

# KINGS BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the meeting held on

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2015 commencing at 7.45pm at Kings Bromley Village Hall.

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

**In attendance:** Mr. I. Colclough (Clerk)  
Members of the public present: Mr. C. Gordon, Mrs. C. Gordon, Mr. R. Gilmour,  
Mr. R. Boswell and Mr. R. Griffiths.

### **Public Session: This took place between 7.45 and 8.08pm.**

Mr. Boswell was invited to join the meeting after expressing interest in becoming the Council's flood officer. The chairman invited him to introduce himself. Mr. Boswell said he lives in Lanes Close and worked for South Staffs Water as Supply Manager for 18 years. He is a civil engineer and undertakes inspections. The chairman thanked him for attending and said that the actual appointment would be discussed under item 6 later. Mr. Boswell elected to remain.

Mr. Gordon then spoke about his concerns over the work being undertaken at the Fruit Farm to the rear of his home in Vicarage Close. Large volumes of stone are being delivered and spread and the work is being undertaken at unsociable hours. Access to the site is along the private unadopted road. He has spoken to Don Winn at LDC planners and SCC over the access. Mr. Gilmour spoke in support of the comments and added that there was an attempt to make the access into two lanes. The police were called and this was halted. The footpath is now dangerous and a lady had recently fallen. Clerk has asked SCC to investigate the path.

After discussion Cllr. Pritchard said he would have a word with Mr. McGuffie, the person who it is thought rents the land and will report back. This to be added to the agenda for the May meeting.

**Action: Cllr. Pritchard**

1. **Apologies and approval of absence.**  
Cllrs. A. Howard (unwell).
2. **a) In accordance with Section 31 of the Localism Act 2011, members to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in items on this agenda.**  
Cllr. Browne 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.**  
The clerk had received a written dispensation request from Cllr. Taylor as he owns land that may be affected by HS2. This was noted.
3. **To resolve that the minutes of the Kings Bromley Parish Council meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2015 are a correct record.**  
A minor typographical error was identified in paragraph 1 – should read PCSO not PSCO. With this amendment made and initialled by the chairman, it was proposed by Cllr. Browne and seconded by Cllr. Gair that the minutes be signed as a true record. All were in favour.
4. **Clerks Report.**
  - a) **To consider correspondence received.**
    - i) SPCA news – 4 issues. Placed in circulation file.
    - ii) Letter from Community Council of Staffs re Village SOS Campaign. Placed in circulation file.
    - iii) Flier from BT re Adopt a Kiosk. Placed in circulation file.
    - iv) Letter from Smiths of Derby re All Saints Church – tower clock. Smiths have identified a problem with the clock hammers. After discussion it was felt that they had raised this last year but council had paid for this to be remedied by another company. Details were vague – clerk to investigate and report back. **Action: Clerk.**
    - v) Letter – Grant Thornton – 2014/5 Audit return papers. The clerk said that the audit had been returned from our internal auditors Tomkinson and Teal with no

comments or problems. The annual return will now be completed and sent to Grant Thornton.

- vi) NALC legal briefing re transparency requirements. Clerk said that there is a requirement to place more documents in the public domain and that this will be done before the deadline at the end of June.
- vii) Dept. for Communities – accountability framework. This will be dealt with in item4 (v) below.

**b) Finance.**

- i) Financial Statement. The clerk said the current account stands at £275.98 and the reserve account at £15,479.56 as of 26/3/15. Un-cleared cheques totalled £805.13.
- ii) Payments Received. None.
- iii) To authorise payments. a) Clerks Salary £294.82 b) Expenses £102.23 (£15.90 postage stamps) c) HMRC £73.60 d) Community Council of Staffs – subscription - £25.00 e) Staffs Parish Council Assoc – subscription - £330.00 f) R B Hayward – grass maintenance - £216.00

Cllr. Browne asked about the subscription to the SPCA and what council received from them. Clerk replied that the main benefit is the support and legal advice they provide to him and the council helping keep abreast of legal updates and changes.

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

- iv) Unaudited end of year accounts. The clerk went through the end of year figures which showed a better than expected outturn with an excess of income over expenditure of £3373.51. This was due in part to a grant received from County Cllr. M. Tittley and a concerted effort to reduce administration costs.
- v) Changes to the smaller Authorities local audit and accountability framework. The clerk said that new guidance was now to hand and that he will be taking this into account over the coming months. The web site will be updated with the necessary documents.

**Action: Clerk.**

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

Cllr. Pritchard said he was prevented from reporting because of the elections that are imminent. Cllr. Browne asked him about the fire station improvements. He replied that the station was still functional and the work would be completed soon.

**6. Appointment of Flood Officer.**

After brief discussion it was proposed by Cllr. Gair and seconded by Cllr. Browne that Mr. Boswell be appointed as flood officer for the council. Clerk to liaise with him with regards to equipment etc.

**Action: Clerk.**

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

**a) Highway Issues.**

Cllr. Browne said he understood that the 'cycle lanes along the A513 Alrewas Road would be installed. The petition against the HCV traffic in the village has reached 844 and some pictures of lorries mounting the footway at the cross roads have been taken and passed to SCC. An on-line petition has been instigated by a Yoxall resident. A meeting has also taken place with the leader of LDC and the many transport operatives at Fradley in an effort to have their drivers use the A38 not local roads. A lorry park was also discussed. Another meeting is scheduled for late April and the A38 slip road is to be upgraded. Clerk to compile a list of work for the highways team.

**Action: Clerk.**

**b) Footpath Issues.**

These had been mentioned and discussed in the public forum.

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

Cllr. Browne reported that the drawings had been published but were still not clear cut. They show the line moves about 30m away from the village and will be at or near ground level. The

House of Lords have queried the cost of the whole project indicating it is not economically viable. The estimated cost has now increased to £78 billion. Nothing will happen now until late summer due mainly to the forthcoming elections. The chairman thanked Cllr. Browne for his report.

9. **To consider any issues arising from the April Parish Surgery.**  
There was uncertainty as to who actually presided. Clerk to check. **Action: Clerk.**
10. **To consider projects for 2015/16 to be funded from reserves.**  
The clerk asked if any projects might be bought forward. It was suggested that council may consider helping out with the refurbishment of the village hall but no further request had been made from the management committee. Clerk to chase. **Action: Clerk.**
11. **To consider refreshment provision for the Annual Open Parish Meeting.**  
After discussion it was felt that no refreshments would be on offer.
12. **To consider Councillor's reports – for information only.**  
Cllr. Browne said that the No 7 service had been lost but that SCC had said that Midland Classic would now be operating and run the service as normal. However, the route did not take in Barton Under Needwood. Timetables have been distributed and the service will commence next Monday.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.57pm.

Signed ..... (Chairman) Date 13<sup>th</sup> May 2015.