



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

Draft Minutes of the Amenities Committee Meeting

held on Monday 12th October 2026 at 7.30pm In Speldhurst Parish Office, Langton Green Village Hall

Members Present: Cllrs Turner, Leach and Ellery.

Officers Present: H Chater – Clerk (Minutes).

1. Election of Chair

RESOLVED that Cllr Turner be Elected as Chair.

2. To enquire if anyone present intends to film, photograph and/or record the meeting

The Clerk would be recording the meeting for the purpose of accuracy of the minutes. The recording would be deleted once the minutes had been signed off at the next meeting.

3. To accept and approve apologies and reasons for absence

Apologies had been received from Cllr Barrington Johnson (holiday), Cllr Littlefield (work commitments) and Cllr Dickens (work commitments).

4. Minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on 23rd March 2026

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

5. Disclosure of Interests

There were none.

6. Declarations of Lobbying

There were none.

7. Financial Review.

Councillors noted the budget report for Amenities.

8. Items for Expenditure 2026. Cost of air con unit for office to be researched.

9. Public Open Session

One member of the public present. A resident requested that Parish Council-owned trees adjacent to their property be pollarded due to concerns regarding overhanging branches. It was agreed to obtain quotations from the Council's tree contractors for consideration.

Parish Council Land: Amenities Topics

Council Office, Langton Green Recreation Ground, Speldhurst Road, Langton Green, Kent TN3
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a) **Langton Green Recreation Ground (LGRG) including carparks, playgrounds and the Pavilion**

- Bus Shelter Grant Update. Local residents to The Hare bus stop have been sent a letter asking for feedback or objections with a deadline to respond. No responses have been received. Grant application for £2,500 will be submitted by the end of October.
- The Boundary Pond. A grant from Unity Bank has been submitted to fund a fence and Lifebuoy for the pond. **RESOLVED** to accept water test quote in the sum of £180 +vat from NaturePlus
- Finger Post. The finger post opposite The Hare is rotten. **RESOLVED** to remove the post.
- Plastic Recycling Bin at Langton Green Recreation Ground. A request from nursery for a mixed recycling bin was **RESOLVED** to approve a quotation from Viola for £10.50 weekly collection. Cardboard to be collected fortnightly for £7.20.
- To note the final decision regarding pitch maintenance. **RESOLVED** that Agrifactors be recognised as the contractor best able to maintain the football pitch to the standard required for football use and that this decision be formally recorded in the minutes.
- Playground Inspection Results. The Playground Inspection company results were noted and it was **RESOLVED** to approve the quote of £189 +vat for 2027.
- Update on teen Play Area Matting. It was noted that the work will commence on November 9th 2026.

b) **Speldhurst**

- Installation of dog waste bins at Shadwell Woods has been delayed due to supplier issues.

c) **Old Groombridge**

- Continuation of flower meadow at Old Groombridge. Cllr Turner reported that, due to the extreme heat, the meadow at Roopers had not established sufficiently to assess whether it would be a suitable option for Groombridge Green.
- **RESOLVED** to continue with mowing the Green for the foreseeable future.

d) **Ashurst**

- Installation of dog waste bin near the church and village hall. Installation has been delayed due to supplier issues.

e) **The Whole Parish**

- Tree survey completed. The report was noted and quotes for 3, 6 and 12 month recommended work have been requested. Preference is to complete all work in this fiscal year if financially beneficial.
- Grounds maintenance agreements with 3 Counties and Cherished. The Clerk reported that the transition to Cherished was progressing smoothly and that both contractors were performing well. As added value, Cherished have cleaned Speldhurst Memorial in readiness for Remembrance Sunday.

10. **Items for Information**

- Updated action grid – Members noted that all actions from the previous meeting had either been completed or remained in progress.
- Date of next meeting – to be confirmed

Meeting closed at 20.02

Chair