

## **LANGRISH PARISH ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY**

Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2019, 7.30 at Langrish House

**Present:** The Parish Council, 9 members of the public and the Clerk

**Speaker:** Police Constable Scott Graham – Country Watch and Wildlife Crime Officer

- 1. Apologies for absence** – were received from Kay and David Mowlam and Steve Tuff
- 2. The minutes of the Parish Assembly 2018** were agreed and signed.
- 3. Matters Arising from the Minutes** There were no matters arising

### **Report from the Chairman of the Parish Council**

- Elections on 2<sup>nd</sup> May marked the end of the old Parish Council and the beginning of the new one with a change of some of the personnel. We are very sad to lose both Gary Hodgson who has served on the Parish Council since 2004 and has latterly been Vice Chairman and Alison Meggeson who has had 2 long ‘stints’ on the Parish Council. Both feel that it is time to hand over to others. We thank them for all their hard work in getting things done. It has been a happy Council. We welcome Debbie Luff, who is now officially elected and will (as she has already done) highlight Ramsdean’s concerns. We also have another Ramsdean representative in Steve Tuft. Ian Blackwell, who served on the Parish Council for a short time a few years ago, is now back.  
We are pleased that Robert Mocatta has been re-elected as our District Councillor. He also remains as our County Councillor
- Again I should like to thank:
  - My fellow Parish Councillors for their help and support
  - Helen Marsh our Clerk for being at the end of the telephone and sorting us out on matters of protocol!
  - Robert Mocatta, our District Councillor and our County Councillor for all his advice and help particularly with EHDC and giving us grants for various projects
- Both the bus shelters in the Village have been refurbished. Both look extremely good and should last for some years.
- There have been on-going problems for several months with the state of Ramsdean Green, both with excessive uncontrolled parking on it and erosion of the edges from traffic. The Green is owned and maintained by Hampshire Highways and not by the Parish Council. Highways have been contacted and they have written to house owners. It is however a problem with no easy solutions.
- Traffic - The volume and speed of traffic along the East Meon road at the time the children were walking to and from the school bus continues to be a concern. In spite of various suggestions made by the PC nothing of significance has been achieved apart from the purchase of another SLR, now permanently placed on the East Meon Road (C28) near Langrish House.
- In a new initiative, the Chairman and Clerk are now meeting regularly with the Chairman and Clerk of East Meon to discuss matters of mutual interest
- Otherwise it has been a steady year, most of our activities will be covered by the reports from the relevant Councillors

### **Tree Warden’s Report** Rosemary Hopewell gave her report

Again this has not been an onerous year. The main task has been to answer a few queries on the health of various trees.

The Tree Warden continues to be member and co-ordinator of the sub-committee of Tree Wardens in East Hampshire, the purpose of which is to organise training for new (and old) wardens and to organise meetings and events. None have been held locally in the past year but the annual SE England regional course in October was attended. Regular updates are received from the Tree Council and national Tree Wardens' forum.

Ash die-back is well established within the Parish. Unfortunately the disease has now spread to mature trees and although it has not completely killed many, they are struggling. Although the Ashes are not yet fully out, it would appear that there has been a significant increase in affected trees in the past year. Guidelines for the management of diseased trees are being regularly upgraded by the Tree Council and the Forestry commission.

No new Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs) were made in this year. Three TPOs in this Parish remain:

- two on yew trees at Rookery Gate Farm
- trees surrounding a plot of land, south-west of Pond Cottages, Ramsdean.

The Lime Tree on Ramsdean Green has been identified as a Cut-leaved Lime (*Tilia platyphyllos ssp lacinata*). It is still a matter of interest as to how it came to be on the Green. As it is on Highways Land, they have agreed to conserve it. There has however been some concern recently that it is leaning more. This is being monitored.

It should be stressed that the role of Tree Warden is purely advisory and that it carries NO powers.

ROH was asked whether there were any plans to replace the ash trees. She replied that no decisions had been made although walnut had been suggested but it is now a native tree.

**Planning Officer's Report** Ian Wesley reported that over the year the Parish Council had reviewed applications for The White House, Barrow Hill Farm, Reeds Meadow sewage treatment plant (which is now completed and working), Gardener's Cottage and a new barn at Rose Cottage. Applications for Chapel Cottage, 6 Pond Cottages and Courtyard House Bordean were all approved by SDNP. Langrish House Hotel annex had also been approved but subject to conditions.

**ICT and Broadband** Ian Wesley said that the parish council website had received a good number of hits, the village email list now had over 100 addresses and the Facebook Group has 56 members. 10 houses were benefiting from the new FTTP broadband with speeds of between 50-300 Mbps. The only providers that can quote are BT and Zen. He commented that at the same time as the introduction of the fibre optic cabling the copper service was slowing down. He was unable to provide an update on the supply to Ramsdean but understood that it will be completed by the end of 2019.

**Roads and Footpaths presented by Gary Hodgson** On roads GH commented that the asphalt was being well maintained by Highways. For **Footpaths** a new kissing gate had been installed at the Close by the lengthsman.

There was a comment made from the audience about a hole in the surface of A272 on Bordean Hill. A resident said that the handrail up the steep path between North Stroud Lane and Ramsdean was coming loose. GH said he would fix a bottom rail on a stile next to the C28.

**District and County Councillor's Report** Rob Moccatta said that in a new joint venture with Havant there will be a new recycling and waste collection service with a handover due in September or October. Havant are working with EHDC recycling on what to recycle in Hampshire. HCC are trying to hugely increase recycling across the county with the introduction of new large recycling centres, which will happen over the next 12 months. District Council has bought the largest shopping centre in East Hampshire.

Cllr Moccatta was asked if the recycling centre in Petersfield was shutting. RM replied that although there were spending reductions due to the loss of £180m from central government HCC would like to be able to

keep open the 'Tips' for residents, so he thought that closing it down would be unlikely. Keith Mans, who received 50% of the votes is the new leader of HCC.

**4. Parish Accounts 2018/19** The accounts were distributed and then presented by the Clerk.

**5. Questions from the Floor**

A resident suggested that the Meadow would benefit from some colourful planting.

The Clerk was asked if the lengthsman could regularly cut back the nettles on the footpath that runs into the Close. This would be added to the lengthsman's list.

The Chairman thanked everyone for coming and the meeting closed at 9pm