

# KINGS BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the meeting held on

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March 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; S. Holland.

**In attendance:** Mr. I. Colclough (Clerk)  
Members of the public present: Barry Stoney, Joy Fielding and Ray Griffiths.

### **Public Session: This took place between 7.45 and 7.50pm.**

Mr Griffiths asked about the revised bus service saying that the 11am service is important. Arriva has been taken over and SCC is looking at the routes. Steve Browne said he has asked to be involved in the consultation and will keep the parish council informed of progress.

#### **1. Apologies for absence.**

Cllr. W. Taylor (in hospital)

#### **2. Declarations of Interest.**

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.

#### **4. Minutes of the General Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2014.**

These had been distributed previously. It was proposed by Cllr. Browne and seconded by Cllr. Gair that the minutes be signed as a true record. All present on the 12<sup>th</sup> February were in favour.

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

These had been distributed previously but not signed as insufficient councillors were in attendance at the 12<sup>th</sup> February meeting that were at the 30<sup>th</sup> January meeting. It was proposed by Cllr. Browne and seconded by Cllr. Holland that the minutes now be signed as a true record. All present on the 30<sup>th</sup> January were in favour.

#### **6. Minutes of the Extraordinary General Meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2014.**

These had been distributed previously. Two amendments were made both to the names of the public in attendance – it was Joy Fielding not Doug and Mr Stoney not Stones. With these amendments made and initialled by the chairman it was proposed by Cllr. Holland and seconded by Cllr. Gair that the minutes be signed as a true record. All present on the 24<sup>th</sup> February were in favour.

#### **7. HS2 Update.**

Cllr. Browne said he had registered all the documents. He has drafted a notice to be placed in the notice boards, parish magazine and the village column in The Mercury. This had been distributed and he asked for comments. The chairman read through the proposed statement. Several amendments were made and the clerk was asked to re-draft the statement, email it to all and then, if no further comments are made, to place it in the public domain.

#### **Actions: Clerk**

It was reported in the national press that a central government spokesman had said that the Hybrid Bill may not get through parliament before the next general election. Comment was made that this might become an election issue. Cllr. Browne said he now needs to speak to Dean Sargeant at SCC about what steps are required next. Attendance at the Action Group meetings is declining and it may be that the frequency

is reduced. The Group has made its response to the Environmental Statement and now await the time to submit their petition. Waterways has also made a response and placed it on their web site as has Staffordshire Wildlife Trust. It is understood that there has been around twenty three thousand responses nationally.

#### **8. Resolution of council to oppose High Speed Rail (London – West Midlands) Bill**

**(1) That in the judgment of the Kings Bromley Parish Council it is expedient for the Council to oppose the High Speed Rail (London – West Midlands) Bill introduced in the Session of Parliament 2013-14.**

**(2) That Kings Bromley Parish Councillor Steve Browne take all necessary steps to carry the foregoing Resolution into effect, [that the Common Seal be affixed to any necessary documents] and that confirmation be given that Councillor Browne as Roll B Agent be authorised to sign the Petition of the Council against the Bill.**

The clerk said that a formal notice that this resolution was to be put to council at this evenings meeting had been placed, as was legally required, in the local newspaper. Ten days notice was required. The chairman read out the resolution. It was proposed by Cllr. Gair and seconded by Cllr. Holland that the above resolution be adopted by the council. All were in favour.

