

KINGS BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on
Wednesday, 7th February, 2007, at 8.00 pm in
Kings Bromley Village Hall

Present:- Cllr I M P Pritchard (Chairman); Cllr S R Browne, Cllr Mrs P Jarman;
Cllr Mrs S R Piggott (part); Cllr W A Taylor

In attendance: Mrs S Buxton (Clerk)

3096 Apologies

Cllr Mrs Gair on holiday, Cllr Seddon ill
Agreed to accept the apologies

3097 Declaration of Interests

Cllr Mrs Piggott – Access to the rear of the Hollies
Cllr Browne – Access to the rear of the Hollies and the Village Hall
Cllr Mrs Jarman – Horticultural Society
Cllr Pritchard – tree works

3098 Minutes of the last meeting

Agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 10th January, 2007 be signed as a true and correct record

3099 Report of the Clerk

- i. **Annual Parish Council Meeting (not Annual Parish Meeting)** – the clerk reported that this would take place on Thursday, 10th May, 2007 as this was the only date within the time frame allowed following an election when the village hall was available.

3072 Finance

i. **Payment of Salaries**

The report of the clerk on the requirement for the council to establish a PAYE scheme was discussed

Agreed that a PAYE scheme be set up and operated by the clerk. (This was proposed by Cllr Pritchard and seconded by Cllr Mrs Jarman)

ii. **Accounts for Payment**

Agreed that the following payments be made

Mrs S Buxton	Salary – January 2007	£309.53
	Office and computer – December 2007	£ 25.50
	Petty Cash	£ 30.00
SCC	Pension contributions – Dec 2007	£ 62.24
John Smith	Annual maintenance of church clock	£175.08
R Helliwell	Inspection of trees	£225.89

iii. **Payments Received**

Grant from Conservation Foundation for Noticeboard £400.00

Noted

iv. **Finance Report to 31st January, 2007**

Noted

3073 Correspondence and Items for Information

- i. **Letter from Royal British Legion** – thanking the council for the work undertaken on the War Memorial. They would like to change gate to a more

elaborate gate which they will pay for to commemorate their late president Dr Crittendon

Agreed to support the Royal British Legion proposal for a commemorative gate. It would be appreciated if the design could be presented to the council before the work is begun. Some councillors expressed a preference for a wooden gate, but it was felt the final decision should be left to the Royal British Legion

- ii. **Central Networks Home Safety Pack** – Central Networks have issued a home safety pack to all parish councils asking them to make their residents aware of the basics which ought to be kept in any house in case of a power cut

Agreed that the clerk should forward the details and pack to the Wednesday Club

Agreed the clerk would include an item in the parish magazine

Power cuts – concern has been expressed about two recent power cuts in parts of the village which last for 40 hours in total with just a four hour break in the middle. The major problem was that when a telephone call was made to the electricity company there was only a recorded message acknowledging the problem which was not updated to keep residents informed

Agreed the clerk to contact Central Networks regarding this problem to get their comments on the situation

- iii. **Community Council of Staffs – The Last Post** – event to highlight proposed changes to rural post office services on 1st March, 2007, 9.30 am to 1.00 pm.

Agreed only the clerk will attend

3074 Parish Web Site

- i. **Business Listing** - The clerk has only received one response to the article in the parish magazine for anyone running a business in Kings Bromley who would like a free listing to contact her

Agreed that Cllrs Browne and Pritchard would deliver fliers provided by the clerk to the industrial units at Woodgate and Archers respectively

- ii. **Village Hall Information and Photographs** - Cllrs Browne and Mrs Jarman were reminded of their undertaking to provide information on the Village Hall and village photographs respectively

- iii. **Footpaths**

Agreed that as the existing village walks leaflets needed some revision that nothing would be included on footpaths at present

3075 War Memorial

- i. **Update on stonework** – Cllr Pritchard has spoken to the stone mason and stressed the importance of completing this work before the end of March

- ii. **Maintenance of War Memorial flower borders post renovation** – the Gardening Guild have been unable to find a volunteer to look after the border surrounding the War Memorial

Agreed that a letter be sent to Mr Jarman asking him if he would be happy to keep the border neat and tidy

- iii. **Insurance of War Memorial** – this will be done when the stonework is completed

3076 Village Shop

- i. **Meeting with Community Council/ Village Shops Retail Shops Association** – this meeting for parish councillors will take place on Thursday, 22nd February, 2007 at 7.30 pm at the Village Hall

