

**KINGS BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on**  
**Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup> December, 2008, at 7.30pm in**  
**Kings Bromley Village Hall**

**Present:-** Cllr I M P Pritchard (Chair); Cllr S R Browne; Cllr Mrs M K Gair; Cllr S Holland;  
Cllr Mrs P Jarman; Cllr G C Seddon

**In attendance:** Mrs S Buxton (Clerk); Insp Kevin Mulligan NPU Commander for  
Burntwood and District; PC Andy Brown; County Cllr Janet Eagland; Debbie Clarke –  
Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator

The chairman introduced everyone at the meeting.

Debbie Clarke commenced the discussion with a Neighbourhood Watch report. NW has changed from a proactive service to a more reactive service, which probably reflects how the village has changed – i.e. less people at home during the day now compared to some years ago. She expressed thanks to everyone who has acted as a volunteer over the years. In the last 6 or 7 years the number of volunteers who have joined has been in single figures and there are now about 28 people on the list. Despite publicity and recruitment campaigns the numbers have not increased so about 4 years ago the service became more reactive. She still reports everything that reaches her onto someone else and it is important that this happens so that a complete picture is built up. Everyone in the village should be vigilant within the community. A NW volunteer only needs to be responsible for about 10 houses if the system is working well and would only be required to pass information on to these 10 houses if something happens. She finished by saying that despite recent burglaries, Kings Bromley has a very low level of crime and explained how people can volunteer to be involved.

Insp Mulligan volunteered to arrange the compilation and delivery of an A5 flier to all houses in the village of Kings Bromley about NW and useful contact numbers.

Insp Mulligan introduced himself, as Ashley Farrington's replacement. He confirmed that he has found the funding from existing budgets to finance an unmarked police van for use in Kings Bromley and other local areas. No parish council will be contributing to the unmarked van to increase police availability in the area.

Insp Mulligan acknowledged the low level of crime in KB but does feel that one crime is one too many. The police have an agreement with Armitage and Handsacre Parish Council to contribute towards the cost of additional policing in their parish. It is a matter for KB parish council to decide if it wants to consider something similar. He informed the meeting that Andy Brown has attended this meeting tonight in his own time because he is committed to policing in the area. It is hoped that there will be a new PCSO from March in the rural area to replace the last one who has now joined the police force.

A Manor Road resident stated that people feel reassured if they know that the police are patrolling. Where possible they do try to pass this information on to the victims of crime.

A Manor Walk resident asked how often there are foot patrols in the village? Unfortunately, foot patrols are not carried out as often as might be liked.

A Broome Close resident – asked how many volunteers would be required to cover the whole village for NW? The target to aim for would be 40 to 50 volunteers.

What is the most recent crime trend? Burglary of houses with easily transported items – jewellery; small electrical, cash and targeting cars on drive. A constant crime in the area is shed burglaries. It is very worthwhile taking down the details of vehicles and occupants of one off contractors who may call offering services.

The recent criminality experienced in KB has also been seen in Yoxall, Barton and Alrewas recently, and the incidents appear to be linked -they are probably travelling criminals.

PC Andy Brown explained Smartwater and other similar products. It is a crime prevention “water” which is unique to one property. It is completely invisible but it identifies where something comes from. To be effective it needs to be taken up by the majority of the village and there would need to be signage to say that the village uses “smartwater”. It is a deterrent.

PC Andy Brown gave a brief summary of recent crimes.

7/10 – 2 vehicles in Manor Road – lap top and numbe plates

23/10 – power cut due to transformers being cut down in gravel pit

1/11 – 3 burglaries in early hours – 2 Manor Road and 1 Leofric Close

3/12 – Village Hall, 2 bottles sherry and a pair of dumbbells and damage

Manor Road resident – shocked about the number of incidents and the fact that residents are not aware of what is going on. At his house 54 items were taken before the thieves were disturbed. The nightmare continues after the burglary as insurance companies want receipts and photos for everything. He advised people to obtain photographic evidence and keep receipts whenever possible.

Debbie Clarke closed by saying if anyone wants anymore information or to become involved in NW, then contact her.

The chairman thanked Inspector Mulligan, PC Brown and Debbie Clarke for attending the meeting.

