

# KINGS BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

## DRAFT Minutes of the meeting held on

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> September 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. Mrs. P. Rothery.

**In attendance:** Mr. I. Colclough (Clerk)  
Members of the public: Ray Griffiths, Martin Tittley.

**Public Session:** This took place between 7.45 and 8pm. A request was made to have a street light placed in the alley between Alrewas Road and Lanes Close. Several options were discussed including using solar energy. It was felt that these required more detailed discussion and should be added to the next agenda.

Mr. Griffiths thanked Cllr. Gair for speaking to the parishioners affected by the large pine tree in Manor Road.

A question was asked as to whether the road channels could be sprayed to kill the weeds. Clerk to ask Highways to include on the NHG list of work.

Mr Tittley said he intends to stand for election to replace Janet Eagland when the new boundaries come into force. If elected he will come to as many meetings as possible.

A question was asked about the many coloured markings that have appeared on the footway at the junction of Alrewas Road and Yoxall Road. Cllr. Rothery said she understood that a replacement sewer will soon be installed. Comment was made that the road has only just been resurfaced and that this showed a complete lack of co-ordination between the utility company and Highways.

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County Cllr. Mrs. J. Eagland.

### 2. Declarations of Interest.

Cllrs. Pritchard, Seddon, Holland 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. He said that several parish councils do not meet in August but that it has been a very busy time for us. One newspaper asked what constitutes art, such as those people that pretend to be statues and remain motionless all day. This reminds him of some council workers – it is the first anniversary of questions being posed to Mike Maryon at SCC Highways about the accusations aimed at a parish councillor concerning the extension of the 30mph speed limit on Lichfield Road. The latest reply is that someone who can deal with this is on holiday now. He continued by saying he is fed up of trying to get answers and that these people are paid and as parish councillors we are not. The statistics on traffic speed were re-done when it was obvious they were initially wrong. Still there is speeding and heavier lorries day and night – SCC do not care.

### 4. Minutes of the General Meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> August 2012.

These had been distributed previously. Several minor amendments were identified and the minutes corrected and initialled before signing. On page 3 item 8 HS2 – the process may not be delayed if the court says no to a judicial review. Cllr. Browne said he thought he said unaware, not ignorant when he referred to the parishioners thoughts on HS2. On page 1 – public forum – should read framed not frames. It was proposed by Cllr. Gair and seconded by Cllr. Browne that the minutes be signed as a true record. All were in favour.

## 5. Clerks Report.

### a) Correspondence / emails received.

- i) CC of S re BKV presentation. The clerk said that a draft programme has been compiled – see item 10 below. Cllr. Gair has arranged with Richard Crosse School to make a presentation to Olivia for her success in winning an award for her poster. Councillors suggested that a letter of thanks should go to Mrs Nicholls of Crawley Lane for the work she does in maintaining the flowers around the war memorial. Clerk to write.  
**Action: Clerk.**
- ii) Fairview Arborists – quotation see item c) below.
- iii) Staffs Police – transition update – Placed in circulation file.
- iv) SCC letter re Rights of Way Team. Several staff have left and the letter gave details of names of contacts for various areas.
- v) SCC letter re energy conservation – Placed in circulation file.
- vi) Woodland Trust letter re HS2 impact – Placed in circulation file.
- vii) CC of S letter re AGM – Placed in circulation file.
- viii) CC of S email re Bulk Oil Buying Scheme. Placed in circulation file and poster to be displayed on notice boards. Clerk to ask for information to be placed in the parish magazine. **Action: Clerk**
- ix) Audit Commission letter re appointment of external auditors. Grant Thornton will be the external auditors in future and the fee for next year will be £100.
- x) LDC letter re free solid wall insulation. Placed in circulation file and notices to be displayed on the notice boards. Cllr. Pritchard said that insulation can be purchased through LDC at a reduced rate.
- xi) CC of S letter re BKV and list of prize winners – Placed in circulation file.
- xii) SCC email re footpath 8 stating that it was now clear. Cllr. Rothery disagreed and said that the ditches had not been cleared but that two new kissing gates have been installed. Clerk to contact SCC again.  
**Action: Clerk.**
- xiii) NALC update – Placed in circulation file.
- xiv) Email from Julia Allsopp re HS2 – Placed in circulation file.
- xv) Email from Draycott Parish Council regarding our letter suggesting a meeting to discuss traffic problems as they affect both villages. Their next meeting is on 13th Sept. Once we hear from them clerk to inform Cllr. Pritchard. **Action: Clerk.**

### Additional post.

- a) Staffs Playing Fields Association re their AGM - Placed in circulation file.
- b) Donna Louise Hospice – donation request. It was felt that if anything we should support our own hospice at Whittington.
- c) Police report by email stating that there have been two break-ins, one at Seedy Mill Golf Club and one at the treatments works in Watery Lane, Curborough. Cllr. Pritchard said that there had also been a spate of burglaries in the last few days in Manor Road and Alrewas Road.

### b) Finances.

- Financial statement –  
Current A/c £7,086.32 as at 24/8/12. Reserve A/c £17,416.66 as at 24/8/12.  
Clerk said that £5000 has been moved from the current to the reserve account.
- ii) Payments received – none
- iii) Payments to be made.  
300221 Clerks salary £346.73 and Exps £134.61 Total £481.34

300220 Bromley Mowing Services - £365.48 includes for 2 extra cuts.  
300219 Audit Commission – fee for last year – £342.00 inc. VAT.

