

KINGS BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on
Wednesday, 11th November, 2009 – 7.45 pm
Kings Bromley Village Hall

Present:- Cllr I M P Pritchard (Chair); Cllr S R Browne; Cllr Mrs Gair; Cllr Mrs P Jarman; Cllr G C Seddon; Cllr W A Taylor

In attendance: Mrs S Buxton (Clerk)

Public Session

- **Laybys** – there is a parking restriction on the laybys, but there appear to be lorries parked there in the evening. Parking is now monitored by LDC. KB is a rural village which doesn't get all the services that Lichfield and Burntwood get, but parking is an important issue for the village and the council would like to see LDC take some action. It was reported that Alrewas and Armitage are experiencing similar problems.
- **Bradbury Lane/Lichfield Road corner** – the hedge overhangs the pavement still
- **Quarry developments** – issues of which water is a major one
- **Telephones** – the loss of the telephone service in the village several times recently has been a major concern. People are most upset and frightened by not knowing what is going to happen. This is on the agenda later. Suggestion that if anyone loses internet or a BT line, they should first check with their neighbours to check it is not just their equipment, and then dial 999 immediately.
- **Water related issues:-**
 - a. **A heavy downpour** a couple of weeks ago, concern as the area around Fox Court was awash with water
 - b. **Survey on the Cow Field (Corner of Lichfield Road/Rugeley Road)** – has been undertaken. Believe it has been sold by Hansons to a development company and a survey which took a couple of weeks to take place would not have been done without a reason. This site is outside of the development boundary so residential development would not be allowed without government intervention
 - c. **Floods in 2000** – most of the cow field was flooded along with Leofricsland and the Nursing Home. Need for sand and sand bags. There are issues in Hamstall Ridware which are currently being looked at.
 - d. **Environment Agency-** don't seem to be willing to take the issues seriously and they simply say raise the height of any proposed development
 - e. **Quarry development** – will increase possible effect of water issues as it will have an impact on the water table. There is a very active group in the area fighting these proposals and the county councillors and county council officers are now in agreement that the development is not appropriate in this area and all parties are fighting the government

Would it be possible or justified to have a basic contingency plan in KB – to cover areas such as loss of telephones, loss of electricity, flooding, making provision for the most vulnerable people in the village-

3720 Apologies

Cllr Holland and County Cllr Mrs Eagland
Agreed to accept the apologies of Cllr Holland

3721 Declaration of Interests

Cllr Browne – Land to the rear of the Hollies
 Cllr Mrs Jarman - Changing Lives

3722 Minutes of the last meeting – 14th October, 2009

Agreed that the minutes of the meeting be signed after the addition of the word “building” at the end of Minute 3719.

3723 Report of the Clerk

- i. **SCC Community Footpaths** – the clerk reported grant received and clerk to speak to Graham
- ii. **Unofficial “allotment” Leofric Close** – the clerk had not had an opportunity to go and look at this
***Agreed:** Cllr Pritchard will look at the allotment site before the next meeting*

3731. Finance

- i. **Finance Report to 31st October, 2009**
Agreed to accept the finance report
Agreed the clerk will make arrangements to transfer some of the balance from the current account into the deposit account
- ii. **Payments to be made**
Agreed that the following payments be made:-

<i>Vch/Chq</i>	<i>Payee</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Details</i>	<i>Powers</i>
38/300150	Mrs S Buxton	337.07	Salary	
39/300150	Mrs S Buxton	31.32	Taxable expenses	
39/300151	SCC	73.18	Pension contributions	
39/300152	S Buxton	9.60	Pension contributions	
40/300153	Livens	94.00	Call out to safe	
41/300154	Audit Commission	155.25	Audit fee to 31/3/09	
42/300155	Royal British Legion	20.00	Poppy wreath	
	TOTAL	720.42		

- iii. **Receipts**
None
- iv. **External Audit Report to 31st March, 2009**
 The clerk reported that the External Auditor’s report had been returned and no issues had been raised. The only comment added was a reminder that the council must approve its accounts before 30th June each year in future.
- v. **Budet 2010/2011**

The clerk reminded members that if there were any projects they wished to see considered for inclusion in the budget, they should let her know as soon as possible, so that costings can be done.

3732. Correspondence and Items for Information

- i. **Letter re: call out to Church Clock and possible charge** – it was not clear from the letter at what point the council may incur charges
Agreed the clerk to find out more information from Smiths of Derby on their charging policy for the church clock for the next meeting
- ii. **Best Kept Village Competition**
The judges comments had been received and a copy had been forwarded to Mr Allan Howard.
Agreed that the clerk would put a full copy of the comments on the noticeboard and a brief summary in the parish magazine.
- iii. **Manor Park signs** – the clerk had received a complaint from a resident about a new sign which has been put up adjacent to Wisteria, on Manor Road, on the verge which has been tended by the owner for many years and which she thought belonged to her property. The sign is identical to one put up several months ago on the wall of The Lodge which indicates that you are entering Manor Park. This was discussed by the parish council at some length. The council believes that at some point the entrance to Manor Croft and Wisteria has been changed taking it from Manor Park to Manor Road which has led to confusion over where Manor Park begins, despite common usage for many years. As the road is a private road any dispute on where the boundary lies is a private one between the residents as SCC would have no reason to keep information on private boundaries.
Agreed that the council did not feel there was any action they could take with regards to the sign as it was a private sign on private land
- iv. **Review of Clerk's log**
Nothing to report

