

# KINGS BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the meeting held on

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> August 2012 commencing at 7.45pm at Kings Bromley Village Hall.

**Present:** Cllr. G. C. Seddon (Chairman); Cllr. S. R. Browne; Cllr. S. Holland;  
Cllr. I. M. P. Pritchard; Cllr. Mrs. M. K. Gair; Cllr. W. Taylor; Cllr. Mrs. P.  
Rothery. County Cllr. Mrs. J. Eagland.

**In attendance:** Mr. I. Colclough (Clerk)  
Members of the public: Ray Griffiths, John Saddler, Alison Howard.

**Public Session:** This took place between 7.45 and 8.03pm. Mr. Griffiths asked if anything could be done about a large Scots Pine tree in Manor Road that was spreading cones over the footway and causing a hazard to local residents. The tree has a preservation order on it and the district council have said it cannot be felled. After some discussion Cllr. Gair said she would investigate and speak to the concerned residents.

Mrs. Howard spoke on behalf of her husband, who is the organiser of the best kept village competition. At the presentation evening last Monday, Kings Bromley was awarded the best kept large village in Lichfield and Cannock District. On top of this, one of the pupils from Richard Crosse school was awarded a certificate in recognition of a poster submitted to the main competition. Mrs. Howard passed the frames certificate to the clerk along with the prize for the school child. Cllr. Gair said she would contact the school and arrange to present the prize once the new term has commenced. A suggestion was made that perhaps in future a large banner be displayed, indicating the villages' involvement in the competition. This to be discussed prior to entry next year. Special mention was made at the presentation, of the work that the churchyard gang do and the fact that every resident has a BKV poster supplied to them. The chairman extended his thanks on behalf of the parish council to all those involved in winning this award and especially to the coordinator Mr. Alan Howard for all his hard work. The clerk was asked to write to him to express council's thanks. Mr. Saddler from the Stop HS2 Committee said a meeting had taken place today with HS2 representatives and said he thought they were listening to the committees' comments. It was suggested that they are now looking at placing large sections of the track in to cutting. The line of the Manchester Spur will not be known until November but different people are managing the two sections making it necessary to make points to the two organisations. The project is long term and in effect blights the properties in the village for 20 years. One resident has compiled a presentation showing expected noise levels and Mr. Saddler asked if he could be allowed to show this to council at the next meeting. The chairman said this would be discussed under item 8 later. Signs have been erected where the proposed line crosses the A515 and there will be a closed meeting with the local MP on 31<sup>st</sup> August.

### 1. Apologies for absence.

None.

### 2. Declarations of Interest.

Cllrs. Pritchard, Seddon, Holland, Taylor and Rothery said that they had an interest in any discussion regarding traffic issues on the A513 as they lived adjacent to the road. The chairman also asked that councillors state an interest if an item is discussed subsequently.

### 3. Chairman's Opening Remarks.

The chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and said it was good to hear of the success in the BKV competition. This was an excellent reflection on the village especially as there were road works going on at judging time.

He said the village show was well attended and luckily the weather was good. He added that the council appreciated all the hard work that the BKV and show organisers do.

#### 4. Minutes of the General Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2012.

These had been distributed previously. It was proposed by Cllr. Browne and seconded by Cllr. Holland that the minutes be signed as a true record. All were in favour.

#### 5. Clerks Report.

##### a) Correspondence / emails received.

- i) Email from SCC re a Green Paper launch concerning changes to adult care. This was placed in the circulation file.
- ii) Email from LDC re Local Plan Strategy. This was placed in the circulation file.
- iii) Copy of an email from Richard Rayson re traffic matters affecting the parish. This to be discussed under item 7 ii) and iii) later.
- iv) Willington Gas Pipeline consultation until 14<sup>th</sup> August. This was placed in the circulation file.
- v) Dept. of Transport – letter received in reply to ours concerning lost consultation letter sent 12 months ago. The clerk read out their reply apologising for mislaying our original letter.
- vi) Came and Co – letter recognising our increase in asset values and requesting an addition premium. To be discussed later.
- vii) Letter from Rector Ty Leyland thanking the council for its recent donation to the PCC.
- viii) LDC – request to prioritise local enforcement issues. This prompted some debate as it was felt that all the issues merited equal treatment. The clerk was asked to write in his reply that council felt all the issues were as important as each other. However, five issues were identified; 1. Conservation area. 2. Development not built in accordance with approved plans. 3. Highway issues. 4. Development in the flood plain. 5. Gypsies / travellers.

##### b) Finances.

Financial statement –

Current A/c £9,296.54 as at 29/7/12. Reserve A/c £17,416.66 as at 29/7/12

i) Payments received – none

ii) Payments to be made.

