



LANGLEY PARISH NEWS

www.langley-kent.org.uk



Annual Parish Meeting summary by Chairman, David Burton

In May, Langley held its Annual Parish Meeting which concluded that "all is well with Langley". I would like to take this opportunity to thank everybody that was involved in this 'uplifting' event which focused on the community aspects of the village. The Annual Parish Meeting is not a meeting of the Parish Council, it is a meeting traditionally arranged by the Parish Council which is open to all electors of the Parish to provide the opportunity to ask questions of their elected representatives on the Parish Council, Kent County Council and Maidstone Borough Council. Also, representatives from the Kent Police, local organisations and village hall users are in attendance.

At this year's meeting, we received a short speech from our Guest Speaker, Gary Thomas (Campaign to Protect Rural England) who advised the Parish Council to proceed with a 'design statement' following the production of the Parish Plan.

Cllr Eric Hotson complimented the Parish Plan as an 'incredible document', advised that rural crime is down, KIG remains one of the largest applications to hit the South East and updated Members with regard to KCC's financial position.

PCSO Jon White provided members with the annual crime figures and I thanked Jon for his service to the Parish Council and wished him luck in his new role as a full time Police Constable.

Many village organisations either turned up to provide a report in person or supplied reports prior to the meeting. A full copy of the Minutes are available from the Clerk or via the website www.langley-kent.org.uk.

With regards to this financial year, I am very pleased to report that we have managed to hold the precept for this year. This has been achieved by reviewing all of our expenditure and making savings where possible without any reduction in any of the services provided by the Parish Council. We are very pleased to announce that within this budget review we were able to find additional funding to increase the working hours of the Parish Clerk. This means we will have more resources to promote Langley and hopefully secure more grants from outside the Parish.

Langley Parish Council continues to actively represent the views of Langley's residents with continuing membership of the Kent International Gateway Joint Parish Group and continues to be part of the Local Development Framework Core Strategy Proposition which has been placed 'on hold' pending the outcome of the KIG application.



Rural Market for Langley

Do you have glut of courgettes, a surfeit of strawberries or more eggs than you can eat? Is your jam worthy of a larger audience? Or, would you simply like to buy some fresh produce directly from the suppliers? If so, please join us at Langley's first Rural Market on Friday 3rd July 1-3pm in the Village Hall car park.

We've called the event a 'Rural Market', rather than a 'Farmer's Market', because we hope to widen our appeal to local producers, including fruit, vegetable and plant growers, bee keepers, jam and cake makers, crafts people and those who keep a few hens. At the same time, we welcome local farmers who would like to join us to sell their wares. If your product is made within a 20-mile radius of Langley, of good quality and value for money, we would like to hear from you. We want to offer real food for local people, thereby reducing food miles and supporting the local economy. Our aim is to nurture a sustainable local food network that brings consumers and producers together, so everyone benefits - including the environment! At the same time, we want to promote Kentish crafts and support local artists, who are welcome to use the opportunity to display their works or skills. Or, perhaps you're interested in bartering? We'll provide the meeting ground and you set up the trades! Maybe you have a skill that you can put to good use in exchange for fresh eggs, plants or a jar of jam?

We'll also serve refreshments – offering a place to catch up with friends and enjoy a cream tea.

This is a 'not-for-profit' enterprise run by volunteers. All we ask is a modest fee of £2 per table top from villagers; £5 from commercial producers and stallholders. So, it's even cheaper than a boot sale – and, hopefully, a lot more fun! Do come and join us!

If you're interested, please call Nicola Dawkins on 842461. Stalls/table tops will be allocated on a first come, first served, basis.



Village Hall Management Committee News

Contacts: Pat Sayers, Chair 862557
Clare Hampson, Secretary 862894
David Bennett, Treasurer/Booking Officer
861223

Langley's Annual Fete – Monday 31st August, 1pm. As you know, there is a strong emphasis on ensuring that this year's fete is an event which reflects the rural identity of Langley which is one of the sentiments arising from the Parish Plan. Therefore, we are planning a "Darling Buds of May" family orientated, fun packed day to include local stalls, entertainment arena, BBQ, beer tent and much more. We are aiming to raise at least £2,000 which will help towards the maintenance costs for the Village Hall (further information below).

