

# KINGS BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the meeting held on

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> October 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; (arrived at 8.17pm). Cllr. Mrs. M. K. Gair;  
Cllr. Mrs. P. Rothery. Cllr. W. Taylor.

**In attendance:** Mr. I. Colclough (Clerk)  
Members of the public: Ray Griffiths, Julia Allsopp, Wayne Bull.

**Public Session:** This took place between 7.45 and 8pm. Mr. Griffiths asked if an item to discuss traffic was on the agenda. The chairman confirmed that it was. He said that there was a lot of heavy farm traffic about at the moment as well as the lorries.

### 1. Apologies for absence.

County Cllr. Mrs. J. Eagland.

### 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. He said that he was still trying to get answers from the county council over many issues one of which is to do with the traffic. He said that over 100 years ago it was reported that the county council was not helpful and that this has still not changed.

On a positive note he was pleased to see so many people at the best kept village formal presentation on 1<sup>st</sup> October when he thought around 30 parishioners and guests attended.

### 4. Minutes of the General Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2012.

These had been distributed previously. Several minor amendments were identified and the minutes corrected and initialled before signing. Item 3 – Cllr. Seddon said he was quoting when he made reference to the motionless statues. Item 5 (i) – should read jubilee bench not war memorial. Item 7 (ii) - Cllr. Gair did not say the camera van had attended. Item 11 Cllr. Gair had requested that the NHG be asked to sweep the cones. It was proposed by Cllr. Holland and seconded by Cllr. Browne that the minutes, with the above amendments, be accepted as a true record. All present on 12<sup>th</sup> September were in favour.

Cllr. Pritchard arrived at 8.17pm.

Cllr. Holland questioned the necessity to wait until 8pm for the formal meeting to commence, when no questions had been raised in the public session. The chairman said that a defined start time had to be advertised and adhered to. The clerk suggested bringing the public session in to the formal agenda. This would mean the meeting would start on time and the public's comments formally included in the minutes. Clerk to include a review of procedures on the agenda for the next meeting. **Action: Clerk.**

### 5. Clerks Report.

a) Correspondence / emails received.

- i) SCC / SOTCC – Joint Waste Core Strategy – notice on modifications following examination – email out previously. Placed in circulation file.
- ii) SCC – 2013 Volunteer Staffordshire Awards. Passed to Cllr. Browne.
- iii) NALC – update on Quality Parish Status. Placed in circulation file.

Initial:

- iv) Email from SCC re lighting column in Lanes Close / Alrewas Road link footway. SCC are unwilling to provide a light part way along the path stating that there were already two, one at each end. After discussion it was felt that the parish council could do no more on this issue.
- v) Email from Draycott PC re traffic issues. They are to undertake a survey of parishioners and will know more in the New Year. Cllr. Pritchard to liaise with them and Yoxall. **Action: Cllr. Pritchard.**
- vi) Email Mr Hayward re extra grass cuts. Mr Hayward recommended a further cut as the grass is still long. Comment was made that the last cut was made during rain. Clerk to ask him to undertake one more cut but to insist it is done when the grass is dry. **Action: Clerk**
- vii) Letter to SCC Highways seeking advice on how to progress the village entrance gates.
- viii) Letter to Mrs Nickells – thanks for maintaining the jubilee bench area.

Additional post received.

- a) St Giles Hospice – donation request. After some discussion it was decided that it was not appropriate use of council funds to make a donation.
- b) Email from SCC Highways re village entrance gateways. The clerk said that he had now gone full circle. After writing directly to SCC Highways head office, the letter had been forwarded to the depot at Lichfield. Mary Lee has now offered to meet on site to discuss options. Clerk to arrange meeting with Mary Lee and Judith Berry. **Action: Clerk.**
- c) NALC update including a reform of council tax survey. This was placed in the circulation file.
- d) CC of Staffs re Defra Post Office Network Transformation. It was felt that the content of the email was ambiguous. Clerk to ask for clarification. **Action: Clerk.**

b) Finances.

- i) Financial statement: As at 26/9/12 – Current account £1,098.26, Reserve account £22,416.66 (this includes £5,000 recently transferred from the current account)
- ii) Payments Received: 74p interest.
- iii) Payments to be made:
  - 300222 All Saints Church – donation of £200 to Wednesday Club (BKV prize as agreed at September meeting).
  - 300223 Village Hall room hire for HS2 meetings (as agreed) £25.00
  - 300224 Grass cutting – 3 cuts £333.48 (one extra cut as agreed)
  - 300225 Clerk Salary (£346.73) and Expenses (£61.01) for Sept 2102 - £407.74.

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

- c) Financial statement for the first two quarters. This had been circulated previously and showed a projected excess of income over expenditure of £1,685, however this did not take account of the additional cost of grass cutting that had been authorised previously. Cllr. Browne asked about web site updates. The clerk said that the council had received no invoices for this financial year. Cllr. Browne clarified and asked about web site updates. The clerk said that he updates the parish council information on the site on a regular basis but it is up to other organisations to inform him of any additions / changes

they require. Cllr. Seddon asked the clerk to contact the editor of the parish magazine to ask that a notice to this effect be placed.

