

# KINGS BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the meeting held on

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2014 commencing at 7.45pm at Kings Bromley Village Hall.

**Present:** Cllr. G. C. Seddon (Chairman); Cllrs. I. M. P. Pritchard; Mrs M. Gair;  
S. Browne (arrived 8.25pm); District Cllr. M. Tittley (arrived at 8.20pm)

**In attendance:** Mr. I. Colclough (Clerk)  
Members of the public present: Barry Stoney, Wayne Bull, Julia Allsopp,  
Joy Fielding (all arrived at 8.30pm) and Ray Griffiths.

**Public Session: This took place between 7.50 and 7.55pm.**

No issues were raised.

**1. Apologies for absence.**

Cllr. S Holland (holiday)

**2. Declarations of Interest.**

Cllrs. Seddon and Pritchard declared an interest on discussions around traffic issues on the A513 and Cllrs. Browne and Gair on their involvement with the Stop HS2 Action Group.

The chairman also asked that all councillors declare an interest if an item is discussed subsequently.

**3. Chairman's Opening Remarks.**

The chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting, commenting that numbers were down as there was a HS2 meeting being held in Lichfield and several Councillors had attended. They were expected to arrive later. It is a very wet and windy time with lots of standing water and waste bins lying in the road.

**4. Minutes of the General Meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2014.**

These had been distributed previously. It was proposed by Cllr. Gair and seconded by Cllr. Pritchard that the minutes be signed as a true record. All present on the 8<sup>th</sup> were in favour.

Cllr. Pritchard stated that councils can petition against HS2 at any time.

**5. Minutes of the Extraordinary General Meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2014.**

These had been distributed previously. As insufficient councillors that were at this meeting were not in attendance this evening, these were put on one side until the next meeting.

**6. HS2 Updates.**

Cllr. Gair said that SCC and LDC had compiled a 150 page response to the Environmental Statement and that this will be sent to all parish clerks by 14<sup>th</sup> February. Parish Council comments, if any, need to be formulated and returned to Dean Sargeant at SCC by 24<sup>th</sup> February ready to go to HS2 before the deadline of 27<sup>th</sup>. An EGM may be required to formulate council's response to the Environmental Statement. Clerk to find a suitable date. Cllr. Browne said he will by then have a copy of the HS2 Action Groups comments and asked if it was in order to invite one of their representatives to the EGM. This was agreed. Clerk to email the SCC/LDC document to all councillors and print off one copy.

Next, the council needs to propose a motion objecting to the Hybrid Bill, ideally at its next general meeting in March and must advertise this fact in the local press at least 10 days beforehand. The notice should state that the council is objecting to the Hybrid Bill and should appoint a 'Roll B' agent.

**Actions: Clerk**

## 7. Clerks Report.

- a) Correspondence / emails received.
  - i) Email SCC re Footpath grant. See under item 12 below.  
Cllrs. Browne, Gair and Tittley arrived.
  - ii) Letter – Planning Inspectorate re Willington C Gas Pipeline. Placed in circulation file.
  - iii) Letter – Great Bear Distribution re heavy lorries on local roads.
  - iv) Letter – Norgren – as above.
  - v) Letter – Local Gov. Boundary Com re extension to consultation deadline. Cllr Pritchard informed the meeting that it was now proposed to reduce the number of councillors to 48 and that his ward may be broken up as a result. More will be known soon.
  - vi) Email from Kings Bromley Pre School – donation request for new storage shed. After discussion it was proposed by Cllr. Pritchard and seconded by Cllr. Gair that a donation of £200 be made. All in favour. Clerk to state that the money to be refunded if the purchase of the shed does not take place. **Action: Clerk.**
  - vii) Copy of HS2 consultation return. Placed in circulation file.
  - viii) Letter – HS2 re document deposit. Placed in circulation file.
  - ix) Email from SCC re consultation on contracted bus services. Cllr. Browne has been in contact with SCC to ask he be included, on the council's behalf, of those to be consulted. He is awaiting a reply. The chairman asked if there was currently or likely to be a bus linking Kings Bromley to Rugeley. Cllr. Tittley replied that this is what the consultation is about.
  - x) Three letters from parishioners re HS2 replies. Placed in circulation file.
  - xi) List of HS2 reply card respondents.
  - xii) Email from Tesco re lorries on local roads.
  - xiii) Letter – Michael Fabricant re social media at meetings. Clerk read out reply from Brandon Lewis MP which suggested that standing orders be amended to allow social media at meetings.
  - xiv) Letter and documents re Local Plan modifications. Cllr. Pritchard said that the plan had to show more land for housing and that the inspector looks at the revised plan and any responses. LDC has taken two areas out of the green belt. Hopefully the plan will be adopted by August. Document then placed in the circulation file.
  - xv) Letter from LDC re casual councillor vacancy. LDC says there is no need for an election and council can co-opt. Clerk to place advert in notice boards and the parish magazine. **Actions: Clerk.**
  - xvi) Email from SCC Highways – neighbourhood highway team visit on w/c 28<sup>th</sup> April. It was suggested that they be asked to look at local drainage issues. It was pointed out that the whole county is underwater at the moment and that this will be a standard reply. Clerk to copy Cllr. Tittley on any request made to Highways. **Action: Clerk**

