

**KINGS BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL**  
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on  
**Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> December, 2006, at 8.00 pm in**  
**Kings Bromley Village Hall**

**Present:-** Cllr I M P Pritchard (Chairman); Cllr S R Browne, Cllr Mrs M K Gair;  
Cllr Mrs P Jarman; Cllr Mrs S R Piggott; Cllr G C Seddon; Cllr W A Taylor

**In attendance:** Mrs S Buxton (Clerk)

One member of the public attended.

During the public part of the meeting Cllr Seddon gave a short talk on twinning and in particular with reference to the cultural enrichment opportunities it offers for children. The school and the governing body are particularly interested to investigate the subject further with a view to widening the internationalism in the curriculum. There are many opportunities in Europe and further afield, and there is funding to support links with schools through the British Council.

Two other issues raised during the public part of the meeting were the much improved War Memorial and the difficulties of erecting a Christmas tree without damaging the landscaping done at the War Memorial.

**3024 Apologies**

Cllr Mrs J Eagland due to a prior LDC commitment

**3025 Declarations of Interest**

Cllrs Mrs Piggott and Browne – Leofric Close

**3026 Minutes of the Last Meeting**

**Agreed** that the minutes of the meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> November, 2006, be signed as a true and correct record

**3027 Report of the Parish Clerk**

- i. **HCV Traffic** – replies have been received from John Lomas Removals, Lafarge (Clue Circle) Cement and Tarmac – Lomas's have to use local roads as part of daily work; Lafarge have instructed drivers to avoid A515 unless A50/A38 blocked by road works/accident and Tarmac have a contract in Fradley till early 2007, which requires them to use local roads. All expressed concern about poor driving and will investigate any incident of which details are notified to them.

**3028 Finance**

i. **Accounts for Payment**

**Agreed** that the following payments be made

Mrs S Buxton	Salary – November 2006	£309.53	Chq No 654
	Office/computer costs – Nov 2006	£ 25.50	
	Telephone – Aug – Nov 2006	£ 25.64	
	Poppy wreath for Remembrance	£ 20.00	
	SLCC subscription 2007 50% of cost	£ 42.00	
SCC	Pension - November 2006	£ 62.24	Chq No 655
LDC	Inspect play equipment	£ 41.13	Chq No 656

Sharp Landscapes One grass cut £ 94.00 Chq No 657  
SPCA AGM 3 lunches £ 27.75 Chq No 658

**ii. Payments Received**

SCC Local Members' Initiative Grant £700

**Agreed** that a letter of thanks be sent to Cllr Mrs Janet Eagland

**iii. Finance Report to 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2006**

An abbreviated report was tabled and a full report was requested for the next meeting

**iv. Horticultural Society Funding**

A letter has been received offering funding of £250 for a village project next year, and if a particularly beneficial project to the village is available then additional funding may be available

**Agreed** that the Horticultural Society be thanked for their kind offer and the parish council would give consideration to the matter in the future

**v. Budget 2007/08**

This has to be decided at the January meeting and any details of items to be costed in the budget should be sent to the clerk before Christmas if possible

**3029 Correspondence**

**i. British Trust for Conservation Volunteers** – information

**ii. Lichfield Energy Efficiency Advice Service** – information

**iii. Staffs Police Authority Community Consultation Committee** – 8/11/06  
minutes of meeting held at Hammerwich

**iv. John Taylor High School** – details of 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations and appeal for donations towards remodelling of sixth form unit

**Agreed** that the clerk would check the legality of the parish council making a donation towards the remodelling project

**Agreed** that the matter be considered further at the next meeting

**v. East Midlands Regional Assembly Draft Region Plan Part 3** – Milton Keynes and South Midlands

**vi. CPRE Fieldwork magazine**

**vii. West Midlands Regional Assembly** – Speaking Out News

**viii. Horticultural Society funding offer**

**ix. Big Lottery Funding** – following changes to the rules, parish councils can now apply to the Big Lottery and Awards for All

**3030 Parish Web Site**

**Agreed** all councillors would take a look at the draft site before the next meeting at [www.the-roys.net/kib/](http://www.the-roys.net/kib/) and the clerk would provide an update on development of the site

**3031 Parish Plan**

**Agreed** to carry this forward to the next meeting

**3032 War Memorial**

**i. Grants from LDC** – in addition to the previous two grants for the landscaping work and stone mason's work on the memorial, LDC have agreed a grant of £172.50 towards the cleaning of the war memorial, and a cheque is currently awaited

**ii. Update on work to stonework**

**Agreed** that Cllr Pritchard would speak to the stonemason regarding the timetable for the work

- iii. **Maintenance of the War Memorial post renovation** – the clerk is awaiting a reply from the Gardening Guild on whether they would be happy to maintain the border on the War Memorial
- iv. **Insurance of War Memorial** – Cllr Pritchard has still to speak to the stonemason regarding a valuation for the War Memorial