**Action: Clerk.**

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

District Cllr. Pritchard is involved with looking how benefit changes will affect the council and its residents. He has recently attended a seminar on well-being. Kings Bromley has an above national average of older people and those in 'fuel poverty'. This is where more than 10% of income is expended on heating costs. 18% are in fuel poverty nationally whereas in the village this figure is 22%. This is possibly because the village has many older properties that are difficult to insulate. If a resident is of pensionable age, then insulation can be done free of charge. The clerk was asked to request a notice to this effect be placed in the parish magazine. Cllr. Pritchard concluded by saying that Cllr. Eagland would not be able to attend after all.

**Action: Clerk.**

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

- i) Review of road classifications / traffic issues. The clerk said he has had an email from Draycott Parish Council stating that they are to survey their parishioners and will get back to us in the New Year. Cllr. Seddon asked Cllr. Pritchard if he will continue to liaise with Yoxall PC. He agreed and said he thought it was best to wait until he eventually does hear from Draycott PC. **Action: Cllr. Pritchard.**  
Cllr. Seddon said that an invitation had been made to James Bailey at SCC Highways to attend a parish meeting. He said he could not come along this evening and did not indicate if he could attend next time either. Clerk to chase. **Action: Clerk.**  
Cllr. Browne said he was concerned that Mike Maryon was involved in the HS2 campaign and that it would not help if the council was on the wrong side of him. He felt that council ought to draw a line under the issue concerning the accusations against an unnamed councillor. The chairman asked if council was happy to be defamed by the county council statement. The council needs a reply or a withdrawal of the statement. Cllr. Rothery said she agreed with the content of a recent letter sent by the chairman to James Bailey at SCC. Comment was made that there have always been heavy lorries in the village, she has lived at the junction of two A roads for 30 years. Originally there were coal lorries and then JCB lorries. Cllr. Seddon suggested another option to extract the required information from SCC and this was to submit a freedom of information request. The clerk was asked to add this as an agenda item for the next meeting. **Action: Clerk.**
- ii) Village Entrance Gates. This had been discussed under correspondence received above.
- iii) Footpaths. The clerk said he had received an email from SCC about footpath No 8. They said that the path actually passes across the field not around the margin. Cllr. Rothery said that the field itself is covered in poly-tunnels so no path could cross it. The clerk said that SCC is to revisit the site again and it was agreed to wait until their report before taking any further action.
- iv) Placement of a street light in the alley, Lanes Close to Alrewas Road. This was covered under correspondence above.
- v) Illegal road signs / overgrown signs. The clerk reported that yet again he was going round in circles with Highways passing him on to LDC only to discover that it is actually Highways that deal with these matters. Council needs to identify where the illegal signs are and which signs are overgrown. Highways will then contact the owners / landowners to request the signs are removed / hedges cut. It was suggested that the NHG could do this work and the clerk asked councillors to inform him of any locations so he can pass the details in to Highways. **Action: All.**
- vi) Road closure. The clerk reported that there are to be major works in the village commencing in the New Year. The work will last between 12 and 16 weeks with road closures overnight for 6 weeks. The exact location is not known but it does involve sewer replacement. The agents for Severn Trent Water want to put on an awareness presentation at the village hall and asked what time of day would be most suitable. The

suggested date is Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> November. It was felt that a morning presentation would suit residents best. Clerk to inform ST agent. Cllr. Browne asked if Arriva had been informed. Clerk to check. **Action: Clerk.**

**8. HS2 latest.**

Cllr. Gair reported that she had attended a meeting with Cllr. Browne on 25<sup>th</sup> September. She felt it was a depressing meeting – there was little reaction to the mitigation submission. November was to be the deadline but discussion will now be ‘on-going’. There was a presentation on noise and vibration levels. They were told that after phase 1 no complains about this had been received and she found this hard to believe. No more information on the route phase 2 will take will be available until next year. There will be numerous ‘feeder stations’ with contractors’ compounds creating additional traffic movements around the whole area. There will be possible road and footpath closures. Some MP’s are against HS2 but the new Transport Minister said it will go ahead. The next meeting will be on 17<sup>th</sup> October. The chairman thanked the councillors for attending the meeting and making the report.

**9. Wildflower meadow sign / hedge.**

Cllr. Rothery said that the person who was going to provide a price for the display board had passed away. She hoped to bring something to the next meeting. As for the hedge, she has called on the resident but no one has been at home. She will persist.

**Action: Cllr. Rothery.**

**10. BKV Formal Presentation and outcome.**

The chairman said there was a good attendance at the presentation. The clerk estimated around thirty had attended. He thanked Cllr. Rothery for supplying the refreshments and the clerk for helping serve at the hall afterwards.

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

None made.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.42pm.

Signed ..... (Chairman) Date 14<sup>th</sup> November 2012.