

KINGS BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the General Meeting held on

Wednesday 13th November 2017 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); S. Browne; C. Cole. Mrs. J. Higgins; I. Pritchard; N. Lee; Mrs. M. Gair. County and Dist. Cllr. M. Tittley. District Cllr. Tom Marshall.

In attendance: Mr. I. Colclough (Clerk). Members of the public present: Ray Griffiths.

Public Session: Mr. Griffiths made mention of the high speeds of cars entering the village and that he had a close escape when one nearly knocked him down as he crossed the Yoxall road. The chairman assured him that the council is doing all it can to decrease traffic speeds generally.

Discussion then took place around whether HS2 representatives should have attended tonight's meeting. It was agreed that Liz Davis ought to be invited to every monthly meeting. Clerk to arrange.

Action: Clerk. Cllr. Marshall said that HS2 Phase 1 met last week and said they too are happy to attend any parish meetings. It was agreed that they should be invited. Cllr. Marshall to send names to the clerk and contact HS2. **Action: Cllr. Marshall.**

1. Apologies and approval of absence.

District Cllr. 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 – HS2.

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 11th October 2017 are a correct record.

These had been distributed previously Cllr. Browne asked that one item is amended – item 4 both he and Cllr. Howard attended the meeting at SCC. With this amendment made it was proposed by Cllr. Browne and seconded by Cllr. Lee that the minutes are 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) CO-OP Bank – changes to terms.

iii) SPCA – AGM 4th December. Placed in circulation file

iv) Letter – Lichfield Diocese – thanks for donation.

v) Letter from SCC re Highways and rights of way – developing a community based approach – passed to Cllr. Lee.

vi) Letter – SCC re Local levy grant funding for small scale flood alleviation schemes. After discussion the clerk was asked to determine from Tim Heminsley at SCC how much it would cost to have all the channels in the village cleaned out and then to look at making a grant claim. **Action: Clerk.**

vii) Letter – LDC re proposed changes to Parish Council local Council Tax Support Grant from 2018/19. This was discussed under item b v below.

viii) NALC – payment of fees to the ICO – placed in circulation file.

- ix) General note – budget for audit – scale of fees 2017-18 to 2021-22. Placed in circulation file.
- x) Email off BT – phone box sale completion notice – passed to Cllr. Lee.
- xi) Email from LDC re delay to annual play inspection. Cllr. Browne asked if this could make the council liable to claims. The clerk said he undertakes frequent visual inspections and this would be enough to satisfy the council’s insurers.

b) Finance.

- i) Financial Statement. As of 26/10/17 - the current account stands at £4,785.22 and the reserve account at £11,983.27
- ii) Payments Received. Bank interest £1.85
- iii) To authorise payments. a) Clerks Salary, expenses and income tax inc. postage stamps when required – total £534.92 b) R. B. Hayward – grass cutting - £243.00 c) PH and C Easter – supply of oak posts £363 plus vat d) Parish On-line subscription £28 plus vat e) Kings Bromley village hall – hall hire - £54.50
It was proposed by Cllr. Gair and seconded by Cllr. S. Browne that the above invoices are paid. All were in favour.
- v) Precept and bid for 2018/19. Up to date figures had been circulated previously along with a note on the impact of any precept increases for next year. The clerk ran through the figures and options. The estimated excess of expenditure over income for the current year, once the plans for the hall improvements are paid, is likely to be around £2,800. This will need to be found from reserves. The clerk said that to recover the loss of the council tax support grant from this year and the fact that LDC will not pay it next, a 5% increase on what the council expected to receive this year would increase a Band D precept contribution by 23.6% or £5.40. This would mean that the council would receive £15,488 in precept. After discussion it was proposed by Cllr. Browne and seconded by Cllr. Gair that the clerk works out the figures based on a 25% increase to Band D properties. All in favour. **Action: Clerk.**

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

Cllr. Marshall said there was nothing to report at this time. Cllr. Browne asked him about homeless care in the district as a property used in the city has closed. This property was for youngsters not homeless. The issue in Lichfield is small compared to many cities but is nevertheless unacceptable.

