

# KINGS BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the meeting held on

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2012 commencing at 7.45pm at Kings Bromley Village Hall.

**Present:** Cllr. Mrs. M. K. Gair (Vice Chairman); Cllr. S. R. Browne;  
Cllr. I. M. P. Pritchard; Cllr. Mrs. P. Rothery.

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

**Public Session:** This took place between 7.45 and 8pm. Mr. Griffiths referred to the last meeting and said he thought the debate on councils issues with the Highways department had gone on too long and required resolving. The clerk said that he was aware of an email that suggests James Bailey of SCC meet with Cllr. Seddon and another councillor and that no doubt the chairman will take up this offer.

Mrs. Berry thanked the clerk for attending the meeting between her and Mary Lee from Highways regarding the suggested village entrance gates. At the meeting the poor state of the lay by near the Trent bridge was raised and she was pleased to see that action to remedy the problems was now being taken. She asked if it was possible for the gravel store to be located elsewhere when the chippings are being used in another parish. A suggestion was made that Lupin bends would be ideal. The clerk offered to ask Highways.

It was suggested that a letter of thanks ought to go out to Mr. Gilmour for his work at the Remembrance Service and to Mr. and Mrs. Jarman for their work in maintaining the war memorial area. Clerk to write.

### 1. Apologies for absence.

Cllr. G. C. Seddon (Chairman - unwell); Cllr. S. Holland, (commitment in London);  
Cllr. W. Taylor, (unwell).

### 2. Declarations of Interest.

Cllr. Pritchard said that he had an interest in any discussion regarding traffic issues on the A513 as he lived adjacent to the road. Cllr. Rothery reiterated this but added the A515. The vice chairman also asked that councillors state an interest if an item is discussed subsequently.

### 3. Chairman's Opening Remarks.

The vice chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### 4. Minutes of the General Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2012.

These had been distributed previously.

It was proposed by Cllr. Browne and seconded by Cllr. Rothery that the minutes be accepted as a true record. All present on 10<sup>th</sup> October were in favour.

### 5. Clerks Report.

a) Correspondence / emails received.

- i) Email from Mrs Berry re dog fouling in Crawley Lane. The suggestion of stencilling the tarmac was thought to be good and the clerk was asked to contact LDC about options. An entry in the parish magazine was suggested. Cllr. Pritchard said that there were also problems in Manor Road and on the link path from Alrewas Road to Lanes Close. Clerk to pursue. **Action: Clerk.**
- ii) CC of Staffs – letter re BKV competition and use of prize monies. The CC of Staffs again congratulated the Churchyard Gang for their sterling work in maintaining the grounds.
- iii) CC of Staffs – letter re 2012 competition with Judges comments. The clerk

read out the comments. Several minor faults were reported and the clerk was asked to copy these to Mr Alan Howard.

**Action: Clerk.**

- iv) LDC – letter re Independent Remuneration Panel – vacancy. This letter had been placed on the notice boards.
- v) Western Power Distribution investment plans – letter – invitation to events. Placed in circulation file.
- vi) DEFRA reporting post office services – reply following PC questions. This had been emailed out previously and further information was passed to Cllr. Rothery who would make its content known to the visiting postmistress.
- vii) SPCA – general news – placed in circulation file.
- viii) Email from PC Andy Brown re his retirement. PC Brown has now retired. Clerk to write to thank him for his long and dedicated service.  
**Action: Clerk.**
- ix) Letter from SCC re HS2 and public footpaths. Copy passed to Cllr Gair for information and action if any.
- x) LDC – consent notice for tree works. Clerk to organise works as per tree inspection report.  
**Action: Clerk.**
- xi) SCC letter re street lighting initiative. A form asking councils decision was included. As per previous meetings it was decided to reply saying that the parish did not wish to take part in this initiative. Clerk to reply.  
**Action: Clerk.**
- xii) Letter from Horticultural Society – covered in agenda item 7ii.
- xiii) Letter from Arriva re changes to timetable – covered under item 7iv.

Additional post received.

- 1) LDC play equipment inspection report. The report made several recommendations; the erection of an ownership / information sign; that the existing slide be replaced as it does not meet BSEN 1176 for several reasons; that one cradle seat on the swing is buckled. This to be monitored. After some discussion the clerk was asked to contact LDC to determine why they had suggested placing an information sign.  
**Action: Clerk.**  
It was felt that council ought to look into the cost of replacing the slide and this may be funded from reserves. Clerk to obtain likely costs. **Action: Clerk.**  
Cllr. Pritchard to look at damaged swing seat and report.  
**Action: Cllr. Pritchard.**

b) Finances.