3077 Noticeboards

- i. **Presentation of O2 Award** – this will take place on Thursday, 8th February, 2007 at 4.00 pm at the Village Hall
- ii. **Press Release** – the press release prepared by O2 and circulated to councillors was noted
- iii. **Grants** – the Horticultural Society are prepared to make a grant of £1,000 towards the replacement of the noticeboards, if the parish council undertakes the repair of the map board in front of the Village Hall. This noticeboard is covered by the parish council insurance
Agreed that the parish council accept this very generous offer from the Horticultural Society and undertake the repairs of the other noticeboard
- iv. **Quotations for Replacement** – the report prepared by the clerk detailing the two quotes for was considered
Agreed that a new 8 page noticeboard for the school, two 18 page noticeboards to go by the War Memorial and on the Village Hall frontage and a frame for the village map on No. 1 Lichfield Road would be purchased from Signs 1st at a total cost of £3,555
Agreed the clerk to write to the school headmaster outlining the costs of the school board and explaining that it could not be part funded from SCC monies, so is now going to cost the parish council more than anticipated, and make the request for any financial help towards the noticeboard
Agreed to ask the school to consider having the aluminium case inside the oak doors as the parish council feels that this would be by far the best value for money and provide a board which will last for many years
Agreed the clerk to liaise with Signs 1st to try to trim the installation costs if all the boards are purchard
Agreed that the map on No. 1 Lichfield Road would be the existing map reused To date grants of £700, £400, £300, £1,000 and £100 have been received from SCC, O2, Community Council of Staffordshire, the Horticultural Society and the BKV prize money, giving a short fall on the total project of ££1,055
Agreed that a maximum of £1,500 be taken from parish council reserves to complete the funding of this project (Proposed by Cllr Browne, seconded by Cllr Mrs Jarman)
Agreed the clerk would look at earmarked reserves left at the end of the previous financial year to see if any would no longer be required and could be directed towards this project

3078 Trees

- i. **Inspection report on trees** – the contents of Mr Helliwell's report were noted
- ii. **Quotations for tree works** – the report of the clerk tabled at the meeting detailing three quotations for the work was considered
Agreed that the work should be undertaken by James Tonks of Shenstone
Agreed that Cllr Pritchard would check with LDC whether the one tree identified for removal had any tree preservation order on it.

3079 Footpaths

- i. **Grant Aided Leaflet** – the clerk reported that the walk leaflet she had checked contained some inaccuracies which needed to be resolved before any reprint could be done. The other three walks had not been checked. The original budget for the project was only £250
Agreed that the project should not proceed as the costs including designing the leaflet and printing would exceed the original budget considerably

- ii. **Crawley Lane Footpath** – the clerk will report this to SCC for them to look at

3080 Access across parish council land to rear of the Hollies

The comments of letters from local residents on whether an access over parish council land in Leofric Close should be granted were detailed in a report circulated prior to the meeting and a report tabled at the meeting. The overwhelming view of the residents was that a right of access should not be granted. The council had received advice from NALC through the SPCA

Agreed that after serious debate and a great deal of consultation within the parish the council does not accept the financial offer made and grant a right of access across its land in Leofric Close (Proposed Cllr Mrs Jarman, seconded Cllr Taylor). There were two abstentions due to interests declared and everyone else was in favour

3081 Parish Plan Quarterly Review

Agreed to carry this forward to the next meeting

3082 Beech Avenue Bench

The clerk reported on one quotation received for the repair of this bench at £490.

Agreed that Cllr Pritchard would obtain a second quotation for the work

3083 Royal Oak Public House

The chairman reported on an approach made to him by the landlord of the Royal Oak.

The brewery is concerned that not enough beer is being sold and it would like to see darts and other activities introduced. The landlord does not wish to follow this course of action and would like to buy the pub so that he can maintain it as a gastro pub. As a contribution towards the funds for this project he would like to sell off land at the back of the pub (not the car park) and convert garage to bakery/shop/post office, but he would not want to run such a business venture.

Agreed that this was not a matter for the parish council unless a planning application is submitted to LDC

The clerk reported that the Village Shops Retail Association did ask if there was any other premises in the village

3084 Grasscutting 2007 and 2008

The details of quotations received were tabled and considered in detail at the meeting

Agreed that the contract for grasscutting for the 2007 and 2008 seasons be awarded to Sharp Landscapes

Cllr Mrs Piggott left the meeting

3085 Village Hall

Nothing to report

3086 Lichfield District Council

- i. **Chairman's Annual Dinner and Dance** – 2nd March 2007

3087 Staffordshire County Council

- i. **Footpath Modification Order 2006** – Wood End Lane to A515 Lichfield Road

- ii. **Safely Around Staffs** – complimentary booklet from SCC (further copies available) and details of aims to cut fatalities and serious injuries on roads by 40% of 1994-98 figure
- iii. **Closure of day centres** – cabinet met today and agreed to go ahead with the closure. The council continues to feel that this is a matter of grave concern
Agreed Ian to speak to Michael Fabricant
- iv. **Laybys** – SCC acknowledge that the edge of the layby is a real mess and they are proposing to put some wooden bollards in, to keep the traffic on the tramaced area

3088 SPCA

- i. **Chief Executive's Circular No. 32**
- ii. **NALC Policy Briefing on the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Bill (Second Brief)**
- iii. **Free Mentoring Event for the Certificate in Local Council Administration – 21/2/07 Stafford**
- iv. **Chairmanship Skills Course Part 5 – 1st March, 2007, Stafford**

3089 Items for Future Meetings

- i. Financial Regulations
- ii. 2441xiv Cycle paths Wood End Lane
- iii. 2506ii Restructuring of tree warden scheme at LDC
- iv. 2616iii Replacement Trees
- v. 2618 Review of Standing Orders
- vi. 2658ii Electricity Cables and Pylons
- vii. NALC Legal Briefing on Clean Neighbourhoods and the Environment Act-clerk's report
- viii. Valuation of Chairman's Chain of Office
- ix. War Memorial Grants
- x. Youth Club
- xi. Torches for the elderly

3090 Date of Next Meeting

Agreed that the next meeting be held on Wednesday, 7th March, 2007, at 7.45 pm at the Village Hall, Alrewas Road, Kings Bromley

There being no other business the chairman declared the meeting closed