

KINGS BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on

Wednesday 9th November 2016 commencing at 7.45pm at Kings Bromley Village Hall.

Note – corrections to these minutes will be recorded in the minutes for the following month.

Present: Cllrs. A. Howard (Chairman); Mrs. M. Gair; S. Browne; Mrs. J. Higgins; N. Lee; C. Cole. County Cllr. Martyn Tittley;

In attendance: Mr. I. Colclough (Clerk). Members of the public present; Mr. R. Griffiths, Mr. R. Smith, PCSO Tracy Horton.

Public Session: The chairman welcomed PCSO Horton for attending and also for the efforts of the local force when a resident went missing a few weeks ago. She asked if the council could provide her with a list of contacts such as the village hall, church and other local facilities. She endeavours to collect names of vulnerable residents so that they can be safeguarded. Clerk to send list of contacts.

Action: Clerk. Mr. Smith spoke about HS2 and his concern that both Shaw Lane and Common Lane may be blocked off resulting in cyclists and agricultural machinery having to always use the A515 and A513. PCSO Horton left the meeting at 7.55pm. The chairman again thanked her for attending.

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

Cllr. I. Pritchard; District Cllrs. T. Marshall; R. Cox.

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 7.

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 General Meeting held on 12th October 2016 are a correct record.**

These had been distributed previously. One omission was identified - item 7 should have read Cllrs. Browne, Gair and Higgins. With this addition made and initialled by the chairman it was proposed by Cllr. Lee and seconded by Cllr. Gair that the minutes be signed as a true record of the meeting. All were in favour.

4. **Clerks Report.**

a) To consider correspondence received.

- i) SPCA news – several issues. Placed in circulation file.
- ii) Report from LDC on play equipment safety. This was read out by the clerk. The equipment has been given a medium risk rating.
- iii) Email off Mrs. Farrington regarding road safety issues around the new Co Op store. This will be discussed under item 6 (a) iv below.
- iv) Community Council of Staffs – letter re SMART metres. Placed in circulation file.
- v) Email from LDC re BT phone boxes. (item 9)

b) Finance.

- i) Financial Statement. As of 26/10/16 - the current account stands at £8,987.23 and the reserve account at £19,498.26
- ii) Payments Received. Bank interest of £4.61
- vi) To authorise payments. a) Clerks Salary, expenses and income tax – total £518.41 inc postage stamps. b) R B Hayward – grass cutting £375.00. c) Parish on-line subscription - £33.60. d) Grant Thornton – audit - £120.00 inc vat. It was proposed by Cllr. Gair and seconded by Cllr. Browne that the above invoices be paid. All were in favour.

Initial:

