for longer than expected. A meeting had been requested by the Chapel Project's solicitors and was scheduled for the following week.

Cllr Rowe would inform Edward Pinnell that the agreement would need to be finalized by the end of October so that the council could make a final decision on whether to draw down the loan at the November Full Council. The Clerk would email councillors the draft agreement to review before the next meeting so that they could be prepared for an informed discussion.

- To note the expenditure to date – the solicitor's email regarding the increase in legal fees had been circulated.

**24/204 Annual Parish Meeting (APM) 2025 – RESOLVED** to approve the proposed date for the APM, which would take place on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2025 at Ashurst Village Hall. There would be an environmental theme and the Landscape & Biodiversity Officer and a Planning Officer from TWBC had said they would attend and speak at the meeting. Cllrs Tarricone and Turner volunteered to join Cllr Curry in a working group to plan the event.

**24/205 Vacancy on the Council** – An applicant had come forward and it was agreed that Cllrs Curry, Turner, and Tarricone would form the interview panel, with Cllr Lyle as reserve. The clerk would arrange a suitable day and time for the interview.

**24/206 Planning Committee** – Report by Cllr Cleaver

A meeting was held on 16<sup>th</sup> September and the draft minutes had been circulated. Cllr Cleaver reported that there had been fewer applications than usual to consider. The Committee had supported two and remained neutral on the rest. Cllr Cleaver stressed that the parish council Planning Committee were consultees only, and did not make decisions about planning applications.

#### **24/207 Langton Green Recreation Ground (LGRG)**

- To receive an update on the Community Hub – the Clerk had circulated a report from James Bowdidge about activities at the hub. Highlights included:
  - The term's dance classes for the Down Syndrome group had restarted.
  - The walking group held regular meet-ups at least once every two weeks.
  - The latest Community Lunch took place on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September supported by a fantastic group of volunteers and the Village Society; these events were enjoyed by older residents as an occasion to socialise.
  - As well as its regular activities, Thrive Langton had multiple events planned for the autumn, including art classes, mental health film screenings, and a talk on diabetes.
- To receive an update on shared matters with LGCSA – Cllr Curry said that an email had been received from the Chair of LGCSA confirming that they would re-submit an application for a 3G pitch on land adjacent to Langton Green Recreation Ground. Cllr Curry asked councillors for their feedback on the parish council making suggestions to LGCSA as to how they could put together a more effective application than previously. He suggested that advising LGCSA to make sure they obtained pre-planning advice from TWBC was the sort of guidance he would feel comfortable giving. He felt that making this sort of suggestion was immaterial to any position councillors decided to take in supporting or objecting to the application. Cllr Curry added that as some of the parish council's concerns focussed on traffic and parking congestion, he would be in favour of commissioning a traffic survey. He suggested doing this jointly with LGCSA and sharing costs. Cllr Ellery said that his concern remained about whether 3g pitches were carcinogenic, and that he was concerned that LGCSA would not pay their share of a traffic survey if this went ahead. He added that the Planning Committee Terms of Reference stated that the parish council could not give planning advice. He asked if there was a risk of councillors forming a pre-determined opinion if they became involved at the pre-application stage. He added that there was a danger of giving bad advice and felt that any contribution should be kept to a minimum. Cllr Rowe said he would like to see a calculation of the cost to the council if a 3G pitch was approved. For example, would there be additional pavilion maintenance, car park, and access path costs? He added that he understood there would be an upcoming announcement about the future of 3G pitches. This could have an impact on any decision that was to be made. Cllr Norton said the council's approach to a new application should help residents on both sides of the argument. Cllr Muress said it was important to draw a line under what had happened in the past. It was **RESOLVED** to devolve a response to Cllrs Curry and Muress. Cllr Curry said that a vote for or against a traffic survey could be taken at a future meeting. Chris Allen said he would circulate the Football Association's most recent analysis of 3G pitches.
- To note the Planned Maintenance Report – Cllr Muress said the ongoing costs associated with maintaining a building that was now at least 8 years old required the council to start setting aside funds for ongoing maintenance to the pavilion. Cllr Curry asked councillors to note that the Finance Committee would make a recommendation for a sinking fund at a future meeting.

At 9.27 pm councillors **RESOLVED** to approve a 15-minute extension to address the remaining agenda items.

#### **24/208 Committees and Working Groups (WG) and other Reports: to include any meetings held since the last Full Council meeting, the draft minutes having previously been forwarded to all Members**

- a) **Governance Committee** – Report by Cllr Ellery: There had been no meeting.
  - **RESOLVED** to approve a quotation of £930.05 (including VAT) from Sunstone Systems for the supply and installation of a new wireless link to the CCTV system.

- b) **Highways Committee** – Report by Cllr Norton: There had been no meeting. Cllr Norton had written to the KCC Cabinet Member for Highways about road safety issues in Speldhurst Parish. He had responded promptly, and although he could not promise that measures would be taken to progress the parish council’s requests for traffic calming, Cllr Norton felt it had been worth writing to bring the parish to his attention. Cllr Norton added that another small gain had been a visit from a KCC Highways engineer the previous week. He had visited several sites experiencing speeding and other traffic issues, and they hoped he could suggest solutions.
- c) **Amenities Committee** – Report by Cllr Mrs Lyle: A meeting was held on 30<sup>th</sup> September. It had been agreed to levy a standard £50 charge to hirers wishing to use the pavilion outside space. It had been agreed to refuse a request from a running group to use the car park for warm-up exercises. There had been flooding issues on the recreation ground adjacent to Winstone Scott Avenue, due to a resident diverting their drain. Maintenance work was needed on the pond at The Boundary. Residents who had previously helped with maintenance could no longer do so. It was likely that councillors would be asked to approve the cost of this work at a future meeting.
- To consider works to Pocket Park on the request of the Environment Working Group and on the recommendation of the Amenities Committee – **RESOLVED** to approve works, including hedge, tree and wildflower planting at Pocket Park. External funding had been obtained to pay for this work.
  - To consider the annual grounds maintenance contract – The Clerk was waiting to receive a comparative quotation in addition to the renewal quotation from Landscape Services.
- d) **Air Traffic Committee** – Report by Cllr Tarricone. There had been no meeting, and a meeting was due to be scheduled. **RESOLVED** to approve a letter written by Cllr Tarricone to Gatwick Airport about frequent noise disturbances caused by the Emirates Airbus A380 flightpath. Cllr Tarricone would incorporate feedback from Cllr Turner into his final draft.
- e) **Environment Working Group (EWG)** – Report by Cllr Turner. There had been no meeting. A meeting was scheduled for 26<sup>th</sup> November.
- f) **KALC** – Report by the Chair. Cllr Tarricone had attended the last KALC meeting in Cllr Curry’s place.

**24/209 Diary Dates** – The following dates were noted:

14<sup>th</sup> October – Planning Committee

21<sup>st</sup> October - Highways Committee

4<sup>th</sup> November – Full Council

**24/210 Items for Information:**

There were none.

There being nothing further to discuss, the meeting closed at 9.45 pm.

**Chair**