

**KINGS BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on**  
**Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> March, 2007, 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 G C Seddon; Cllr W A Taylor

**In attendance:** Cllr Mrs J Eagland; Mrs S Buxton (Clerk)

Issues raised by the public during the open part of the meeting were the rubbish in the lay by on Alrewas Road as you leave the village; parking on pavements and how the police interpret the law; and the action taken on points raised in the public part of the meeting and reporting the number of speeding incidents as a result of the camera partnership

**3071 Apologies**

Cllr S R Piggott – family commitments  
**Agreed** to accept the apologies for Cllr Mrs Piggott

**3072 Declaration of Interests**

War Memorial - Cllr Mrs Jarman  
Social Service – Cllr Mrs Jarman

**3073 Minutes of the last meeting**

**Agreed** that the minutes of the meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> February, 2007 be signed as a true and correct record of the meeting

**3074 Report of the Clerk**

- i. **Central Networks** – response on power cuts and supply of information  
**Agreed** to put a copy of the letter from Central Networks on the noticeboard
- ii. **Older persons** – torches etc – grants  
**Agreed** that this matter be reviewed when the next council is in place
- iii. **Information on elections**  
**Agreed** to include details in the parish magazine
- iv. **Report on the visit to the Thai Buddhist Temple** – this was attended by Cllr Mrs Piggott, they are hoping it will be sanctified as a temple in June and to follow this with an Open Day

**3075 Finance**

i. **Accounts paid since last meeting**

**Agreed** to confirm the following payment made since the last meeting

|                       |                          |           |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------|
| Signs 1 <sup>st</sup> | Deposit for noticeboards | £1,000.00 |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------|

ii. **Accounts for Payment**

**Agreed** that the following payments be made

|                 |                                       |          |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------|----------|
| Mrs S Buxton    | Salary – February 2007                | £ 309.53 |
|                 | Office and computer – February 2007   | £ 25.50  |
|                 | Petty Cash                            | £ 30.00  |
|                 | Telephone Jul/Aug 06                  | £ 43.60  |
| SCC             | Pension contributions – February 2007 | £ 62.24  |
| M H & S Buxton  | Photocopying Oct – Dec 2006           | £ 48.68  |
| Post Office Ltd | Stamps 100 x 32p and 100 x 23p        | £ 55.00  |
| SCC             | Repayment of footpath grant           | £        |
| 200.00          |                                       |          |
| Environ Plas    | Litterbin for Village Hall            | £ 173.90 |

**Agreed** that the balance of the work on the new noticeboards be paid for once the work has been completed prior to the year end

**iii. Payments Received**

Grant from SCC Local Member Scheme for Noticeboard £700.00

The clerk has already sent a letter of thanks to Cllr Mrs Eagland

**iv. Finance Report to 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2007**

**Agreed** that the report be noted as tabled as councillors have not looked at it in detail

**v. Appointment of External Auditor**

**Noted** that the appointment of the Audit Commission as external auditor to Kings Bromley Parish Council has been extended for one more year

**vi. Review of Clerk's Salary**

**Noted** that as the clerk is at the top of the scale on which is appointed SCP 22 £18,450 pa and £9.589 per hour. Any cost of living pay award has not been agreed this year to date, so no change is due from 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2007 at the present time

**3076 Correspondence and Items for Information**

**i. Abbots Bromley First Responders** – request for financial support

**Agreed** that a donation would not be made as this service does not cover the Kings Bromley area

**ii. BKV Competition** – area of village to be included – see below

**iii. NALC Legal Briefing and Communities and Local Government -**

Consultation on amendments to the model code of conduct for local authority members

**iv. NALC Legal Briefing – Standing for Election** – Minimum Age

**Agreed** that a note be included in the parish magazine

**v. Enjoy England** - Celebrate St George's Day

**vi. Review of Quality Town and Parish Council Scheme** – an 80% mandate will now apply as a requirement for quality status, where previously it was 100% on re-accreditation

**vii. Community Learning Workshop Invitation** – various locations, there will be one in Kings Bromley on Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> April, 2007

**viii. Black Country Core Strategy Steering Group** – letter re: plans in surrounding areas which may affect the future of the Black Country

**ix. Staffs Police** – next Community Consultation meeting 15<sup>th</sup> March at Alrewas Village Hall

**Agreed** that representatives from the parish council will raise the issue of parking and police interpretation of the law

**x. Bluebird Care** – details of services provided to people in their own homes

**xi. Layby – Alrewas Road** – a complaint has been raised about the use of the layby situated as you leave Kings Bromley

**Agreed** the clerk would make enquiries with SCC about what it is used for and who is responsible for it.

**xii. Query re: compliance with planning permission for new building behind No. 3 Manor Road** – LDC are investigating at present

**xiii. Carers Association Southern Staffs** – spring newsletter

**3077 Parish Web Site**

The clerk reported that most village organisations had replied and one business and asked to be included on the website.

