

# KINGS BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the meeting held on

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2015 commencing at 7.45pm at Kings Bromley Village Hall.

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

**In attendance:** Mr. I. Colclough (Clerk)  
Members of the public present: None

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

No members of the public were present.

1. **Apologies and approval of absence.**  
W. Taylor. (illness)
2. **a) In accordance with Section 31 of the Localism Act 2011, members to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in items on this agenda.**  
Cllrs. Browne and Gair on item 8 – HS2. The chairman asked that interests be declared if something else occurs subsequently.  
**b) Clerk to report any written requests for dispensations in respect of items on this agenda.**  
None received.
3. **To resolve that the minutes of the Kings Bromley Parish Council meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2014 are a correct record.**  
One error in wording was identified on item 15. This was corrected and initialled by the chairman. With this correction made it was proposed by Cllr. Gair and seconded by Cllr. Howard that the minutes be signed as a true record. All were in favour.
4. **Clerks Report.**
  - a) **To consider correspondence received.**
    - i) SPCA news – 6 issues. These were placed in the circulation file.
    - ii) Grass Maintenance quotes – to be discussed under item 4 vii
    - iii) LDC – precept bid forms – to be discussed under item 4 vi
    - iv) Community Council of Staffs – Invitation to enter this year's Best Kept Village competition. Cllr. Howard offered to co-ordinate the entry again this year for which he was thanked. Clerk to liaise with reference to the entry and purchase of posters.
    - v) Email for LDC re Candidate Briefing for forthcoming election. This to take place at LDC offices in Frog Lane on 3<sup>rd</sup> March at 6pm.
    - vi) Letter from the Planning Inspectorate re Willington Gas Pipeline. Secretary of State has decided that the development consent be granted.
  - b) **Finance.**
    - i) Financial Statement. The clerk said the current account stands at £1,962.08 and the reserve account at £15,479.56 as of 24/12/14. Un-cleared cheques totalled £64.00.
    - ii) Payments Received. None.
    - iii) To authorise payments. a) Clerks Salary £305.31 (includes back pay settlement) b) Expenses £72.09 (£2.92 in postage stamps) c) HMRC £76.40 d) LDC – play inspection - £50 plus vat.

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

  - iv) Accounts to end of third quarter. These had been circulated previously. Clerk ran through the figures and answered queries. Check had been undertaken by Cllr. Gair and all was in order.
  - v) Financial Regulations – requirement for update. Clerk said that the council regulations were now outdated and that he had obtained a new model set and made

amendments to them. He suggested that Cllr. Gair take a copy and that he and she bring a recommendation back to council at the next meeting. This was proposed by Cllr. Browne and seconded by Cllr. Howard. All were in favour.

**Action: Clerk and Cllr. Gair.**

- vi) Budget / Precept Bid 2015/16. Clerk explained that the LDC Council Tax Support grant had been reduced by approx. £1000 and this meant that in order for the parish council to maintain income levels as last year a 9.3% increase would be required in the parish precept. After discussion it was felt that an increase of 5% was more realistic, any shortfall being met from reserves. A proposal to this effect was made by Cllr. Pritchard and seconded by Cllr. Gair. There were no other proposals. All were in favour. Chairman signed the bid form. Clerk to return to LDC. **Action: Clerk.**
- vii) To consider quotations for the 2015 grass maintenance season. Clerk reported that 2 quotes had been received. One from R B Hayward for £2357 and the other from White Peak Landscapes for £5857.60. Cllr. Howard proposed that council accept the lower quote. This was seconded by Cllr. Browne. All were in favour. Clerk to contact both and offer the work to Mr Hayward. **Action: Clerk.**

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

Cllr. Pritchard has been working with businesses on Fradley Park. The aim is to eventually build a lorry park on the area. Cllr. Tittley is keen to address traffic issues and is involved. He also has booked the village hall on 30<sup>th</sup> January for a meeting with parishioners, other local parishes, District Cllrs and County Councillors to formulate a petition to present to the County Council over traffic issues and lorry movements through local roads.

The outcome from the Local Plan will be published soon.

The village pub has closed and Cllr. Pritchard has been in contact with the property owners about its future. He has assurances that the pub will stay but that the developers are looking to incorporate a shop.

Cllr. Browne asked about the fire station in Lichfield. It is being refurbished and will remain operational. He then asked about a parishioner who is affected by HS2. The person concerned wants to re-build his home away from the line but cannot get assurances from HS2 over the process. Cllr. Pritchard said that LDC will give permission for a new build but that the old house must be demolished. HS2 will not commit to that. He concluded by saying that the parishioner needs to sort out an agreement with HS2.

**6. To consider an application for the role of Flood Officer.**

An expression of interest has been made by Mr Boswell of Lanes Close. Clerk to invite the outgoing officer, Mr. Rothery, to attend the next meeting to secure the handover and for Mr. Boswell to meet the Councillors. **Action: Clerk.**

**7. To consider on-going highway and footpath matters and a petition re HCVs.**

**a) Petition to SCC re HCVs.**

This had been discussed under item 5 above.

**b) To consider purchase of a 'speed feedback' unit.**

Cllr. Pritchard offered to speak to Cllr. Tittley on this and several other issues including the lining of the A513 to Alrewas. The chairman had contacted Cllr. Tittley who passed his email to Richard Rayson at Streethay Highways. He was not prepared to re-instate the lines, stating that research had shown that this encourages speeding. He continued by saying how frustrating it is when dealing with officers from Highways. **Action: Cllr Pritchard.**

Mention was then made of the DHL lorries that are carrying Land Rovers through the village. The clerk has written to the company requesting they consider using alternative routes. No reply has been received.

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

Cllr. Browne said the submission had been made and received. Maps used are old ones and do not take into account recent changes. Several action groups had met last evening. It would seem that many other parishes are not very active but he is confident that Kings Bromley parish is.

9. **To adopt the SPCA recommended Media Policy (circulated previously).**  
Clerk asked if there were any queries on the policy. None were forthcoming. A proposal was made by Cllr. Gair that the policy as circulated be adopted. This was seconded by Cllr. Howard. All were in favour. Clerk to add to list of council policy documents. **Action: Clerk.**

The clerk said that several new policy documents may be required and that he will work on these. The new Transparency Code means that many of these have to be made public on our web site and that this does involve more time and management.

10. **To consider format for 7<sup>th</sup> March public presentation of Council activities.**  
Clerk asked Councillors to consider how this event should run. Are presentation boards required and what information should be displayed? Cllr. Howard said he should be able to borrow some boards as used by the Horticultural Society for a small charge. After discussion it was suggested that Councillors notify the clerk of ideas and he will liaise with Cllr. Howard about producing content. Hall is booked from 10am to 4pm. **Action: Clerk and all Cllrs.**

11. **To receive a report on the files in archive storage at Elmhurst.**  
The clerk said no progress had been made. He will report at the next meeting.

12. **To consider Councillor's report – for information only.**  
Cllr. Browne said he was concerned about the dilapidated state of the gates and equipment at Manor Quarry and that the council ought to contact the owners to see what is happening. Cllr. Pritchard thought it best to say nothing as it may be that the quarry commences operations again resulting in even more lorries passing through the village. It was agreed that this was the best idea.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.24pm.

Signed ..... (Chairman) Date 11<sup>th</sup> February 2015.