3733. Highways and Signs

- i. **Community Gangs** – not items to report
- ii. **Flooding and flood defences**- the clerk reminded the council that some years ago, LDC contacted the parish council about the appointment of a Flood Warden and the possibility of having sand bags in the village, but as there was no one willing to take on this role, no further action was taken. Cllr Browne commented that sand bags are rather dated now and grids are now placed in front of doorways.
Agreed that Cllr Browne will make some enquiries about locations locally where grids are used
- iii. **30 mph stickers for bins/ A Boards** - Cllr Pritchard to report on other parishes who use A Boards. Get a price, but note lots of issues. Road by Waitrose
- iv. **Crawley Lane blocked gulleys Crawley Lodge to Woodgate** - the clerk has been unable to find out how these were maintained before, but will speak to SCC
- v. **Flashing speed signs** – Cllr Eagland had sent a report that these flashing signs are used as a temporary measure only and that the council

must remember there are already other signs in the village. She had provided a contact at SCC for further information

Agreed the clerk would obtain further information from SCC before the next meeting

vi. **30 mph restriction at junction of Wood End Lane and A515 for railway works** – this appears to have been lifted

vii. **Overgrown trees obscuring signs and footpaths**

Agreed the clerk would discuss this with SCC before the next meeting and write to the owners of the Gables with regards to the specific problems on the corner of Bradbury Lane/Lichfield Road

viii. **Parking** – the problem of lorries parking on the laybys in excess of that permitted by the waiting order were discussed at length

Agreed the clerk to contact LDC and express concern re: the monitoring of parking as there is no point in having a parking order which is being abused and no one taking enforcement action

3734. Trees

i. **Work to be done** – the clerk reported that the work is now scheduled for completion on 10th/11th December 2009

ii. **Lime Tree** – Mr Hare from LDC had advised the clerk to get Mr Harrison to contact him regarding any problem he felt the tree may be causing on his property rather than investigating himself, as by simply carrying out an exploratory dig, he could damage the tree

iii. **Hedges in Leofric Close** – these will done by Acme Tree Services at the same time as the other tree works and all as part of the two day rate agreed

3735. Land to the Rear of the Hollies

Letter has been received from Mr Michael Fabricant regarding Mr Pitchford's request to the parish council to allow access over parish council land to lay the utilities to the new property at the rear of the Hollies. The parish council has discussed this on two previous occasions. Firstly, when an offer of £20,000 was offered for access, which the council decided to refuse following extensive discussion and consultation with residents. Secondly, when a request to lay services only under parish council land was made. The council has the same concerns regarding the situation - safeguarding of parish assets, setting a precedence, maintenance, length of time to undertake the work and the fact this should have been resolved pre planning application

Agreed that the council would uphold their earlier decisions to not allow access over its land to lay utilities

3736. Play equipment

i. **Playground Designs** - to consider designs as circulated at last meeting

Agreed to carry this forward to the next meeting

ii. **Pre-School Proposals** – to consider the Pre School proposals along side the parish council proposals. There has been an indication that the Pre School has received a grant of £25,00 for the project, but this has still to be confirmed in writing. The Pre School intend to make a presentation to both the Village Hall Management Committee and the parish Council

Agreed to invite the Pre-School to attend the next meeting to up date the parish council on their plans, to enable the parish council to then progress their project in an appropriate manner

3737. Village Hall

Cllr Mrs Jarman circulated some available dates for a Community Meeting of interested parties with the Community Council of Staffordshire to discuss the future of the Village Hall

Agreed that the meeting would be held on 22nd January, 2010 and that Mrs Jarman will issue the invitations to everyone as previously discussed.

Cllr Browne reported that although he was looking after the physical building there is a team of 5 to 7 people to who are keeping the village hall running, and he tabled the rules by which this group was operatinb

3738. Telephone Disruption due to cable thefts

Emergency information had been put on the council noticeboards and this would be repeated if the situation arose again.

A resident had requested that the council write to BT regarding the problems and the associated disruption

Agreed to invite a representative from BT to attend to a parish council meeting to discuss the situation as a whole and what steps are being taken to prevent re-occurrences of the incidents.

3739. Social Services – Changing Lives

The transport is still far from satisfactory and no outings are taking place, but a real effort is being made at the centre to provide good provision for the users

3740. Lichfield District Council

Nothing to report

3741. Staffordshire County Council

i. **Neighbourhood Highways Teams**

Agreed the clerk would investigate this item and report to the next meeting

3742. SPCA

i. **Lichfield Area Meeting** – no-one from the parish council had attended as the meeting had not been formally advertised.

ii. **President** – the clerk reported that Mary Booth has been elected President of the SPCA

3743. Review of Items for Future Meetings

i. **Health and Safety Risk Assessments**

ii. **Health and Safety First Aid kit**

iii. **Review/introduction of council policies**

iv. **Manhole Covers Chamberlain Close**

v. **Water issues**

vi. **Christmas tree**

vii. **MP Bunds**

3744. Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday, 9th December, 2009, 7.45 pm at the Village Hall, Alrewas Road,
Kings Bromley.

There being no other business the chairman closed the meeting at 9.10 pm