**Agreed** that the clerk would send all the information currently held so that the website could be got up and running and then changes could be made in future.

### **3078 War Memorial**

- i. **Update on stonework** – this is still outstanding  
**Agreed** the chairman will chase the stonemason and the clerk follow this with a letter
- ii. **Maintenance of War Memorial flower borders post renovation**  
Mr Jarman has agreed to undertake the maintenance
- iii. **Insurance of War Memorial** – this will be dealt with along with stonework

### **3079 Village Shop**

A meeting was held with the Village Retail Shops Association and Community Council to discuss the possibilities of opening a village shop, on 22<sup>nd</sup> February, 2007  
**Agreed** that a questionnaire be drawn up by the clerk based on the smaller sample circulated at the meeting, for consideration at the next parish council meeting.  
Small boxes are easier to complete with a tick

### **3080 Village Hall**

- i. **Report on accounts to last AGM** – will be presented to the April meeting
- ii. **Notification of officers appointed at last AGM** – will be presented to the April Meeting
- iii. **Health and Safety check from LDC** – have given the Hall a clean bill of health

### **3081 Noticeboards**

- i. **Presentation of O2 Award** – there has been trouble getting through to the Express and Star, but they now have a photograph. This will also be sent to Lichfield Mercury, Burton Mail and Lichfield Post
- ii. **Noticeboard with map in at front of Village Hall** – the board can be repaired (new top, new posts and new “glass”), for a cost of £450 plus VAT, but the supplier will offer a discount of £250 on the supply of the new noticeboards overall  
**Agreed** that this work would be undertaken by Signs 1<sup>st</sup> at the same time as the new noticeboards are installed
- iii. **Funding** – grants and use of unallocated balances. The clerk reported that at 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2006 there were earmarked reserves of £1,025 for tree works of which £532.25 is committed this year, leaving a balance of £532.25; £4,000 for the War Memorial of which £1,615.58 after grants has been spent leaving a balance of £2,384.42 and £1,900 for the Parish Plan of which £1,860.60 has been spent leaving a balance of £39.40  
**Agreed** that the outstanding balance for the War Memorial be used to fund the balance on the noticeboards of around £600

### **3082 Trees**

Tree preservation order on sycamore tree this is being dealt with by Mr Tonks prior to him undertaking the tree works

### **3083 Footpaths**

- i. **Crawley Lane Footpath (FP 12)** is overgrown – this has been reported to SCC
- ii. **Manor Road/Lichfield Road Footpath (FP5)** - Phone call from SCC today, they want to arrange a site meeting again to assess viability of making changes and whether they are necessary given nature of actual surface and use of path.

After explaining the history of what has already gone on, they are going back to look up their notes before doing anything further  
Despite assurances that they would do, SCC Rangers have never contacted Mr Rawlinson to discuss the access to this path

- iii. **Footpaths between Woodgate to Vicarage Lane** – these paths are very muddy and therefore slippery and present a health and safety re: mud LDC.  
**Agreed** the clerk would seek advice from the Environmental/Health and Safety department at LDC and then report the matter to SCC

### **3084 Parish Plan Quarterly Review**

A review of the Action Plan was considered

- i. **Housing** – there is very little that can be done
- ii. **Public Transport** – the service is adequate and generally runs on time. The main difficulty is getting to Rugeley, which involves going via Lichfield. In total at the moment the transport provision seems to be adequate
- iii. **Traffic – Speed** -the speed watch initiative is still on going and the Camera Partnership visits the village regularly. The parish council noted the work done by Speedwatch and the Safety Camera Partnership
- iv. **Traffic – HCV's** – council has written to major HCV transport users
- v. **Rural Lanes** – it is not possible to have speed restrictions introduced as they are not enforceable by the police
- vi. **Environment – Power cuts** – currently being discussed by council
- vii. **Environment – Street Lighting** – currently be reviewed by SCC as part of county wide project
- viii. **Environment – Dog fouling** – a new dog bin has been installed
- ix. **Environment – Tree Inspections** – has been undertaken and work is in hand
- x. **Environment – Road Verges** – little progress has been made to date by council, but individual residents do keep large areas of the village litter free  
**Agreed** to discuss on next agenda
- xi. **Village Facilities – Village Hall** - access ramp done
- xii. **Village Facilities – Village Hall**- has been given a first class health and safety report
- xiii. **Village Facilities – Post Office** – still no full time post office, but survey being organised and options available for shop/post office being investigated
- xiv. **Village Facilities – footpaths** – keep a watchful eye on condition and accessibility
- xv. **Young People – Youth Club** has been established two evenings a week
- xvi. **Young People – Lack of playscheme facilities** - greater publicity of LDC play scheme and trips throughout the district
- xvii. **Young people – play equipment** – new swings have been installed

**Agreed** that the next review of the parish plan be undertaken in June 2007

### **3085 Beech Avenue Bench**

Two quotes obtained for the repair of the bench at £648.95 and £490.00 plus VAT.

