

# KINGS BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the meeting held on

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> August 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; W. Taylor; A. Howard.

**In attendance:** Mr. I. Colclough (Clerk)  
Members of the public present: Janet Hudson, Shirley Tipper, Gillian Rogers and Raymond Griffiths.

### **Public Session: This took place between 7.45 and 7.59pm.**

Janet Hudson (agent for the applicant) spoke about the proposed development of 16 new houses on Lichfield Road. She described the development and said that she wanted to hear the council's thoughts on the project. There will be an exhibition in the village hall on 14<sup>th</sup> August. Of the 16 homes, 4 will be 'affordable'. Some consultations have already been returned. She then read out the main points raised by LDC. No reply had been received from SCC Highways as yet. The chairman thanked Ms. Hudson for attending.

No one else wished to speak.

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

None made.

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

Cllrs. Gair and Browne on item 9. Cllr Browne on item 10 as he lives in Leofric Close. The chairman asked that interests be declared if something occurs subsequently. Cllr. Howard said he had an interest in item 11 as he was a member of the Gardening Guild.

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

The clerk was asked to reiterate 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 9<sup>th</sup> July 2014 are a correct record.**

One minor amendment was highlighted and corrected before being initialled by the Chairman. Item 5 line 11 should read Cllr. Tittley thought. With this change made it was proposed by Cllr. Gair and seconded by Cllr. Browne that the minutes be signed as a true record. All were in favour.

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

Cllr. Pritchard said that LDC was close to securing a main tenant for the Friarsgate development. The judicial review of the council's local plan in the High Court found in favour of the council. The new Premier Inn will be opening soon. The paving in the town centre will be repaired soon after Christmas. The first city resident parking scheme is now in place after 4 years. A bid has been made to revitalise the city centre and a city manager may be employed. The food festival will return on a larger scale this year. Proms in the Park will be on 6<sup>th</sup> September.

Cllr. Browne asked about the proposed new housing development at Alrewas. Cllr. Pritchard explained the position.

The chairman thanked Cllr. Pritchard for his report.

#### **6. To consider applications for the role of Flood Officer.**

The clerk said that an advert was to appear in the Parish Magazine over the next 2 / 3 issues. So far no applications had been forthcoming.

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

Cllr. Seddon said there had still not been any action taken following the speed surveys undertaken in 2011. He has now located much of the paperwork and email from that time and will talk to County Cllr. Tittley about the findings. Cllr. Browne said he understood that the Crime Commissioner, Matthew Ellis, had made funding available to train residents in the use of a speed gun. After some discussion the clerk was asked to write to Mr. Ellis expressing councils concerns that excessive speeds had been proven already but that no action had been taken.

**Action: Clerk.**

Cllr. Taylor mentioned an overhanging bush next to the village hall that made passage along the footway difficult. Cllr. Howard said he would have a word with the resident on whose land the bush lies.

**Action: Cllr. Howard.**

**8. To receive an update on the SCC Mineral Extraction Policy Consultation.**

The consultation has now ended and no feedback received as yet.

**9. To receive an update on HS2.**

Cllr. Gair said that there was a forum on 21<sup>st</sup> July attended by LDC and SCC. There is to be a meeting with the HS2 agent and QC who will walk the site. There has been virtually no contact from HS2 Ltd. Forums are being held monthly in Warwickshire and a 'Construction code of practise' sub group formed. Many information papers are now available on the HS2 web site. On 16<sup>th</sup> Sept there will be a site walk. It is important that the various petitioning groups and other bodies get together prior to this to formulate their comments. The HS2 headquarters will now be in Birmingham. Cllr. Browne has raised concerns about the extra traffic generated by the project and its impact at Hilliards Cross where it will join the A38. He had made mention to SCC who said there was no proposal to do anything. He thought the council should make representation along with Alrewas PC, LDC and Cllr. Tittley. The chairman said that this was already work that Cllr. Tittley was undertaking. Cllr. Pritchard said that new money was available to improve the junction.

Cllr. Browne then put forward a proposal 'that the parish council approach Alrewas Parish Council, LDC and Cllr. Tittley to ask SCC Highways to meet with them to discuss traffic issues at the Hilliards Cross junction.' No seconder to this proposal was forthcoming. No other proposals were made.

Cllr. Browne said that the Government were pushing the fact that HS2 will bring wealth to the north of the country. However, speakers representing many of the large northern cities said they can do this without HS2 anyway.

