

# KINGS BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the meeting held on

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2014 commencing at 7.45pm at Kings Bromley Village Hall.

**Present:** Mr. G. Seddon (Chairman); Cllrs. Mrs. M. Gair; I. M. P. Pritchard; S. Browne; S.Holland; A. Howard.

**In attendance:** Mr. I. Colclough (Clerk)  
Members of the public present: L Dargan, A Dargan, N. Crawley, M. Crawley, E. Crawley, (Left meeting at 8.30pm). Barry Stoney. Julie Bamber and Peter Gee (arrived 8.45pm) – Representatives of the Village Hall Committee.

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

Residents from Leofric Close produced a site plan indicating that the sycamore tree outside their homes was standing in part on their land. This plan was passed to the chairman for consideration. A meeting between Cllr. Howard, the residents and two tree surgeons had taken place previously.

Cllr. Browne stated that due to industrial action there would be no bin collections the following day.

#### **1. Apologies and approval of absence.**

Cllr. W. Taylor (prior commitment)

#### **2. To receive declarations of Interest.**

Cllr. Seddon on item 10 – highway flooding. Cllr Browne on item 5 as he lives in Leofric Close. The chairman asked that interests be declared if something occurs subsequently.

#### **3. To consider requests for dispensations.**

The clerk read out what this actually meant. The purpose is to relieve Councillors of all restrictions that apply to them at a meeting that is considering a matter in which they hold a disclosable pecuniary interest, that being for example, employment, business interests, and ownership of land in the Council area etc.

#### **4. To resolve that the minutes of the Kings Bromley Parish Council meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2014 are a correct record.**

Two minor amendments were highlighted and corrected before being initialled by the Chairman. Item 3 – as the chairman was not present at the June meeting there were no opening remarks to record. Item 10 iii) payment to Mr Bancroft – his initial is G not B.

With these changes made it was proposed by Cllr. Browne and seconded by Cllr. Pritchard that the minutes be signed as a true record. All were in favour.

#### **5. To consider actions pertaining to Parish Council owned trees in Leofric Close.**

Cllr Howard attended a site meeting with CW arborists, Fairview arborists and Mr Crawley and Mr Dargan. He confirmed that there is now no tree preservation order on the large sycamore outside their homes. He also stated that the main trunk is partly on the land owned by the residents and a plan was produced to confirm this. The tree surgeons both verbally confirmed that the tree would become unstable if the residents exercised their right to cut any boughs overhanging their land. Two options were available, to fell the tree or to create what would look like a monolith that would re-grow and require constant attention. Cllr. Howard was of the opinion that the tree ought to be felled despite it being a healthy one. He suggested that a replacement tree be purchased and replanted further back on the parish owned land. Cllr. Pritchard agreed that cutting the lower boughs would leave the shape of the tree unacceptable. Cllr Tittley thought that it would be a good idea to consult with the other residents but this was discounted as Councillors are elected to make these decisions. It was also suggested that the council consults with LDC's legal team but the clerk said he had already spoken to them and was told that as there was no TPO in place the residents were entitled to take off boughs that overhung their property. After further debate it was proposed by Cllr. Holland and seconded by Cllr. Howard that the tree be felled. The chairman asked the clerk if this was in order as a motion had been passed at the June meeting to pollard the tree. The clerk said that in light of new evidence that the tree stood partly on private land, a second vote could be taken. All were in

Initial:

favour of this proposal. The clerk was asked to contact the two arborists to ask them to mail their comments on the trees viability.

**Action: Clerk**

The clerk then presented the two quotations from the arborists. CW's price was £785 to fell the tree plus a further £120 to £150 to grind out the stump. Fairview's price was £550 to fell and £100 to grind out the stump. Cllr. Howard proposed that the work be offered to Fairview. This was seconded by Cllr. Holland. All were in favour. Clerk to contact Fairview. **Action: Clerk.**

The clerk was also asked to contact Gareth Hare, LDC's tree officer to ask him to accompany a Councillor around the village to possibly identify trees that could be protected with a TPO.