Cllr. Tittley said that following the consultation on bus services option 1 is that preferred. This means that the County Council will no longer subsidise any buses. It was not known if the 812 service through Kings Bromley is subsidised. Clerk was asked to determine. **Action: Clerk.**

6. To consider new and on-going highway and footpath matters.

a) Highways updates. (i) Transport and Community Forum – weight restriction on A515.

The chairman said he was concerned that the leader of SCC, Cllr. Atkins, had written to Michael Fabricant to say he thought that a weight restriction was not needed. There are still no minutes available following the working party meeting with SCC on 29th September. Yoxall PC has requested a meeting with Richard Rayson and Tim Heminsley but have not sent an invitation to either Kings Bromley or Draycote in the Clay parishes. Alrewas Road is not part of the primary route network and never has been. SCC is currently working on some turn restrictions. **(ii) Request for a speed indicator device (SID).** The working group reported that there are 3 types of device available. One is mains run so cannot be considered. The others are run off battery or solar power. The downside of battery is that it needs changing every regularly whereas solar, if there is sufficient daylight, will run until such time as its battery last (several years). Cost wise solar is very much more expensive being in the region of £10 to £15 thousand pounds. A battery device is around £3,000 with the batteries costing £350. Three sites will be required on each on the main roads entering the village. This will cost £1500. On top of this insurance cover (in case someone was to collide with the device) needs to be provided to a value of £10 million pounds. Grants are available to purchase the device chosen. The parish council can erect the devices but someone will need to move them around to the three locations and this may involve a

vehicle with a trailer and volunteers. Cllr. Lee to issue breakdown of costs and grants ready for the December meeting. **Action: Cllr. N. Lee. (iii) Any other highway issues.** None raised.

b) Footpaths / footways. Ice busters – preparation for forthcoming winter. Cllr. Lee said that he and Mr. Boswell were ready and had the necessary equipment. He reiterated that only certain areas would be treated and only when compact snow and ice has formed. The treatment is saline and it is no use using it on fresh snow as it simply runs off.

7. **To receive an update on HS2.** Cllr. Browne said that on phase 1 HS2 is taking to all villages and will meet with ours on 1/3/18 at the village hall. Cllr. Cole said on phase 2 that HS2 representatives from both phases need to come to the monthly parish meetings. He has replied to Liz Davis following our last meeting. The main issue is the Common Lane access. It may be that a new link road from the A515 / A513 junction will be built. This is the least favoured option by local landowners. Cllr. Cole to draft further response and mail to clerk to pass to Ms. Davis. **Action Cllr. Cole and clerk.** Cllr. Gair said she has a grant claim form to submit to HS2 as monies are available and could be used towards the village hall refurbishment.
8. **To receive updates on (i) Centenary Fields initiative.** Cllr. Higgins said the Diocese has signed the document. Clerk to send to Fields in Trust. Clerk to obtain details of plaque provided and find out when the ceremony can be held. **Action: Cllr. Clerk.**
(iii) Village hall refurbishment. A copy of the artist impression was available along with plans for the building regulations. Cllr. Higgins expressed her disappointment in the artist drawings and thought that they should also have shown the kitchen and toilets. It was suggested that brochures are obtained and used on display boards. Boards are available from The Historians and the working group will arrange a display. Clerk to obtain larger plans. **Action: Clerk.** It was decided to go ahead with the plans and artist drawing but to state that this was only an impression of how the lobby area may look. A suggestion that a planning application to extend the building may be considered at a later date and if funds become available.
9. **To consider options for this year's Christmas tree.**
Cllr. Pritchard is working on this and has no further information just yet.
10. **To consider Councillor reports – for information only.**
Cllrs. Howard and Browne recently met with a lady called Helen Bovey regarding an initiative called transforming the Trent valley landscape. Talk revolved around Manor Park quarry. There will be a further meeting next Monday 13th November at Alrewas. Janet England (LDC) and Matt Griffin (SCC) may also be in attendance. Cllr. Lee offered to attend on behalf of the council. Cllr Higgins said that the Co-Op good causes applications will re-open next April and that she will make an application on behalf of the village hall refurbishment fund.

There being no further business the main meeting closed at 9.38pm.

Signed (Chairman) Date 13th December 2017.