### 3033 Youth Club

To date this has been successful with 18 or 19 children at each session. Tuesday nights are sport based and Thursdays are more traditional youth club nights which seem to attract older children. The Staffs Council for Voluntary Youth Service have been very helpful and provide one or two people at every session. Training is being organised for parent volunteers. Presently there are 13 volunteers and some parents volunteer to stay at some sessions

### 3034 Yoxall Layby

- i. **Conservation of area – planting** – the Horticultural Society have offered to pay for additional planting along the side of the first layby, but SCC require the parish council to agree to take out a licence for maintenance if this is to go ahead  
**Agreed** that the parish council was not prepared to commit to the maintenance and that the planting should not go ahead  
**Agreed** to ask SCC to look at putting tarmac in the badly rutted area which was filled with soil earlier in the year
- ii. **Waiting Restriction on Layby** – SCC have received complaints that the anti social behaviour is by travellers and not lorry drivers.  
**Agreed** that the parish council still supports the no overnight parking as it cannot see how people can possible park overnight without facilities

### 3035 Village Shop

It was reported that the post office are currently having difficulty justifying the existing hours by Annabel Watkins and information on the last profits for the shop were not encouraging. It is very difficult to make a decision in view of the government's current policy on rural post offices.

**Agreed** the parish council should carry out a door to door survey to see if a shop and post office would be viable

**Agreed** the clerk would arrange a meeting with the Village Retail Shops Association, the Community Council and the parish council to seek advice on the compilation and carrying out of the survey

### 3036 Noticeboards

- i. **Insurance Claim for map on No. 1 Lichfield Road** – the excess on the policy is £125 which is likely to exceed the cost of this noticeboard
- ii. **Quotations for replacement of 2 parish council and the school noticeboard** – to repair the existing noticeboard is likely to be around £60, which is below the excess of £125 on the insurance policy. The cost of three noticeboards is likely to be around £2,500 in total and the clerk will provide detailed quotes for the next meeting
- iii. **Grants towards replacement of noticeboards** – grants have been received as follows:-
 

SCC Local Members Initiative	£700 – parish council
Conservation Foundation O2 award	£400 – parish council
Community Council Community Chest	£300 – school

**Agreed** that no further decision would be made until the January or February meetings as this would still allow time to complete the work by the end of March  
**Agreed** to ask the Horticultural Society if they would consider making a donation towards the cost of the school noticeboard

### 3037 Play Equipment

- i. **Inspection of Play Equipment** – the contents of the report were noted and the one item to be attended to was the removal of the old litter bin. Quotes were considered from LDC and Environplas  
**Agreed** that a new litter bin, green, be ordered from Environplas at a cost of £

### 3038 Tree Inspections

Three other parish councils use Fairview Arborists from Yoxall; ESBC (not relevant to KB) or Rodney Helliwell an independent inspector who does not undertake tree works. Fairview Arborists quoted £350 for inspection and report and Mr Helliwell £165 to £200 dependent on actual number of trees. Mr Helliwell has also verbally indicated that a 4 to 5 yearly inspection of trees is the normal practice.

**Agreed** that the clerk instruct Mr Helliwell to carry out an inspection of the trees, provide a written report and advise on when a further inspection will be necessary.

### 3039 Footpaths

- i. **Footpath in front of Carpenter's Cottage**

SCC are not sure what to advise in this instance. Despite the new legislation, many footpaths are not accessible to wheelchair and pushchair users, and initial efforts are concentrated on the well used routes which lead from one specific place to another. The path in front of Carpenter's Cottage presents a choice, ignore the complaint which has not been made by an actual user or take action to replace the gravel with an alternative. Changing of the surface would be best done through negotiation with the owner, but there is some annoyance after a site meeting was arranged which was attended by all parties except the person making the complaint. If a formal complaint were made and the case upheld then action would have to be taken. SCC would prefer to discuss the matter with the person raising the complaint on someone else's behalf to see exactly what the extent of the problem is and whether any action is really needed

**Agreed** to write to Mr Rawlinson and explain that as no formal complaint has been made regarding the path by a user who has not been able to gain access, then SCC are reluctant to take any action to make changes. In addition, a site meeting was arranged for all parties concerned and everyone attended except Mr Rawlinson who had made the complaint. SCC will be contacting him to discuss the matter further with Mr Rawlinson and find out if he wishes to take the matter further

**Agreed** to notify Mr & Mrs Turner of Carpenter's Cottage of the action to be taken in putting Mr Rawlinson in contact with SCC