Village Hall Refurbishment - Pat Sayers advises that the Village Hall will be completely redecorated commencing Monday 3rd August and should be completed within 3 to 3 ½ weeks with a bright new colour scheme. Following this, the Management Committee are looking to raise money for new curtains and lighting and some new furniture. Do we have any resident curtain makers? All donations of time and/or money are always gratefully received !

The **Youth Bus** started on the 2nd April and will visit Langley on **alternate Thursdays, 6.30pm to 8.30pm** age 11 -19s at the Village Hall Field/Car Park. Membership is £2 for the year. The Summer Programme includes many activities such as Ice Skating, Go Karting, Theatre Trip, Thorpe Park, Kent Mountain Centre and much more – come along and meet the team and ask for Natalie.

Please contact Natalie Penfold, Maidstone Rural Youth Project on 01622 859171 for more information.

DIARY DATES

Rural Market – Friday 3rd July 1-3pm – Village Hall

Annual Fete – Monday 31st August , 1 – 5pm

Over 60s Lunch Club – Sundays on 28th June,
23rd August and 20th September 1pm
Bookings only – call Dee 861487

Medway Dog Training Club, 50th Anniversary
Celebration – Sunday 27th September at 12 noon

Maintenance Items

White lines to be painted around the entrance door to allow better access for prams and wheelchairs.

Quotes are being obtained for safety surfacing to be added in the Play Area especially around the entrance area.

Car park to be cleared of weeds, overgrowing grass, etc.
Playing Field inc. verges – to be cleared of litter

New fencing to be installed on the Northern boundary +
the western boundary hedging to be restocked to fill the
gaps.

Regular Village Hall Clubs & Activities

Monday	Ballet (Children) 4.15pm Short Mat Bowls 7.30pm
Tuesday	Ballet (Adult) 5pm Belly Dancing 8pm
Wednesday	Ballet 5.45pm Short Mat Bowls 7.30pm
Thursday	Mother & Toddler 1pm Karate – 6pm Morris Dancing 8pm Youth Bus (alt. Thursdays)
Friday	Mobile Library 12pm Martial Arts 6.30pm
Saturday	Ballet (Children) 9am
Sunday	Football am

For further information contact David Bennett

PC Steve Older



**Kent
Police**

PCSO Richard Kerby



“ Hello. I'm your neighbourhood officer for Sutton Valence and Langley, Boughton Monchelsea and Chart Sutton, Loose and Leeds wards. If you have an issue which you think we should be working on as one of our priorities for this area, please call me to discuss. Telephone 01622 604392

“ Hello. I'm your neighbourhood PCSO for Mid Kent. I'm part of the Maidstone rural neighbourhood policing team and if you have any local concerns about policing in your neighbourhood, please call me on 01622 604392.

More information on your neighbourhood police team can be found on the Kent Police website as follows:
<http://www.kent.police.uk/YourNeighbourhood>

Lovely Langley needs your help

**Parish Plan
Action Committee**

Now that the Parish Plan has been produced it has resulted in a long list of actions that the Parish Council is responsible for. Most of the actions are already being addressed, but there are some new areas and projects which require investigation, such as the provision of a monthly Farmers Market, the establishment of a Business Forum, costings and feasibility for a Cricket Pitch and Tennis Courts, and much more.



The Parish Council has created a Parish Plan Action Committee headed up by Cllr Catherine Craven to ensure that the action list is duly completed. The first step has been to prioritise the action list and to detail actions to be taken, work already in progress and any other relevant information, this list can be viewed on the Parish Council website and will be updated on a regular basis.

Please contact the Clerk or Catherine if you are interested in contributing to the Sub Committee – all contact numbers are located on the back page. Local Businesses interested in participating in the Business Forum, please contact the Clerk.

There are A4 copies of the Parish Plan available at £5 which contains stunning photos of the local landscape, a brief history of the area and other interesting items – they make an ideal gift. Please contact the Clerk to buy your copy.

