

KINGS BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the General Meeting held on

Wednesday 8th August 2018 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; C. Cole; S. Browne; N. Lee;
I. Pritchard; N. Crawley. County and Dist. Cllr. M. Tittley; District Cllr. T. Marshall.

In attendance: Mr. I. Colclough (Clerk).

Public Session: No members of the public were present.

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.

Cllrs. S. Browne on item 6 – 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 July 2018 are a correct record.

These had been distributed previously. One error was identified – item 12 should have read 3 quotes not 2. With this amendment made and initialled by the chairman, it was proposed by Cllr. Lee and seconded by Cllr. Cole that the minutes are signed as a true record. All were in favour.

4. Clerks Report.

a) To consider correspondence received.

- i) SPCA news – several issues. Placed in circulation file.
- ii) Letter from the Community Council of Staffs regarding an extraordinary general meeting. No one was able to attend.
- iii) Email regarding the transformation of Staffs library service. The clerk read this out and Cllr. Tittley said that the new system, with volunteers manning the libraries, was working very well and some improvements had been made.
- iv) Email from Cllr. Pritchard regarding Call for Evidence – item 11 below.

b) Finance.

- i) Financial Statement. As of 26/7/18 - the current account stands at £15,441.56 and the reserve account at £9,234.92.
- ii) Payments Received. None.
- iii) To authorise payments. a) Clerks Salary, expenses and income tax inc. any postage stamps – total £535.91 b) R. B. Hayward – grass cutting - £55.00. c) Donations to KB PCC £250.00 (church yard maintenance) KB Gardening Guild (war memorial garden) - £150.00 and KB Village Hall (village hall borders) - £55.00. These donations were proposed by Cllr. Gair and seconded by Cllr. Browne. All were in favour d) N. Lee – John Taylor School – parish council donation to prize - £25.00. It was proposed by Cllr. Gair and seconded by Cllr. Cole that the above invoices are paid. All were in favour.
- iv) To consider the council position with regards to entering into a service level agreement with SCC regarding Data Protection services. The clerk said he awaited further guidance on this issue and would report to the next meeting.

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

Cllr. Marshall said that the Friarsgate development would not now go ahead in its current format but would be renamed the Birmingham Road site. There will be a press release at the end of the month. Cllr. Tittley thought the site must be developed and occupied by individual high end traders. Cllr. Marshall said that LDC had done all they could to make the original proposal work but they now have a blank canvass on a very marketable site which may or may not have retail units. He has recently met with a local resident and others including the LDC tree officer, to discuss tree issues on Manor Park. Many ideas were forthcoming and the situation is on-going. He will keep the parish council updated on progress.

Cllr. Gair commented that she thought his letter regarding HS2, recently sent to Michael Gove MP was very good.

Cllr. Tittley said he continues to lobby regarding the weight restriction issue.

The chairman thanked both Councillors for their reports.

6. **To receive an update on HS2.**

Cllr. Browne said that on phase 1 he has requested a copy of the up to date drawings. He will then request a meeting with SCC (Sarah Mallen) to discuss the effect on local lanes. He will also be asking for a further meeting with Tahir Ahmed. Cllr. Cole asked if he could be involved.

Cllr Cole reported that he had had a reply from Michael Fabricant MP to his recent letter which he read out. The Parish Council expressed disappointment at the contents and agreed that Cllr Cole should write back to him to let him know the Parish Council views. Cllr. Tittley thought that as Staffordshire County Council and Michael Fabricant were appearing to take a back seat, dialogue with Balfour Beatty - Vinci may be more productive. Cllr Cole referred to the Second Special Report of the Parliamentary Select Committee. There was no comment on the key issue of the closure of Common Lane, but it is expected that it would be subject to further 'Additional Provisions'. Staffordshire County Council's main interest in this is to ensure the safety of pupils, staff and parents at the Primary School in Crawley Lane. A letter had been received from Oliver Bayne, Director of Hybrid Bill Delivery for HS2 indicating that residents would receive letters if more land would be required for the construction of the line. Some landowners had already received letters and Cllr. Cole and John Sadler were providing support where necessary. An e-mail had been received from a resident in Victoria Meadow concerning the electricity pylons running to the north of the village. Cllr Cole will respond to him when he has further information. The drop-in sessions went well but nothing new was revealed though lots of leaflets were handed out.