- ii. **Grant Aided Leaflet** – the clerk reported that as the boundary walk does not go along footpaths for much of the route it is not feasible for a leaflet to be drawn up based on the Boundary Walk which takes place every ten years

**Agreed** the clerk would speak to the Historians re: possible ideas for the walk leaflet

- iii. **Community Paths Initiative 2007/08**

**Agreed** to discuss this at the next meeting when the budget is considered

- iv. **Crawley Lane footpath** – this has been reported as being rather impassable in places  
**Agreed** that Cllr Browne will discuss the condition of this footpath with Mr Baskerville

### **3040 Richard Crosse School Report**

The school has had another busy year and the Ofsted inspection gave an excellent report grading the school as a 2, which means a very good school. A number of outstanding features were identified. One area to be looked at is the influence of other cultures, and this is where some form of twinning project would be advantageous. Numbers at the preschool have fallen as several children have joined the foundation class at Richard Crosse. The school and preschool are looking at ways of liaising which will promote both the school and preschool together. A case is presently being prepared, for which there is now a formal timetable, to apply for a change in the secondary school catchment area. There is now a clear process to follow and a decision one way or another will be made in time for the September 2008 intake.

### **3041 Kings Bromley Twinning**

**Agreed** that Cllr Piggott will ask Mr Lovern, the headteacher to contact Cllr Seddon who is involved with twinning at a language college in Derby to discuss possible development of this project

**Agreed** that a quarterly report will be made to the parish council

### **3042 Access across parish council land to the rear of the Hollies**

Cllr Pritchard has received a telephone call from Mr Pitchford at the Hollies making a one off financial offer to the parish council for the granting of access

**Agreed** that the clerk write to Mr Pitchford and ask him to put his offer in writing to the clerk

**Agreed** the clerk to check on what the status is of decisions made at an Annual Parish Meeting under the 1972 Local Government Act

### **3043 Lichfield District Council**

- i. **Review of Play Strategy 2006** – an opportunity to identify and prioritise current gaps in play provision with funding to support development  
**Agreed** the clerk to complete the play strategy questionnaire
- ii. **Report on Summer Play Scheme** – one week had been provided in KB during the fourth week of the holidays. A total of 115 daily places were available, of which 75 places were used. 72% of the children (approx 54 places) were taken by children from Kings Bromley, with the remaining places being used by children from Lichfield, Armitage and Burton on Trent. LDC also requested consideration to the giving of a donation for next year's scheme.  
**Agreed** that a donation to the LDC playscheme be considered along with the budget at the next meeting
- iii. **Register of Electors** – the new register for December 2006 has been received which must be used under very strict guidelines for electoral purposes only  
**Agreed** that a copy of the register be supplied to the chairman
- iv. **Parish Forum Minutes** – meetings 13/9/06 and 8/11/06
- v. **Parish Forum Agenda** – meeting 10/1/07

### **3044 Staffordshire County Council**

- i. **Burton upon Trent Freight Quality Partnership Road Hierarchy Review** – details of that the partnership has been disbanded as not met since May 2004. Under the Local Transport Plan 2006-2011, a full review of the local road hierarchy will take place by the end of 2007. It will consider the existing hierarchy and how travel patterns have changed in the county. It will aim to make use of existing network through effective design, maintenance and management, to minimise any adverse effect of transport system and both built and natural environment. The review will also look at developing a freight route strategy and a countywide freight map.
- ii. **Draft Press Release on traffic matters in KB** – copied to Cllr Pritchard
- iii. **Making a difference** – scrutiny information

### **3045 SPCA**

- i. **Lichfield Area Committee** – vacancy deadline for nominations 5/12/06 – previously circulated to all councillors
- ii. **Details of vacancy for Chief Executive**
- iii. **Report on resolutions from 2005 AGM**

### **3046 Items for Future Meetings**

- i. **Financial Regulations**
- ii. **2441xiv Cycle Paths Wood End Land**
- iii. **2506ii Restructuring of Tree Warden Scheme**
- iv. **2616iii Replacement Trees**
- v. **2618 Review of Standing Orders**
- vi. **2658ii Electricity pylons and cables**
- vii. **NALC Legal Briefing on Clean Neighbourhoods and the Environment Act** – clerk's report
- viii. **Review of Parish Plan Action Plan** – January, April, July and October
- ix. **Closure of Social Service Day Centres** – NALC have met with the minister responsible for disabled people regarding the situation in shire counties. To be discussed further re: contacting MP and clerks of councils who were not represented at the SPCA AGM

### **3047 Date of Next Meeting**

**Agreed** that the next meeting be held on Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup> January, 2007 at 7.45 pm at the Village Hall, Alrewas Road, Kings Bromley

**Agreed** to invite Cllr Joe Powell, chairman of the LDC Parish Forum to discuss Local Area Agreements

There being no other business, the chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.47 pm