### Letters Sent

- i) Letter to Fradley Park businesses re lorries using local roads.
  - ii) Letters to parishioners re HS2.
- b) Finances.
- i) Financial statement: As at 24/1/14– Current account – £1890.07. Reserve account £12434.63 (uncleared cheques £330.00)
  - iii) Payments Received: 22p interest.
  - iv) Payments to be made:
    - 300617 Clerk Salary £280.00 (net) and expenses of £130.48 (inc. £24 in stamps)
    - 300618 HMRC – Clerk income tax - £70.00
    - 300619 Hall hire for Nov and Dec 13 - £25.00
    - 300620 Eric Roy for web site hosting and maintenance - £130.00

It was proposed by Cllr. Gair and seconded by Cllr. Browne that these invoices be paid. All in favour.

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

County Cllr Tittley said that Amey had been awarded the Infrastructure+ contract for highways. He will write to the Road Haulage Associate regarding the impacts that HS2 will have on lorry movements around the country when the construction work begins. They have a powerful lobby. He is looking at options to improve access to the A38 for lorries at Hilliards Cross and placing a weight restriction on the A515. The problem is if commercial vehicles are finding access to main routes difficult, those businesses may decide to relocate. He concluded by saying that the A50 'growth corridor' was a concern as this too would likely increase lorry movements locally.

Cllr. Browne asked about lorry parks. There is only one on the A38. Many lorries are parking overnight on local lay-byes where there are no toilet facilities. Cllr. Tittley said that the police are monitoring the situation. Another major concern is the possibility of additional mineral extraction.

District Cllr. Pritchard said that Birmingham has a shortfall of land available for housing but that LDC would do all it could to prevent overspill. If the local plan is in place then that could be used to fend off possible approaches. He has now taken on parking and the rejuvenation of Lichfield and Burntwood as part of his workload.

The chairman thanked the Councillors for their reports.

#### **9. Highway and Footpaths.**

- (i) This item has been covered above.
- (ii) Footpath Issues.

The boundary wall fronting the A513 Lichfield Road has been repaired and looked good. The clerk said he had received a note from the farmer to say the obstruction on the footpath off Crawley Lane had been attended to.

#### **10. Best Kept Village Prize.**

- i) Purchase of lectern for wildflower area. Clerk has emailed Mrs Rothery but had not had a reply.
- iii) Allocation of remaining prize monies. This was put on hold until the final cost of (i) above is known.

#### **11. Neighbourhood Watch.**

Cllr. Pritchard said that he thought the current co-ordinator wished to stand down and that a new one needs to be found. He said he would contact Rob Nunn and report to the next meeting. **Action: Cllr. Pritchard.**

#### **12. Footpath Grant Update.**

The clerk has contacted SCC who say that the grant can only be used for a strimmer or other maintenance tools. With this in mind it was decided that the best course of action would be to offer to return the grant cheque. Clerk to contact SCC.

**Action: Clerk.**

#### **13. Tesco Community Projects Offer.**

The clerk said he had not heard from Tesco yet.

#### **14. Parish Council representation on local schools Governing Bodies.**

Cllr. Browne said he thought it important that the parish council had a representative on the governing bodies of local schools. After discussion it was pointed out that the school needs to invite the council to be present. The council has no right to be included. In fact the council did have a place on the governing body at Richard Crosse School but this was removed following reorganisation.

**15. Councillor Vacancy.**

The clerk said that LDC had informed him that there were no applicants for the vacancy and that council is free to co-opt for a casual vacancy. Clerk to draft a suitable advert and place in the notice boards and parish magazine. Applicant to say why they would like to take on the role and what they could bring to the local community.

**Action: Clerk.**

**16. Councillors Reports for information only.**

None made.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.35pm.

Signed ..... (Chairman) Date 12<sup>th</sup> March 2014.