

**KINGS BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on**  
**Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> March, 2009, 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; Cllr W A Taylor

**In attendance:** Mrs S Buxton (Clerk); David Wood – Regional Energy Development Engineer Waste Water, Commercial Services for STWA; Nigel Moore - Principal Consultation for TNEI Services Ltd.

David Wood introduced himself and his role, and the impact of the extremely high cost of electricity to STWA, their current renewable energy use and proposals for future use. In March 2008 they obtained planning permission to put up a wind monitoring mast at the Curborough Sewage Treatment Works, from which they are still monitoring the results and they are currently opening discussions with local people prior to a formal exhibition on their proposals for a possible single wind turbine at Curborough. It will take about 12 – 18 months of data from the monitoring mast to get all the answers they need.

Nigel Wood introduced himself as a consultant specialising in planning and how renewable energy can be introduced, whilst minimising impacts of such development. The aim of this discussion is to be as open as possible and to provide as much information.

A resident thanked the visitors for agreeing to come along and consult with local people about their proposals.

Questions were asked about the construction, operation and restoration of the site.

The exact size and dimensions are not yet known. A rough approximation is that it would be around 240 feet to the hub and 375 to the tip.

During the construction stage, which will take around 4 months, there would be HGV trips to deliver aggregates for the base and then a number of abnormal vehicle deliveries as the blades come in one piece. The expected life of a turbine would be 25 years and then there is a decommissioning stage subject to the environmental laws in place at time. The foundations are likely to be a 60 feet square concrete base and 9ft deep.

They run at peak capacity for about 30% of the time but do turn for about 80% of the time. From one turbine you would expect to be able to run about 11,000 domestic homes for a year.

Developing such sites is very risky as there are many situations which can result in a project being mothballed at any stage, even very late on in the process.

This proposal is purely for STWA and although there may be some trading with the National Grid and it is difficult to say if this would set any precedent, as every site is so different. STWA have no influence over neighbouring owners who could look at wind turbine usage in the future.

There is a wind turbine at Worksop at a B&Q Warehouse and some further afield at Peterborough. Part of the exhibition will include visual images of what the landscape will look at after the installation of a turbine.

Two sites in the east of England are both remote from housing because of the noise but in Curborough housing is not so remote.

Wind energy is fairly new in England, but in other European countries much wider use of wind energy has already been made

The chairman thanked Mr Moore and Mr Wood for attending the meeting

Other issues raised by the public were:-

- i. **Police Surgery** held on the car park a few weeks ago. Mrs Crittenden volunteered for NW for her road and she received information from Stafford and has tried to contact the village co-ordinator and someone on Manor Road who is helping with NW but no one is getting back to her with how she can help with the scheme.

### **3624. Apologies**

County Cllr Mrs Janet Eagland

### **3625. Declaration of Interests**

Cllr Mrs Jarman – Changing Lives

### **3626. Minutes of the last meeting**

**Agreed** that the minutes of the meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> February, 2009 be signed as a true and correct record after the following amendments:- correction of Cllr Mrs Eagland's name under those present; removal of "and the clerk" on the second line of the minutes; and insertion of "He" on the last paragraph of the public session to read "He commented that he had always been totally supportive to the village of Kings Bromley in many ways and served for many years on both the parish council and also the district council"

### **3627. Wind Turbine Proposal – Curborough**

**Agreed** the clerk should thank Mr Moore and Mr Wood for attending the meeting and that all councillors should try to attend the exhibition when it is arranged.

### **3628. Report of the Clerk**

Nothing to report

### **3629. Finance**

#### **i. Finance report to 28<sup>th</sup> February 2009**

**Agreed** to note the contents of the finance report

#### **ii. Valuation of chairman's chain of office** - A valuation has been made of the chain of office at £950 and the council's insurance policy has been adjusted accordingly. A quotation has also been received for the refurbishment of the chain of office

**Agreed** to consider possible refurbishment of the chain when next year's budget is prepared

iii. **Quotations for Grasscutting** – four quotations have been received for consideration.