- c) **Play Equipment Inspection Reports.**
This had been covered in correspondence above.
- d) **Grass Cutting 2017 and beyond.**
The clerk asked if the council will be going to tender for this work in 2017 and said that there is a possibility that additional grass may be included if the District / County Council decide not to cut highway verges. With this in mind it was decided that a tendering process would be the best way forward. Clerk to arrange. **Action: Clerk.**
5. **To receive oral / written reports from County and District Councillors.**
County Cllr. Tittley said that everything he would have reported upon is covered in the last minutes or on this agenda.
6. **To consider on-going highway and footpath issues.**
- a) **Highway Issues. (i) Street Lighting.** The clerk was asked to write formally to SCC Highways about the possibility of lighting on Lichfield Road and to send a copy to Cllr. Tittley. **Action: Clerk.**
(ii) Ice Busters. Cllr. Lee has spoken to Mr. Boswell who would undertake this role provided storage of the equipment can be found. Cllr. Howard will ask if the village hall could be used. **Action: Cllr. Howard.** Clerk to inform Mary Lee at SCC. **Action: Clerk.**
(iii) Weight restriction update. Cllr. Browne said a meeting is planned with SCC (Deaville and Thompson) next Monday at 9am.
(iv) Co-Op entrance – safety and parking issues. Cllr. Browne said the exit point was dangerous as visibility is restricted but SCC Highways has approved it. It was thought that the building does not conform to the plans. Clerk to check. Clerk to write to SCC to request signage to warn of the concealed entrance and also to reply to Mrs. Farrington. **Action: Clerk.** Cllr. Browne has spoken to the bus company and asked if they will make their stop near to Bradbury Lane and not outside the Royal Oak.
- b) **Footpath issues. (i) Lewis’s Lane vehicle access.** Cllr. Lee said he had been in contact with SCC Footpath team and that the signage was adequate. The lane is a public footpath with ownership vested in several parties – frontagers have an easement in their deeds. SCC is only responsible for the top 6 inches on the surface. It was decided that Cllr. Lee would draft a letter for the clerk to send to the resident who had raised the issue and that this was not a matter in which the parish or county council could be involved. **Actions: Cllr. Lee and Clerk.**
7. **To receive an update on HS2.**
Cllr. Browne reported that Councillors have attended a number of meetings including those with the Action Group. A response to the phase 2 consultation has been made and a copy circulated to Councillors. Several highways related problems have been discussed particularly to do with the closure of Common Lane and Shaw Lane. Both SCC and LDC have held meetings with HS2 Ltd.
8. **To receive an update on the village hall roof repairs / installation of a defibrillator.**
Roof - Scaffolding is erected and the work should be finished by the end of the month.
Defibrillator – Cllrs. Cole and Browne met with James Crampton who will help with the choice of machine. Will make final recommendation at the next meeting.
9. **To receive an update on progress re the adoption of the BT Phone Box by The Book Club.**
Clerk to reply to the email from LDC to say the council will be purchasing the box. **Action: Clerk.**
A volunteer glazer and possibly a joiner have been found to undertake the work on the box.

Cllr. Tittley left the meeting at 8.55pm.
10. **To receive an update, if any, on the Centenary Fields initiative**
The clerk has not had a reply following the letter to Rev. Ty Leyland.

11. **To discuss ways to improve web site involvement by / for parishioners.**
No further progress made but it was suggested that Cllr. Cole and the clerk meet with Eric Roy to discuss options. Clerk to arrange meeting. **Action: Clerk.**

12. **To consider registering the local public house as an ‘asset of community value.’**
Cllr. Lee will send the necessary information to the clerk to enable him to make the registration. **Action: Cllr. Lee and Clerk.** Discussion then turned to the public house and its future. It was suggested that Cllr. Pritchard make more enquiries of New River (the owners) to determine the likely future of the pub.

13. **To consider a draft ‘flier’ and ‘welcome pack’ to be issued for the benefit of parishioners.**
Cllr. Howard said there was no progress at this stage.

14. **To consider a response to the ‘Council Tax Referendum’. (Distributed previously).**
The clerk said he was in receipt of a draft letter template issued by the SPCA suggesting that parishes write to their MP to show their worries about Government proposals to introduce ‘capping’ of parish precepts. After discussion it was felt a letter ought to be sent. Clerk to complete and send. **Action: Clerk.**

15. **To further consider applying for ‘free’ trees. (Distributed previously).**
The clerk said that The Woodlands Trust would be prepared to provide free trees to the council to enable screening around the village. After discussion it was felt that the clerk should write to local landowners to indicate that trees are available and suggest that they contact the Trust. **Action: Clerk.**

16. **To consider Councillor report – for information only.**
Cllr. Howard said that a wall belonging to Hansons has collapsed along the Armitage Road. Clerk to write to Hansons. **Action: Clerk.**
The chairman has spent several hours cleaning the area around the War Memorial. He said that some of the paving grout was coming adrift and that some wooden posts were now rotting. He will monitor this but said some expenditure will be required in the near future.
Cllr. Higgins said she had attended her second LAG meeting at the school and that the school were looking to expand.
Cllr Lee asked about the trophy presentation at John Taylor and that an item is placed in the agenda for the December meeting. **Action: Clerk.**

There being no further business the main meeting closed at 9.25pm.

Signed (Chairman) Date 14th December 2016.