#### **9. Clerks Report.**

- a) Correspondence / emails received.
  - i) Email SPCA News 14 Feb – Placed in Circulation File
  - ii) Email SPCA News 21 Feb – Placed in Circulation File
  - iii) SCC Re NHT visit on 28th April. Please furnish the clerk with any work the gang can attend to before 28<sup>th</sup> April. **Action: All**
  - iv) Letter - Dept. for Community and Local Gov – Localising Council Tax Support - Placed in Circulation File
  - v) Letter – CC of Staffs – Good Neighbourhood Scheme - Placed in Circulation File
  - vi) Email from Tesco re community programme. Tesco will hopefully be attending to the councils list of work in the near future.
  - vii) Letter from Judith Berry, The Horticultural Society re parking problems around Richard Crosse School. The clerk read out Mrs. Berry's letter which also contained a copy of a letter sent directly to the head teacher. After some discussion it was felt that the parish council has done all it can about this matter over several years. The suggestion of tarmacking the verge was discussed before and an option put forward to use matting that allows grass to grow through. It was felt that only 2 or 3 extra parking places would be created by this option anyway. Cllr. Pritchard said that care ought to be exercised as the status of many village schools is uncertain and any complaints from the council or residents may just be all that is required for the authorities to look at closure. It was felt that it is really a matter for the school itself to address. The clerk was asked to reply to Mrs. Berry to that affect. **Action: Clerk**

#### Letters Sent

- i) Letter to Patricia Rothery thanking her for her work on the parish council.
- b) Finances.
  - i) Financial statement: As at 26/2/14– Current account – £1362.76. Reserve account £12434.63 (uncleared cheques £25.00)
  - i) Payments Received: 12p interest.
  - ii) Payments to be made:  
300622 Kings Bromley Pre-School – donation to new storage shed as agreed at last meeting - £200.00

300623 HS2 Action Group – Printing of reply cards - £77.00  
300624 Benhill Press – HS2 flier - £337.00  
300625 Ian Colclough – HS2 meeting notification in Lichfield Mercury -  
£201.60  
300626 Clerk Salary £280.20 (net) and expenses of £167.06 (inc. £24 in  
postage stamps) Total £447.26  
300627 HMRC – Clerk income tax - £70.00  
300628 Hall Hire for HS2 Group AGM – 23rd Nov - £30.00  
300629 NALC – Local Councils Explained – book – half share - £27.50  
300630 SPCA subscription for next year - £330.00

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

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

Cllr. Pritchard said that there was not much to report at the moment. The local plan amendments are currently out for consultation and the Community Infrastructure Levy is also out for consultation.

The chairman thanked the Cllr. Pritchard for his report.

#### **11. Highway and Footpaths.**

- (i) Please furnish the clerk with any work the gang can attend to before 28<sup>th</sup> April. Several suggestions for work were made and noted by the clerk.
- (ii) Footpath Issues.  
None known.

#### **12. Best Kept Village Prize.**

i) Purchase of lectern for wildflower area. Clerk read out an email from Patricia Rothery stating that the sign will be delivered this coming Saturday and asking if the council wanted her to arrange placement and where the sign should be positioned. After a short discussion it was thought that Mrs. Rothery be asked to see the whole job through to fruition, as it was her project and to erect the sign in the same place as the old one stood. Clerk to contact her. **Action: Clerk.**

ii) Allocation of remaining prize monies. This remains on hold until the final cost of (i) above is known.

Cllr. Browne mentioned that it had been brought to his attention by the contractor who is to maintain the benches, that they are of differing colours. It was decided to ask him to colour the benches to match the existing. Cllr. Browne to pass this instruction on to him. **Action: Cllr. Browne.**

#### **13. Neighbourhood Watch.**

Cllr. Pritchard said that this was being attended to.

#### **14. Footpath Grant Update.**

The clerk has returned the grant to SCC.

#### **15. Tesco Community Projects Offer.**

The clerk read out an email from Tesco – see under 9 (v1) above.

#### **16. Councillor Vacancy.**

The clerk reported that no applications for the vacant position on the council had been received. It was decided to keep a notice on the notice boards and Councillors to ask parishioners that they feel may be interested.

**17. Standing Orders under the Localism Act.**

The clerk said that as a result of the Act many changes are taking place and that these will affect council's standing orders and financial regulations. Once more is known, these two documents will be drafted and circulated for approval at a future meeting.

**18. Councillors Reports for information only.**

None made.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.16pm.

Signed ..... (Chairman) Date 9<sup>th</sup> April 2014.