**Agreed** that the contract be awarded to the lowest quotation that includes removal of grass clippings

i. **Clerk's Final Pay Award from 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2008**

**Agreed** that the council will pay the final award from 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2008 and that the clerk should be paid the appropriate arrears

ii. **Completion of Audit for the year to 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2008** – the clerk informed the council that the audit for last year was complete and that the only comment was with regards to fidelity guarantee for councillors. The clerk reported that this had been added from the renewal in June 2008 and the auditor had made reference to it as the insurance renewal enclosed with the audit return had been the one in place at the end of the financial year in March 2008

iii. **Accounts for Payment**

**Agreed** that the following payments be made

<i>Vch/Chq</i>	<i>Payee</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Details</i>	<i>Powers</i>
300090	SCC – chq to be cancelled	-68.33	Jan pension – incorrect amount	-
300095	SCC	62.03	Jan pension contribs	
300096	Mrs S Buxton	394.58	Salary and taxable exps including arrears from final pay award	LGA 1972 s.112(2)
300097	SCC	70.28	Pension Contributions including arrears from final pay award	LGA 1972 s.112(2)
300098	Mrs S Buxton	96.40	Travel and petty cash	LG(FP)A 1963 s.5
		95.00	Map for wall outside No. 1 Lichfield Road	LGA 1972 s.144
300099	SPCA	10.00	Planning seminar 4/2/09	LGA 1972 s.111
300400	SLCC	69.00	Half cost of Practitioners' Conference 27/28 Feb 09	LGA 1972 s.111
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<u><u>531.66</u></u>		

iv. **Receipts**

None received however the clerk reported that she had made a VAT claim of £2,500 covering the last two years

v. **Investment Consultation for Pension Scheme**

**Agreed** that the council did not wish to comment on the Investment Consultation for the Pension Scheme

vi. **Play Equipment behind the Village Hall**

The clerk presented some drawings and quotes for provision of play equipment behind the village hall for consideration. She also explained that besides obtaining grants from various sources the council could consider a Public Works Board Loan as the rates are very competitive at present, and including a loan repayment in the precept for the next few years as an alternative of adding a sum of money for a reserve to the precept over a number of years and then having the work done.

### 3630. Correspondence and Items for Information

- i. **Dog fouling** - the clerk reported on a discussion she had had with the Horticultural Society regarding the widespread and ever increasing problems of dog fouling throughout the village, but particularly in Crawley Lane, on the Showfield and on public footpaths. They had suggested leafleting the whole village as a way to bring the matter to the attention of all residents, but in particular those who do not appear to have got the message about responsible dog ownership and also asking the school if they would be prepared to distribute them to all families? The clerk has spoken to LDC and arranged some enforcement visits at key times when offenders have been seen. The discussion also covered use of the current bins and the possibility of having a bag dispenser.

**Agreed** the clerk will devise a flyer to be distributed by councillors to every household in the village centre and hopefully the school

**Agreed** that the clerk will discuss usage of the bins and cost of new bins and bag dispensers with LDC

- ii. **Review of Clerk's Correspondence Report**

### 3631. Planning Advisory Committee

To consider amendment to terms of reference of the Planning Advisory Committee as raised at the last committee meeting suggested by Cllr Browne

**Agreed** that the terms of reference as they stand for the Planning Advisory Committee remain as they are

### 3632. Highways and Signs

- i. **Community Gangs** – there were no suggestions from councillors for additional items to be sent to SCC for inclusion on the work schedule for the Community Gangs
- ii. **Community Gangs follow up** – at the last meeting the clerk was asked to report the Give Way signs on the Rugeley Road, but when going to inspect them couldn't see what the problem was which required attention? Councillors stated that they believed the visibility of the signs was being compromised by branches  
**Agreed** the clerk would investigate and report as necessary
- iii. **Yoxall Road Hedge** – SCC have now completed the laying of the hedge and have made an excellent job. It was noted that a resident had reported that he along with the owners of two other properties did now feel rather exposed and had noticed a considerable increase in noise levels from passing traffic. The council acknowledged this point, but once the hedge has grown the privacy and noise reduction is likely to far greater than previously experienced.

### 3633. Village Property

- i. **Map on wall of No. 1 Lichfield Road** – the clerk asked for clarification on the material to be used  
**Agreed** that the material should preferably be wood and a sealed unit to preserve the map
- ii. **Renovation of Village Benches** – the clerk reported on the seven benches and two noticeboards to be treated and undertook to obtain two quotations for the next meeting

- iii. **Supply of Electricity for Christmas lights** – the clerk reported that the council had to choose a supplier for the electricity  
**Agreed** that the clerk would use a comparison website to choose a competitive supplier on behalf of the parish council

#### 3634. Village Hall

Cllr Browne reported that additional chairs and tables have been ordered and a grant has been received from the Horticultural Society

#### 3635. Best Kept Village Competition

- i. **Tidy up day** – it was felt that this would be useful  
**Agreed** the clerk would discuss this matter with Alan Howard
- ii. **Children's Poster Competition** – the clerk reported that she had discussed this with the school  
**Agreed** that the clerk would discuss the poster competition further with the school and put forward the suggestion of a link with the international award that the school is working towards as the theme for the posters  
**Agreed** that the pre school and the youth club also be invited to submit posters relating to the BKV competition for judging  
**Agreed** that judging will take place after the Annual Parish Meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2009