**Agreed** that the work should be undertaken for the lowest quote, from Wavell Cooper (Property) Ltd at a cost of £490.00 plus VAT

**Agreed** that the money for this project should be taken out of the unused reserve from the War Memorial

### **3086 BKV Competition and Calor Village of the Year**

- i. **Children's Poster Competition** - the clerk reported that she had spoken to the school about this competition  
**Agreed** that an opportunity for children not attending the village school to enter the competition should be given by advertising the competition on the noticeboard and in the parish magazine.  
**Agreed** that the posters would be judged at the Annual Parish Meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> April, 2007  
The clerk informed the council of the Community Council's children's poster competition, where parish councils are invited to send in their two best children's poster
- ii. **Area of village to be included in competition** – this was discussed and it was agreed to continue the practice of recent years
- iii. **Calor Village of the Year** – this has now been split into different categories  
**Agreed** the clerk would find out more information about the community section

### 3087 Bus Shelter

The clerk tabled some examples and prices of bus shelters

**Agreed** that the clerk would speak to Lichfield City Council as they have an ongoing bus shelter improvement project and then report to the next meeting

### 3088 Social Services – Changing Lives

Cllrs Browne and Mrs Jarman had attended a meeting last week re: day centres. Consensus of the meeting was that they did not want day centre closed, and that the services could not be provided in individual's private homes. Cost of running DC is £300k run each year, based on current client numbers that is about £60 per client per month. Community and church halls etc are not really suitable for running day centres in. Day centre provides hair dressing, bathing facilities which are often preferable to disabled people than showers, medical facilities, buses from day centre to hospital for physiotherapy, range of activities provided, interaction between clients of day centre. Closure of the day centres will result in social exclusion for a lot of people

### 3089 Annual Parish Meeting – Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> April, 2007

**Agreed** that the clerk will issue invites to all village organisations

### 3090 Lichfield District Council

- i. **Refuse Collection** – details of revised collection timetables has been received and this has already been placed on the noticeboard

### 3091 Staffordshire County Council

- i. **Laybys** – the order for the Prohibition of Waiting of HCVs over 7.5 tonnes gross between 7.00 pm and midnight and midnight and 7.00 am has been received
- ii. **Laybys** – the wooden posts have been put in on the first layby and the area tidied up. SCC do not have the resources to maintain soft planting and would prefer to leave the matter for a few months to see how the posts work before making an firm decisions.  
**Agreed** to review the issue of planting at the June parish council meeting
- iii. **Laybys** – letters from a resident commenting on the installation of the posts and requesting that the planting be dealt with as a matter of some urgency  
**Agreed** the clerk to write to the resident and explain that no planting will be undertaken at the present time and that the situation will be reviewed in a few months
- iv. **A515/A513 Junction** – SCC have carried out a review of the alignment of the roads at this junction and the problems of HCV's mounting the pavements. The

only way to alleviate this problem would be to take the kerbs back further, which would take the road closer to No. 1 Alrewas Road. The cost of this work would be £120,000 as it requires major alterations to the utilities, which is considered too expensive to be undertaken. The parish council's comments that they would not wish to see the kerb taken back any further are noted by SCC and they would prefer the option of street furniture, but SCC consider this to present safety hazards

### **3092 SPCA**

- i. Advert for post of Chief Executive**
- ii. Training – Health and Safety – 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2007 - £20 then £10**
- iii. Training – Chairmanship Skills 6 – 25<sup>th</sup> April, 2007 - £20 then £10**
- iv. Training – Welcome new councillors – 14<sup>th</sup> June, 2007 -£20 then £10**
- v. Training – Clerk's Training Day – 3<sup>rd</sup> July, 2007 - £40**
- vi. Training for Clerk - Health and Safety and Clerk's Training Day – total cost £60. Grant applied for through Hoar Cross**  
**Agreed** to support the clerk's attendance at the above two courses and meet 50% of the balance £15 fees plus travel expenses

### **3093 Review of Items for Future Meetings**

The list of items for future meetings was reviewed as follows:-

- i. Financial Regulations**
- ii. 2618 Review of Standing Orders**
- iii. Provision of manual torches for elderly residents – June 07**
- iv. Parish Plan – June 07**
- v. Planting on layby – June 07**

### **3094 Date of Next Meeting**

**Agreed** that the next meeting be held on Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> April, 2007 – 7.45 pm at the Village Hall, Alrewas Road, Kings Bromley