

Langton Matravers Annual Parish Assembly



Minutes of The Annual Parish Assembly for Langton Matravers held at the **Village Hall**, High Street, Langton Matravers on **Wednesday 4th June 2025 at 6.00 p.m.**

MINUTES

In attendance: In addition to Councillors and the Clerk there were approximately 40 members of the public in attendance. Also in attendance were 12 pupils from St George's Primary School Choir, the headteacher and a member of staff.

1. Welcome – Chairman & Vice Chairman

The Chairman welcomed all attendees and introduced the Clerk.

2. St George's Primary School Choir

The headteacher introduced the school choir and the choir beautifully performed a selection of songs.

3. Langton Matravers Parish Council – Report - Chairman and Parish Clerk

The Chairman provided an update on the work of the Council over the past year.

4. Presentations

National Trust – Update on work in the Purbeck area

A presentation was provided by David Brown, Project Manager, National Trust, which included:

- Work on Nature Recovery
- Working with Planet Purbeck in particular on the 'Purbeck Goes Wild' project to encourage engagement with nature for local children and families
- Working with farmers to increase biodiversity
- A project in Langton Matravers was progressing to decrease the water run-off and assist with potential flooding

Speedwatch – Update on Speedwatch scheme and 20 mph implementation

An update was provided by Lynn Francis which included:

- During the summer of 2024 a 20 mph zone was introduced throughout the village
- Over 11 sessions 1,300 vehicles had passed the Speedwatch team with 80 cars travelling over 25 mph
- Dorset Police attend some sessions and use a device which could result in the driver receiving a penalty notice
- The intention is to place an additional SID near to Putlake
- The team currently has seven active members but is seeking additional volunteers. Interested parties should contact the Clerk for further information.

Parishes of St Aldhelm's

An update was provided by Richard Earl, which included:

- It was noted that the Parishes of St Aldhelm's covered three churches

- Working together locally and attending local events such as fetes in Langton Matravers, Harman's Cross and Worth Matravers
- St George's Church had close ties with the primary school
- The first Thursday of the month the church hosted the Coffee Pot, a community coffee morning
- Volunteers were needed for the upcoming fete on 9th August 2025

Village Hall – Chairman's report

An update was provided by Steve Hutchings, which included:

- The hall maintained a good level of bookings and income
- Wedding reception bookings had increased
- An Art Group had started using the hall at 2.00 p.m. on Monday's
- A community café was held on the third Thursday of the month, with the next café being held on 19th June 2025 10.00 a.m. until 11.30 a.m.
- It was anticipated that a survey would be delivered through doors to ascertain what events/services residents would like from the hall
- Volunteers were needed to assist with various aspects of the hall upkeep

History Society – Update

An update was provided by Steve Coombes, which included:

- The museum was applying to become a CIO
- Donations and the entrance fee covered the cost of the museum
- Talks were well attended
- Upcoming events were noted which included a Quarries themed event running from Easter to the end of September and a Blacksmithing event in June/July. Pupils from St George's Primary School, St Mark's Primary School and Leeson House students were invited
- Applications had been made for grants for the restoration of paintings
- Volunteers were needed from as little as an hour as custodians of the museum

Burngate Purbeck Stone Centre – Update

An update was provided by David Wise, which included:

- Burngate operated as a not for profit organisation
- Courses were provided in stone carving and provided knowledge on the landscape and the quarrying and use of Purbeck Stone
- Walks had been established with a new trail being launched (leaflets available)
- Places on courses for people on low income had been started – 'Have a go sessions'
- Volunteers were needed to assist with the projects

Langton Matravers Community Land Trust – Update

An update was provided by Sue Hutchings, which included:

- A survey of the land had been undertaken on the land north of Capstan Field
- It was reported that an Expression of Interest had been received from a Housing Association
- Four Expression of interest had been received from Architects who would then be interviewed in order to progress the design stage
- Public consultation would be held prior to final planning application

The Chairman applauded all volunteer and local organisations for their hard work and dedication to provide services to the village. Thanks were also extended to Cllr Ben Wilson for his support and ensuring that communication was open with Dorset Council.

5. Public Participation

- A member of the public highlighted that Folk Dancing was held in the hall on Tuesday's at 7.30 p.m. for a minimal charge.
- An introduction was made by the new owner of The Old Rectory Nursing Home. It was noted that the home would re-open as a nursing home and would be family-run. An Open Day would be upcoming and details would be shared in due course.
- The owner of Saltpig shared an initiative for local families on low income to provide scraps of food to the pigs and receive the pork meat at the end of the process. The aim of the project was to raise awareness of farming practices and provide quality meat to those in need.
- A Community Nurse explained that a walking group for adults with learning disabilities was established in the area however a venue to change and plan the next walk was required.

6. Displays

Table displays had been provided by Brownies, Scouts & Rainbows, Woodland Trail and Orchard, Allotment Association, History Society, Burngate Purbeck Stone Centre, Speedwatch, Langton Matravers Community Land Trust and the National Trust.

7. Refreshments – Tea, Coffee, Cakes and Biscuits

A chance for networking was provided over tea, coffee and cakes.

The date of the next Annual Parish Assembly would be arranged in due course.