7. **To consider new and on-going highway and footpath matters.**

a) **Highways updates.**

Responsibility for wall fronting Lichfield Road – report from Dist. Cllr. T. Marshall. He said that he had asked a staff member from building control to look at the wall. The report was that it was felt the wall was sound but required regular monitoring. The mortar was coming out on the lower joints. The chairman asked if the parish council could have a copy of the report. Cllr. Marshall will organise. **Action: Dist. Cllr. Marshall.**

Cllrs. Howard and Browne met with SCC (Clive Thompson) and other parish representatives. A full report is available upon request to Cllr. Howard.

Cllr. Tittley said he thought that HS2 was affecting decisions to do with weight restrictions on all County 'A' roads. He thought that Mr. Thompson had capitulated to HS2 and that SCC do not want to place a limit on Wood End Lane as this will at some time in the future be made up to an 'A' road and the A513 Alrewas Road downgraded. He said to upgrade Wood End Lane first is clearly the best option. There is a further meeting with the Transport and Community Forum tomorrow when SCC will be asked to look at the A51 to A38 link options. Cllr. Howard informed the meeting that the parish council has now 'adopted', from SCC Highways, seven milestones in the parish and these will cost approximately £35 per year to maintain.

b) **Footpaths / footway issues if any.** None raised.

Cllr. Browne said that the raised ironwork in Church Lane had been attended to and added that several footways around the village were in a very poor state of repair. The clerk was asked to contact SCC Highways with a view to having them inspected again. **Action: Clerk.** Cllr. Gair again raised the question of lorries parking up overnight in the lay bys to the north of the village and said that the police need to enforce the no overnight parking orders. Cllr.

Tittley said an email to Chief Inspector Mark Smith should be sent. Clerk to contact. **Action: Clerk.**

The clerk said he had written to the Nursing Home in Manor Road regarding the siting of the dog waste bin. No reply had been received so he was asked to order the bin from LDC.

Action: Clerk.

8. **To consider options to improve security around the parish. (a) SmartWater update.** 29 had taken up the offer so far with more replies expected. It was suggested that a deadline date is set just before the next parish council meeting. Clerk to post on notice boards, web site and parish magazine. **Action: Clerk. (b) CCTV / ANPR.** Cllr. Tittley is due to meet with Chief Insp. Smith to look at the feasibility. Grants are now available again. Cllr. Tittley will deal with this. **Action: Cllr. Tittley.**
9. **Centenary Fields dedication ceremony.**
Cllr. Howard said this will be on the 8th September at 11am. The plaque has not yet been received but he does have a large box of other items such as flags, rugby balls, medals etc.
10. **To receive a progress update on the village hall refurbishment project.**
Cllr. Gair said that the first grant application, to HS2 for £50,000 had been made 3 weeks ago. It may take up to 8 weeks before a decision is made. If that fails, then an application to the Big Lottery Fund will be made by Julie Bamber. The stand at the village show was a success though the weather was not good. She thanked the Historians for their help in securing the gazebo in the high winds. There is a possibility of a grant from the Co-op. so far £1,200 has been raised by selling the 'bricks'.
11. **To consider a response to the House of Lords Select Committee – call for evidence on the rural economy.**
Information on this item had been circulated previously. Cllr. Pritchard said he would deal with the response on behalf of the council. This was agreed. **Action: Cllr. Pritchard.**
12. **To nominate a Councillor to sit on the LAG at the school.**
Ex Cllr. Higgins sat on several groups including the Local Area Advisory at the school. The chairman asked Cllr. Crawley if he would be prepared to sit on this advisory group which meets 4 times per year. He agreed to do so. He also said he would join the village hall refurbishment working group as well as taking part in planning meetings. **Actions: Cllr. Crawley.**
13. **To consider Councillor reports – for information only.**
Cllr. Howard said that the Speedwatch initiative was now active again with 5 new recruits being trained but more volunteers required. Five suitable sites had been identified and approved. There are many formalities that need to be adhered to. A second training session will be arranged.
The village received a 'highly commended' in the best kept large village competition. A question was asked why the village was judged in the large village category when last year it was in the small village. Clerk has already asked the Community Council but not had a reply. Cllr. Howard said he was now the only parish councillor with responsibility for the best kept village but was happy to operate on his own.
A new bench has now been installed on the show field and paid for, as agreed, by the parish council. A new plaque was required and this had been purchased by the show committee.

There being no further business the main meeting closed at 9.20pm.

Signed (Chairman) Date 11th September 2018.