**10. To receive an update on the felling of a tree in Leofric Close.**

The clerk said the tree was due to be felled on 14<sup>th</sup>. Cllr. Howard will attend at some point. Fairview arborists had submitted their insurance documentation to the clerk along with a process which had been forwarded to Mr. Crawley. The clerk was also in possession of an email explaining why the tree had to be felled.

**11. To agree financial donations to the Gardening Guild, Village Hall and PCC.**

The clerk said that it is usual to make donations to these three village organisations. It had already been agreed that the Gardening Guild donation would be increased to £150 to reflect the fact they were now maintaining the war memorial garden. £55 would be donated to the Village Hall and £250 to the Parochial Church Council. It was proposed by Cllr. Taylor and seconded by Cllr. Gair that £250 be donated to the PCC. All in favour. It was proposed by Cllr. Gair and seconded by Cllr. Pritchard that £150 be donated to the Gardening Guild. (Cllr. Howard, as a member of the Gardening Guild, abstained.) All in favour. It was proposed by Cllr. Howard and seconded by Cllr. Taylor that £55 be donated to the Village Hall. All in favour

**12. To consider the changed format of the agenda.**

The chairman said he was not happy with the item 'Finances' being placed as last item on the agenda. It was agreed to promote this item and the Clerks Report on future agenda.

**13. To consider correspondence received.**

- a) SCC re Libraries Consultation. Commenced 16<sup>th</sup> July for 12 weeks. To take part: [connectedlibraries@staffordshire.gov.uk](mailto:connectedlibraries@staffordshire.gov.uk)  
Cllr. Howard said he understood that the County Council want to close the William Salt library and Lichfield records office then to bring everything in to one place at the Stafford record office.
- b) Letter from Major R. Conningham re traffic speeds on Lichfield Road adjacent to Kings Walk. The clerk read out the letter. Cllr. Pritchard will contact Major Conningham.  
**Action: Cllr. Pritchard.**
- c) Letter from Fairview Arborists re need to remove tree in Leofric Close.
- d) Several SPCA news sheets – all placed in circulation file.
- e) Email from Julie Bamber attaching, as requested, information regarding the village hall and accounts. The clerk was asked to request that this information be sent to the parish council at the end of the financial year and to invite them to attend to APM. Cllr. Gair had a copy of the accounts and will look over them and report at the next meeting. **Action: Cllr. Gair.**
- f) Letter from SCC re Supporting People Review. This was read out by the clerk then placed in the circulation file.
- g) Email from Local Works re Patchway Town Council and the Sustainable Communities Act. The clerk read out the full email. Council support is sought to enable parish councils to generate and keep income from projects such as electricity generation. It was proposed by Cllr. Howard and seconded by Cllr. Pritchard that the council pledges its support to this initiative. Clerk to contact sender of the email. All in favour. **Action: Clerk.**

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

Cllr. Howard announced that Kings Bromley had won the Best Kept Village competition yet again – this in the large village category. This means that the large sign is retained. He passed two winners certificates to the clerk for placing in the village hall.  
Cllr. Browne said he understood from SCC that Arriva would be reinstating a subsidised hourly bus service to the village. He then asked if he could attend the SCC Local Transport Group. This was agreed.

**15. Finance.**

- i) Financial statement.  
As at 25/7/14 Current account £2469.39. Reserve account £19474.60
- ii) Payments received. £0.72 interest
- iii) To authorise payments.
- a) Clerks salary (£288.50) and
- b) expenses (£64.90) Total £353.40 (no stamps)
- c) HMRC Clerks income tax £72.00
- d) Tygar Surfacing – cleaning of war memorial surface - £480 plus vat
- e) R B Hayward – grass cutting - £250.24
- f) Grant Thornton – auditors - £125 plus vat (a query was raised on the return; this has cost an extra £25).  
Below if authorised in item 11.
- g) KB PCC donation - £250.00
- h) KB Village hall donation - £55.00
- i) KB Gardening Guild donation - £150 (now inc. war memorial garden maintenance)
- iv) To review Grant Thornton comments on the 2013/14 audit return. The clerk read out the report from the internal auditor that commented upon the assets held by the council. Clerk to ask questions of council's insurers and to ensure correct figures and answers are included in the return for 2014/15. **Action: Clerk.**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.28pm.

Signed ..... (Chairman) Date 10<sup>th</sup> September 2014.