- i) Financial statement: As at 12/11/12 – Current account £1,132.15, Reserve account £21,422.45 (£1000 transferred from Reserve account to current account).
- ii) Payments Received: £5.90p interest.
- iii) Payments to be made:
  - 300227 Parish Online subs £24.00 inc. VAT
  - 300228 R B Hayward – final grass cut and hedges - £145.00
  - 300229 The Poppy Appeal – donation – wreath - £20.00
  - 300230 Clerks net salary - £277.33 and expenses - £97.40 and postage £32.28.
  - 300231 HMRC – Clerks income tax - £69.40
  - 300232 Village Hall hire for PC meeting - £12.50
  - 300233 Village Hall hire for HS2 meeting - £12.50

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

- iv) PAYE changes. The clerk said that in future all salary payments must be made net. This means that a separate cheque for tax must be raised. However, HMRC no longer accepts payment by cheque only by electronic transfer. Clerk to raise the matter with HMRC and his accountant. **Action: Clerk.**

## 6. County and District Councillors Reports.

District Cllr. Pritchard had nothing to report at this time. Cllr. Eagland was not present and had not submitted a report.

## 7. Highway and Footpaths.

- i) Traffic issues – meeting with neighbouring parishes. Cllr. Pritchard has now spoken with a representative from Draycott PC. There was some confusion because they are about to survey residents regarding lowering the 40 limit to 30 in the village and it was thought our contact was to do with that. He said he would arrange a meeting between two representatives from Draycott, Yoxall and Kings Bromley with an official meeting to follow later. **Action: Cllr. Pritchard.**
- ii) Village Entrance Gates. The clerk read out a letter received from the Horticultural Society stating that they were to withdraw from supporting this initiative because of Highways refusal to allow brick structures. After some discussion it was felt that the council ought to continue and the clerk was asked to determine approximate likely costs. The clerk said that Highways had been helpful when they met and that some form of gate similar to those at Hoar Cross would be acceptable. The distance from the roadside can be as little as 0.5m and this was felt to give the impression of narrowing and may slow traffic. The clerk was asked to write to Judith Berry thanking her for her work. **Action: Clerk.**
- iii) Footpath issues. Cllr. Rothery was still not convinced that SCC have the correct line for path No 8. However, she said that she was happy for this item to be removed from future agenda. The clerk said that he had now written to all landowners over whose land the public footpaths pass.
- iv) Arriva change of timetable. Cllr. Browne said he and many parishioners were very upset about the timetable changes and the fact that the company had not consulted with the council or its residents. They have taken off four buses per day during the middle of the day which is the time that older people want a bus to take them to the shops or the doctors' surgery. He believed that neither Yoxall nor Fradley were consulted either. He had hoped that County Cllr. Eagland would have been present tonight so he could ask her why this had been allowed to happen without any consultation. He also said that the timetables on the bus stops had not been updated and that he had done this himself. Cllr. Gair asked about community transport and Cllr. Pritchard said that Arriva were a commercial company and would not run routes that were not profitable. The clerk was asked to write to Cllr. Eagland to determine if SCC has withdrawn their subsidy on the route. **Action: Clerk.**
- v) Formulation of Freedom of Information request to SCC Highways. In the absence of the chairman it was decided to hold this item over to the next meeting. **Action: Clerk.**

## 8. HS2 latest.

Cllr. Gair reported that she had attended (with Cllr. Brown) a forum on 8<sup>th</sup> November with representatives of HS2. No progress has been made on mitigation. Assessment has commenced but nothing positive has come back so far. She said she felt that HS2 were stuttering and under pressure, including their consultants. The main topic was concerning compensation which will be more generous than the amounts laid down by statute. Properties blighted that lie outside the line of the route will also qualify. A drop-in event is planned at the Guild hall in Lichfield. The temporary haul roads will run alongside the route not using local roads. Not much will be known now until the final route of phase 2 is announced.

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

Cllr. Rothery said she still does not have a cost for the sign yet. She has asked for a quote for a lectern type sign and suggested she ask Mr Easter to erect it.

**Action: Cllr. Rothery.**

**10. Meeting dates for 2013.**

These had been circulated previously. One date was missing that being 12<sup>th</sup> June. Clerk to book village hall.

**Action: Clerk.**

**11. Review of Working Practise.**

The clerk asked if the processes put in place 12 months ago were satisfactory. It was felt that everything was running well and that there was no need to change anything at this time. The question as to whether the public forum should be within the agenda was discussed but it was felt that this may extend the meetings and that the present arrangement worked well. Cllr. Rothery asked about the placing of village related information on the parish notice boards. It was thought that, provided there was sufficient space, notices from village social organisations could be placed on the notice boards. The clerk was asked to retain this item on the agenda for the next meeting to enable those councillors absent this evening to comment.

**Action: Clerk.**

**12. File Storage at Elmhurst.**

The clerk said that a review of storage was scheduled. The cost for the next 12 months would remain the same at £104. He said he had no cause to withdraw any files from the store over the last 10 months. Councillors asked just what information was being stored. Clerk to supply list for consideration at the next meeting.

**Action: Clerk.**

**13. Projects for 2013/14 funded from reserves.**

Three possible projects were identified, replacement of the slide in the playground; erection of village entrance gates and provision of a sign at the wild flower meadow. Clerk to provide estimates for the first two and Cllr. Rothery for the last.

**Action: Cllr. Rothery and Clerk.**

**14. Provision of Christmas tree.**

Cllr. Pritchard said he would sort this out.

**Action: Cllr. Pritchard.**

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

None made.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.30pm.

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