It was proposed by Cllr. Gair and seconded by Cllr. Holland that the above accounts be paid. All in favour.

- c) Quotation for Tree Maintenance. It was proposed by Cllr. Holland and seconded by Cllr. Pritchard that the quotation provided by Fairview Arborists be accepted. Clerk to complete planning forms and send to LDC and also to check standing orders. **Action: Clerk.**

## 6. County and District Councillors Reports.

District Cllr. Pritchard is involved in a homeless prevention initiative and has been in communications with teenagers about the difficulties they may experience by leaving home too soon. He said that the district will be involved in collecting business rates and it involved a complex equation when it comes to their distribution. Cllr. Browne asked about unoccupied properties. Cllr. Pritchard replied that the district has been looking at these for several years but often they remain empty for a reason that is beyond their control. It is a costly exercise to find out owners names when there could be several worldwide. Cllr. Rothery asked if council tax is collected from them – only if the owner is known. Debenhams will be opening a store in 2013. The Friarsgate development is being held up until a big store decides to locate in the town. A decision on its future will be taken by council in December.

## 7. Highway and Footpaths.

i) Review of road classifications. The clerk said he has had a reply from Draycott PC but that their next meeting is not until 13<sup>th</sup> Sept. They will get back to us after that. Clerk to keep Cllr. Pritchard updated. **Action: Clerk.**

ii) Traffic speed issues. The resurfacing work was done on 20<sup>th</sup> July and it has taken until now to get the road markings in place. The arrows were done recently and the give way marks done today. It appears that there have been two accidents at the build outs. The clerk said he has had numerous communications with Highways who repeatedly said that they would get onto the contractor. The footways still remain unswept and a set of white lines just outside the village on the Alrewas Road are missing. Cllr. Seddon said the tyre noise from the new surface had increased and he thought that traffic speeds had also. Clerk to contact Highways about sweeping and missing lines. Cllr Gair said the speed camera van had been in attendance more and were catching many drivers. The question was asked as to why the county council do not publicise the numbers actually caught. She also asked if a letter had gone out to local firms asking them to route drivers along the A38. The clerk said it had. Cllr. Seddon said he had asked the clerk to report the many illegal signs that are appearing on the roadside but was disappointed to hear that it is not the responsibility of Highways who passed the complaint to the Enforcement Officer at LDC. She was given details of the signs and action is awaited. **Action: Clerk.**

iv) Village Entrance Signs. A draft proposal as provided by the Horticultural Society had been circulated previously. Council was impressed with the report and thanked Judith Berry for her hard work in compiling the document. A long discussion took place about the options put forward. The general feeling was that a brick structure was preferred but, according to Highways, this would not be allowed despite several examples in other areas. It was felt that the idea of wooden 'estate type' entrances would look out of place particularly on the very wide verges as you approach the village from Alrewas. They could also cause visibility problems on the approach from Yoxall. On the Lichfield Road there are no wide verges so any form of entrance here would be difficult. A question was asked about planning permission and if it was required this in itself would incur a likely cost of around £600. The clerk suggested that he contact Hoar Cross to discover what processes they had to go through to get their entrances installed. This was agreed and the item then deferred to the next meeting. **Action: Clerk.**

iv) Responsibility for footpaths – contacting landowners. Cllr. Rothery has provided an updated list of landowners to the clerk who will write to them. **Action: Clerk.**

**8. HS2 latest.**

Cllr. Browne reported that MP Michael Fabricant attended a closed meeting recently. Sixteen pre compiled questions were put to him. There was much political talk. He is not against HS2 but is against the proposed route saying it ought to follow the existing motorway corridors. He has now resigned as a government whip. It was suggested that Mr. Fabricant be invited back in six months.

Cllr. Gair said that she and Cllr. Browne went to a county / district council meeting in Lichfield. They are looking at various mitigations and will be meeting every two months. It is chaired by Clive Thompson from SCC and the contact is Dean Sergeant at SCC. One of the main concerns is over the noise levels as these seem to have been measured on a bank holiday Monday. The chairman thanked Cllrs. Gair and Browne for attending the meeting and for their report.

**9. Wildflower meadow latest.**

Cllr. Rothery said she had nothing ready at this time but would hopefully bring something to the next meeting. **Action: Cllr. Rothery.**

**10. BKV Formal Presentation programme and refreshments at Village Hall.**

The clerk read out the contents of the proposed programme along with the names of the invited dignitaries. Cllr. Rothery offered to do tea and cakes, clerk to inform her of numbers once they are known. The formal presentation will take place on 1<sup>st</sup> October at 6.30pm at the Jubilee bench, Crawley Lane, / Lichfield Road junction. Refreshments will be available afterwards at the village hall. The clerk said that CC of S wanted to know how the £200 prize money was to be spent. After some suggestions it was proposed by Cllr. Rothery and seconded by Cllr. Gair that the money be donated to the churchyard gang in recognition of the excellent work they do.

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Signed ..... (Chairman) Date 10<sup>th</sup> October 2012.

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