### **3567. Apologies**

Cllr W A Taylor – prior engagement

**Agreed** to accept the apologies of Cllr Taylor

### **3568. Declaration of Interests**

Cllr Seddon – Buddhist Temple

Cllr Mrs Jarman – Changing Lives

### **3569. Minutes of the last meeting**

**Agreed** that the minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> November, 2008 be signed as a true and correct record

### 3570. Report of the Clerk

- i. **Quality Parish Scheme** – the clerk reported that the SPCA has agreed to attend the January parish meeting to give a brief introduction to the Quality Parish Scheme and that the meeting is scheduled to start at 7.30 pm

### 3571. Finance

#### i. Accounts for Payment

**Agreed** that the following payments be made

Vch/Chq	Payee	Amount	Details	Powers
38/300076	Mrs S Buxton	362.14	Salary and taxable expenses November 2008	LGA 1972 s.112(2)
38/300077	Mrs S Buxton	7.56	Travel expenses November	LG(FP)A 1963 s.5
38/300078	SCC	69.04	Pension November 2008	LGA 1972 s.112(2)
39/300079	SPCA	20.00	2 lunches at SPCA AGM	
40/300080	LDC	48.30	Inspection of play equipment	
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>507.04</b>		

#### ii. Receipts

**Agreed** that the following receipt be noted

KB Village Hall	£259.00	50% contribution towards grasscutting at Village Hall
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#### iii. Finance report to 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2008

**Agreed** that the contents of the finance report to 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2008 be noted

#### iv. Horticultural Society – offer to provide support to a community project –

this will be discussed when the budget is decided at the January meeting  
**AGREED** the clerk to approach the Horticultural Society to see if they are able to give an idea of the amount of money available and any time scale in which they would like to see any donation used

#### v. Budget 2009/10 – reminder was given of the need to think of any items of which the clerk needed to be aware of prior to producing the report

### 3572. Correspondence and Items for Information

- i. **Letter from Mr Coxon and other Manor Park residents** – re: the planning application for Manor Croft. This item is also included on the Planning Advisory Committee meeting as a special resolution has been received from two councillors requesting that the original application be reconsidered by the committee.

**Agreed** that this item will be dealt with by the Planning Advisory Committee

- ii. **Invitation to new year at Buddhist Temple** – the temple has invited all residents of Kings Bromley to a dedicated new year celebration on Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup> January, 2009 for the village only

**Agreed** that the clerk will place a copy on the noticeboard

- iii. **Report in Yoxall Village News on proposed quarry at Bancroft Farm** – the clerk reported that a villager's report on the last Yoxall Parish Council meeting had made statements about Kings Bromley Parish Council and promises that Kings Bromley had allegedly made to supply information to Yoxall. As these were incorrect the clerk has written to the editor to clarify the action taken by Kings Bromley Parish Council with regards to a proposed quarry site in Hamstall Ridware. Cllr Janet Eagland stated that she had discussed the matter with people from Yoxall, but it was not clear if they were members of the parish council or interested residents.

- iv. **LDC survey on Joint Operations BLOG** – this is to establish views on whether recipients find the information useful  
**Agreed** the clerk would reply on behalf of the parish council
- v. **Review of Clerk's Correspondence Report** – no other action required

### 3573. Water and Drainage

- i. **Flooding – Crawley Lane** – the clerk reported that she has contacted Cllr Janet Eagland again on this matter and she has received a reply from SCC to say that this is not something which can be resolved. Cllr Eagland will keep reminding them of this issue.

### 3574. Highways and Signs

- i. **Entrance to Leofric Close** – a reply has been received from SCC stating that BT's approximate quote is £49 K to divert the utility equipment but a detailed quote can be obtained upon payment of £1,671.04 plus VAT. As far as SCC are concerned this makes the cost of the diversion prohibitive  
**Agreed** the clerk would seek clarification on these amounts from SCC as they do seem excessive
- ii. **Victoria Meadow/Meadows?** – the clerk reported that LDC had still not received sufficient replies to their letter and of the replies received they are split half and half. If this situation remains then LDC wish to replace the current sign with one reading Victoria Meadows. They have suggested that the parish council could seek the views of residents and then write to LDC with their findings and then they could act  
**Agreed** that Cllr Pritchard will speak to Mr Atwell who raised the original question and explain to him that LDC have not had a high enough response to retain the Victoria Meadow sign  
**Agreed** the clerk will copy the correspondence to date with Mr Atwell to the chairman for information
- iii. **Village Signs** – the clerk reported that SCC have confirmed that a Kings Bromley name sign will be installed on the Alrewas Road opposite the Temple in the near future.
- iv. **Community Gangs**  
**Agreed** that the Community Gangs be asked to turf the trench which has been filled in at the front of Crawley View on Crawley Lane
- v. **Fradley Park Meeting** – Wed 19<sup>th</sup> November, 2008 – report from Cllrs Mrs Giar and Browne. The councillors from KB did not feel that the presentation by Tesco was very relevant. The meeting was rather lively and there was an impression given that people outside the Fradley area were not welcome  
**Agreed** the clerk would speak to the clerk at Alrewas and Fradley with Streethay Parish Council with regards to the nature of future meetings and expressing Kings Bromley's wish to continue to be involved
- vi. **Yoxall Road Hedge** – Cllr Pritchard to report on discussions with residents of Yoxall Road. He has spoken to Mr Griffiths who has spoken to other neighbours. They are happy for the whole hedge to be laid right up to the pumping station but would not be happy if any other allowance is made adjacent to the property belonging to Mr Baker  
**Agreed** that the clerk would forward details of the situation to Cllr Mrs Janet Eagland