**The Langley Boundary
Stone Project**



The Parish Council would like to undertake a community project to find, record and photograph Langley's historic boundary stones.

Using old Ordnance Survey maps, to date the Clerk has identified 28 'boundary stones' and 7 'stones' having been existence at some point. However, we have no idea if they are still in place. Now that the stones have been located on the map we need a team of intrepid explorers to actually locate and possibly extract the stones from undergrowth, ditches, etc. and photograph/record them to ensure their future care.

If you are interested in this village project, or have any questions, please contact the Clerk on 842461 to join the team.

The idea for this project came from Linton Parish Council who began their project in 2007. Pictures and full details of their project can be found at www.lintonpc.kentparishes.gov.uk

Let's see if we can do better ☺

Freighter Dates

Saturday 8th August

11.30 – 12.15 – Shepherds Way

12.30 – 13.00 – Grasslands cul-de-sac

This service can no longer collect electrical items more information is on the notice boards.

Christian Aid Week – Collection 2009

The total amount raised in the village for Christian Aid this year was £713.37 (an additional estimated £64 in gift aid tax will also be added. This exceeds last year's total which was £682.70 + £70 in gift aid tax. Thanks go to those who so generously gave and to the faithful band of collectors.

Steve Knowles, Langley Treasurer

Reader comments

This is your chance to have your say. This is your community newsletter – so if there's an issue you want to bring to the attention of your fellow neighbours, let us know and we can print your letter in this section.

Please write to Nicola Dawkins at the above address with all reader comments, the good, the bad and the constructive!

Monthly Parish Clinics - Parish Clerk

The Clerk is available on the first Wednesday of every month from 9.30 to 11.30am in the Committee Room at the Village Hall. Free tea and coffee available for all. Come and speak to your Clerk to raise any concerns, ideas, projects or suggestions you may have.

How to contact your Parish Council?

Please write to the Parish Council c/o the Parish Clerk at :

**10 Warmlake Cottage, Chartway Street,
Sutton Valence, Maidstone, Kent ME17 3JA**
or e/mail parishclerk@langley-kent.org.uk

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

The Parish Council meet on the **third** Tuesday of every month (except August) at 7.30pm, Langley Village Hall and interim meetings are held as and when required. A list of all the meeting dates can be found on the notice-boards and website. The agenda will be displayed on the Parish notice boards and the website and members of the public are welcome to attend.

Copies of Meeting Minutes are available to view from the Parish Clerk and they can also be viewed on the parish website as follows:
www.langley-kent.org.uk

Parish Notice Boards + Website

Just a reminder that the Parish notice boards and the website contain all the up-to-date information you need for parish matters.

The notice boards are located at Porters Walk, Village Hall, opposite Crown & Horseshoes and Grasslands.

Crash Statistics – Leeds and Sutton Rd

The Parish Clerk continues to compile a dossier of all road traffic accidents from the minor knocks and bangs to car crashes. Please can help by reporting any type of incident you either witness or experience on the B2163 Leeds Road and Sutton Road. We need all the evidence we can to support or requests for help to the Kent Police and Kent County Council.

PARISH COUNCILLORS

Name	Portfolio	Contact
David Burton, Chairman	Planning & Development, Business Forum, KIG	862595
Sue Knowles, Vice Chair	Footpaths, Planters, Trees	861618
Catherine Craven, Councillor	Parish Plan Actions	861291
Ray Cuthbert, Councillor	Village Hall, Allotments, Youth	863417
Janet Palmese, Councillor	Highways, Speedwatch	842305
Tony Haylor, Councillor	Police Liaison, Parish News Dist, Culverts/Drainage	861189
Hans Reichert, Councillor	Website, Parish Plan	hans@hdr-online.com
John Tucker, Councillor	Playing Field, Police Liaison, Parish News Dist, Lighting	861356
Nicola Dawkins	Parish Clerk	842461

Borough & County Council Representatives

Paulina Stockell	paulinastockell@maidstone.gov.uk	842508
Eric Hotson	erichotson@maidstone.gov.uk	01580 892312