300215 Clerks salary £346.73 and Exps £115.78 Total £462.51

300216 Bromley Mowing Services - £222.32

300217 Came and Co – additional insurance - £37.60 plus IPT at 6%

The chairman asked about the large sum held in the current account. The clerk said he intended moving some to the reserve account once several large cheques had cleared but that even then the reserve account was only paying a very small amount of interest. It was proposed by Cllr. Gair and seconded by Cllr. Holland that the above accounts be paid. All in favour.

##### c) Questions on the financial statement for the first quarter of 2012/13.

None were raised.

##### d) Actions following recent tree inspections.

The clerk had distributed a summary of the inspectors report. Cllr. Browne said he had taken a look at the large sycamore outside Mr. Crawley's house in Leofric Close and thought that at least the lower branch overhanging the grassland ought to be removed to aid grass cutting. This was agreed. After a brief discussion it was felt that the clerk should seek a quote from a local arborist to attend to all the recommendations in the report and also to obtain a separate quote to trim and tidy the hedge row on the northern side of Leofric close between the A515 and the first bungalow. **Action: Clerk.**

##### e) Update of Asset Register and Insurance Implications.

The clerk said he had informed the council's insurers that the asset value for the year had increased by 5% and that this had resulted in an additional premium of £39.86. It was agreed that this should be paid.

- f) Annual return – Auditors comments.  
The clerk said that he has received the completed audit form back from the Audit Commission and that only one comment was made, that concerning trust funds. The comment said there was an inconsistency in the answers. The clerk read out the three options and it was agreed that the one completed by councils internal audit was incorrect. This will be amended next year.
- g) Archived records stored at Elmhurst.  
A list of the archive had been circulated previously. The clerk said that he had had no cause to draw any documents from the archive so far. It was decided to review the situation again at the November meeting. **Action: Clerk.**

## **6. County and District Councillors Reports.**

County Cllr. Eagland said she had been invited to a visit to the gas pumping station at Orgreave as an observer.  
District Cllr. Pritchard had nothing to report.

## **7. Highway and Footpaths.**

i) Review of road classifications. The clerk said he has written to Draycott PC about a joint meeting with Yoxall but had not yet received a reply. Cllr. Seddon said that in the past the council had also written to large haulage firms on Fradley industrial estate asking them if they would request their drivers to use the trunk road and not the local roads. It was agreed that it would be worth doing this again and the clerk said he would draft a letter.

**Action: Clerk.**

ii) Traffic speed issues. The clerk read out a copy of an email sent to him by Cllr. Eagland and from Richard Rayson at SCC Highways. The email said that councils request was included on her DHP priority list and that his team would look at this 'some point shortly'.

iii) Village entrance signs. In the same email Mr. Rayson said that he was 'not averse to soft planting'. The clerk was asked to contact the Horticultural Society to relay this to them and ask if they could come up with some ideas.

**Action: Clerk.**

iv) Responsibility for footpaths – contacting landowners. The clerk was asked to identify the landowners and to write to them.

**Action: Clerk.**

v) Paths for Communities. Cllr. Rothery, as footpaths officer, has looked into this and felt that the grants on offer were targeted at large councils and that this was not applicable to Kings Bromley.

## **8. HS2 latest.**

Cllr. Gair said that Michael Fabricant MP came to the HS2 stand at the village show. He said he was working hard behind the scenes. There is judicial review on five issues in December and this will delay the process. Mr. Fabricant said the route would not go through any local villages but that there was little chance of stopping the project. The best hope was to get the line of the route changed. Mr. Fabricant is to meet with 10 representatives from the action group / local councils on 31<sup>st</sup> August and those questions will be sent to him in advance so that answers can be formulated. Cllr. Browne felt that local residents remained ignorant of the implications of the project. He heard that MPs had met to discuss the abandonment of the project and to push for a third runway at Heathrow or to build a link tunnel from Heathrow to Gatwick. A further suggestion was to shuttle up to Birmingham International airport by HS1 and then to proceed northwards by air travel. The chairman suggested that Mr. Saddler be invited to bring his noise presentation to the next meeting but not to include this on the agenda. This was agreed. The clerk was asked to contact Mr. Saddler and ask if he could attend at 7.30pm. **Action: Clerk.**

## **9. Wildflower meadow latest.**

Cllr. Rothery produced a draft print out of a possible information sign to be placed at the meadow and ask if any councillor knew when the meadow was 'opened'. It was thought to be late 1990's but the clerk was asked to investigate. Cllr. Rothery will finalise the sign and

bring to the next meeting. Cllr. Taylor said that the hedge fronting the meadow and to the left of the link footway requires cutting. Cllr. Rothery said she would speak to the owners.

**Action: Cllr. Rothery.**

**10. Councillors Reports (for information only).**

None made.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.17pm.

Signed ..... (Chairman) Date 12<sup>th</sup> September 2012.