**3575. War Memorial** – Cllr Pritchard asked for his discussion with Simon Cooper and Charles Jarman to be carried forward to the next meeting

**3576. Christmas Tree**

**Agreed** the clerk should write to thank Joyce Baskerville for donating the tree and Geoff Sutton and Stephen Gooch who had assisted the chairman and Cllr Holland in putting up the tree

**3577. Village Hall**

Cllr Browne reported that there had been a break-in last week and between £400 and £500 of damage had been done.

**3578. Village Shop**

The clerk reported that a letter had been sent to all those who had expressed an interest in assisting with the shop during the last week and an article had appeared in the parish magazine. To date the clerk has received a few replies. Pat Hudson of the Village Retail Services Association would be more than happy to attend a meeting of interested parties. She has indicated that it would be useful to have a representative of both the parish council and the Village Hall Management Committee present but by no means essential and someone to take notes of this initial meeting would be useful.

**Agreed** that Cllr Mrs Gair would represent the parish council

**3579. Social Services – Changing Lives**

Cllr Mrs Jarman reported that there is a new driver under training which may alleviate some of the current transport problems

**3580. Lichfield District Council**

i. **Locally Listed Buildings Survey**

**Agreed** that the following properties should be recommended to LDC for local listing under the Article 4 Direction of “significant” local buildings: \_

Manor Road	Stonewall Farm
	Manor Croft
Lewis’s Lane	Carpenter’s Cottage
Alrewas Road	Eastfields House
	The Old Friary
	Mourgel
	The Cot
	Barn House
	Ivy House
	The Rectory
	Bromley Farmhouse

ii. **Lichfield District LDF: Core Strategy Preferred Options**

iii. **LDC play equipment inspection** – the report sent by LDC was considered. All items recorded were either Low Risk or Very Low Risk. For the second year running the inspector recommended a drainage hole to be provided at the base of the centre leg of the swings to prevent problems to the “T” joint during icy weather conditions

**Agreed** that the parish council had reviewed the recommendation made regarding the centre leg of the swings and did not feel that any action was required to this or any other aspect of the play equipment and its surrounds.

- iv. **Rough Park Lane** – letter received seeking parish council comments on an amendment to street a naming along part of Rough Park Lane, Hamstall Ridware  
**Agreed** that as this fell within Hamstall parish KBPC did not wish to comment

#### **3581. Staffordshire County Council**

No report

#### **3582. SPCA**

- i. **AGM** – the resolution proposed by Kings Bromley Parish Council to allow protestors to planning applications the right of appeal was unanimously agreed and will now go forward to NALC. Kings Bromley also seconded a proposal put forward by Alrewas and Fradley with Streethay Parish Council regarding the size of traffic in villages
- ii. **Newsletter** – this was circulated to members
- iii. **Insurance information from Zurich for Village Halls** – this is to be sent to Cllr Browne for the Village Hall
- iv. **SPCA advertising role** – information on what they do and what help they can give

#### **3583. Review of Items for Future Meetings**

- i. Financial Regulations
- ii. Review of Standing Orders
- iii. Valuation of Chairman's Chain of Office
- iv. Youth Club funds
- v. New map on wall at Lichfield Road
- vi. Review of Parish Plan
- vii. Website

#### **3584. Date of Next Meeting**

**Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> January, 2009 – 7.30 pm** at the Village Hall, Alrewas Road, Kings Bromley. The SPCA has agreed to come along and make a short presentation on Quality Parish Status

There being no other business the chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.00 pm