#### 3636. Review of Parish Plan

Cllr Mrs Jarman reported on progress against targets laid out in the parish plan. It was noted that the Community Speedwatch team had recorded one car travelling at 84 mph in the 30 mph restricted zone. It was acknowledged that speed is a major blight on the village

**Agreed** that the clerk investigate the provision of 30 mph stickers which would be attached to waste bins or other structures in Kings Bromley informally as a reiteration of the speed restrictions in force

#### 3637. Clerk's Training

- i. **Report on Clerk's Practitioners' Conference at Stoke, 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2009** – the clerk reported that this had been an excellent event and she had learnt a great deal on a number of topics, and she would be bringing the most relevant before the council over the coming months. The chairman asked for a detailed report on the conference so that councillors could consider any of the topics which they felt should be considered
- ii. **Training in Governance and Accountability** – this had been one session at the Practitioners' Conference, not attended by KB's clerk, but very well received by others. Staffordshire was now in the process of organising a special event at a cost of £95 sometime in April or May.  
**Agreed** the council would meet half the cost of the clerk's attendance - £42.50
- iii. **Publication Scheme – charges for information requests.** Following the conference the clerk reported that currently the parish council's scheme states that charges are 10 p per sheet, but with a minimum charge of £1, plus postage. This is not considered to be good practice as if someone requests one sheet, then it is implied that 90p goes towards the administrative cost of providing the information, and this is not allowed  
**Agreed** that the council revise its charging policy to 10 p per sheet plus postage.

**3638. Annual Parish Meeting – 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2009**

The clerk reported on her discussions with Debbie Clarke and PC Andy Brown regarding the Annual Parish Meeting

**Agreed** that the first part of the meeting will include coverage of neighbourhood watch, smartwater and crime prevention

**Agreed** that the clerk will write to village organisations to invite them to attend and give a short report

**Agreed** that the clerk will arrange tea and coffee for the meeting

**3639. Village Website**

The clerk reported that some village organisations are still seem to be reluctant to include their calendar of events on the village website, and that she intended to send a reminder with the invites to the Annual Parish Meeting of the availability of the website

**3640. Social Services – Changing Lives**

Nothing to report

**3641. Lichfield District Council**

- i. **Summer Play Scheme** – the play scheme provided in Kings Bromley in 2008 was very poorly attended and there will be no week long scheme in Kings Bromley in 2009. There is an intention though to run some outdoor play sessions in the village instead, but no booking had been made yet at the Village Hall, if this was required.
- ii. **Parish Form** – the clerk reported receipt of the details of the next parish forum meeting to be held on 6<sup>th</sup> April, 2009
- iii. **Housing Needs in Lichfield District** – the clerk had forwarded to the chairman a copy of the papers from Cllr Janet Eagland at the last meeting regarding Housing Needs in Lichfield District  
**Agreed** that Cllr Pritchard will review the document and report to the next meeting

**3642. Staffordshire County Council**

- i. **Quarrying** – an update had been received from Cllr Janet Eagland stating that Lafarge Aggregates has identified a site to the south and east of Kings Bromley with an indicated resource of 10 million tonnes of sand and gravel. Cemex has identified additional land on their Wych`nor Estate land holding which is to the north of Overley Lane at Orgreave with an indication resource of 7.5 million tonnes of sand and gravel and they have increased their estimate of the resource to be derived from their original proposal on the Wychnor Estate (south of the A513) from 5.75 million tonnes to 9.5 million tonnes of sand and gravel.
- ii. **Community Footpath Grants** – the suggestion from Mr Rothery, Chairman of Staffordshire Ramblers to consider having a new updated walk brochure following a number of footpath changes was considered and he had offered to manage the project  
**Agreed** the clerk should make an application for a new updated walk brochure for Kings Bromley.
- iii. **Staffs and Stoke on Trent Joint Waste Core Strategy** - the clerk reported that there was a report to the Planning Committee of SCC on 5<sup>th</sup> March updating members on progress with the Joint Waste Core Strategy and the report can be viewed on the SCC website

**3643. SPCA**

- i. **Planning seminar 4/2/09** – the clerk reported that his had been a very poor seminar as the subject matter was not as advertised. She has complained to SCPA and they have offered another seminar at half price for the future. The clerk reported that many clerks were feeling that the quality of training being provided by the SPCA was substandard

**3644. Review of Items for Future Meetings**

- i. **Village Shop**

**3645. Date of Next Meeting**

**Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> April, 2009 – 7.45 pm** at the Village Hall, Alrewas Road, Kings Bromley.

There being no other business the chairman closed the meeting at 9.45 pm

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date 8<sup>th</sup> April, 2009