**Action: Clerk.**

**6. To review the SCC Mineral Extraction Policy Consultation Response.**

Cllr. Howard reported that a working group had met and that their response had been circulated. Subsequently it was suggested by Cllr. Janet England that a joint response with neighbouring parishes as well as our own response be made. The response is largely based on a report made by Anne Anderson in 2011 with one amendment that covers security at the gas pressure station and that MI6 would be interested. A joint response has been sent to SCC and it was proposed that the clerk be asked to mail a reply on behalf of Kings Bromley PC. No feedback from SCC has been received to date. Cllr. Pritchard thanked the councillors involved in the work. It was proposed by Cllr. Pritchard and seconded by Cllr. Gair that that a reply to SCC from KBPC be made by the clerk. All were in favour.

**Action: Clerk.**

**7. To receive oral / written reports from County and District Councillors.**

Cllr. Tittley reported that he has recently met with representatives from SCC Highways about weight restrictions on the local 'A' roads. It is a battle but he is determined to see it through. It will mean altering County Council policy but will also help if and when any new quarries open in the area. Mention was also made at the meeting that improvement to the Hilliards Cross A38 junction must be made to ease the exit of heavy lorries on to that more suitable road.

Cllr. Pritchard said that there is currently a judicial review of LDCs local plan and this has gone to the High Court. Many large housing applications are being considered and until the plan is finally in place this will continue.

The chairman thanked both Councillors for their reports.

**8. To confirm the date for the Council presentation to the village.**

The clerk said that he has reserved the village hall for 7<sup>th</sup> March 2015 from 10am to 4pm.

**9. To assign the role of Flood Officer.**

Cllr. Tittley said that this is a very important role. It was suggested that an advert to see if any parishioner would be interested be placed in the parish magazine. Clerk to attend to this.

**Action: Clerk.**

**10. To consider on-going highway and footpath matters.**

Cllr. Howard said he attended when the contractor cleaned the war memorial surface and that it now looks very good. The chairman thanked him for supervising. Cllr. Browne said that the HS2 were due to come to look around the various sites and that details of property purchases are being made public too. There had been 1925 petitions and he may get called to London in September to present the councils. Cllr. Gair said there was an abandoned car in Bradbury Lane and that the police would take no action as it was not stolen. Cllr. Pritchard offered to speak to LDC to have it removed. Cllr. Seddon again raised the issue of flooding along Alrewas Road and on the village crossroads. Despite being reported on numerous occasions Highways have still taken no action. Speeding remains an issue. The camera van parks at Orgeave but there are no signs. This is a waste of time – the van needs to be in the village. Cllr. Tittley asked that these problems are sent to him as he keeps a spreadsheet where jobs can get highlighted and prioritised. The chairman said he would compile a list and sent it to him. **Action: Cllr. Seddon.** Cllr. Browne said he understood that finance was again available to train speed gun users.

**11. To receive an update about progress on the lease agreement pertaining to the village hall.**

The chairman thanked Julie Bamber and Peter Gee for attending this evening. Cllr. Howard had produced and circulated a report on his finds on the history of the lease agreement between the Diocese, Parish Council and Village Hall Committee. He summarised this verbally. The

agreement sets out six main points that must be adhered to. Mr Gee said he would write to the parish council to confirm that these items are being attended to by the Committee and that both Cllrs Browne and Gair will again be invited to attend future AGMs of that committee. Ms Bamber informed the council that the dangerous tree at the rear of the village hall had now been removed. The clerk clarified the position with regards to the play equipment and said that he made a visual inspection every two weeks.

**12. To consider correspondence received.**

- a) SPCA News – 20<sup>th</sup> June – this was placed in the circulation file.
- b) SPCA News – 26<sup>th</sup> June – this was placed in the circulation file.
- c) Letter Police and Crime Commissioner – this was placed in the circulation file.
- d) Letters HS2 Ltd – one passed to Cllr. Gair and the other placed in the circulation file.
- e) Letter – Boundary Commission re extension to consultation and map of proposed revised ward boundaries.

**13. To consider Councillor Reports - for information only.**

No reports were presented.

**14. Finance.**

- i) Financial statement.
  - As at 26/6/14 Current account £3288.68. Reserve account £19474.60
- ii) Payments received. £1.97 interest
- iii) To authorise payments.
  - a. Clerks salary (£296.91) and expenses (£73.54) Total £370.45
  - b. HMRC Clerks income tax £74.20
  - c. Anglesey Parish Council – Councillor training for Allan Howard £12.00
  - d. R B Hayward – grass maintenance £375.36
- iv) End of first quarter report.
  - This had been circulated previously. No questions on the current balances were raised.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.44pm.

Signed ..... (Chairman) Date 13<sup>th</sup> August 2014.