

KINGS BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on

Wednesday 12th October 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; I. Pritchard; Mrs. J. Higgins; N. Lee; C. Cole.
County Cllr. Martyn Tittley; District Cllr. T. Marshall

In attendance: Mr. I. Colclough (Clerk). Members of the public present; Mr. B. Stoney; Mrs. A. Lakin; Mr. Amberton.

Public Session: Mrs. Lakin asked if anything could be done to prevent cyclists riding along Lewis's Lane. Several close shaves have occurred when cars back out of driveways. There is some doubt as to whether the path is a footpath or bridleway. Signs are in place to say no cycling or horse riding. Clerk and Cllr. Lee will try to determine status. For discussion at next meeting. **Action: Clerk and Cllr. Lee.** Cllr. Browne suggested taking up the offer from the Woodland Trust for the supply of free trees that could be planted around the village to screen HS2 and any new quarry. It was suggested to contact local landowners to see if they would be interested. Clerk to make enquiries. **Action: Clerk**

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

None.

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 14th September 2016 are a correct record.**

These had been distributed previously. Three corrections were requested - on item 3 Cllr.

Higgins said that line 8 was incomplete and should also read, after 'attend the meeting' 'and would it not have been better to invite the candidate to the next meeting. The chairman said a decision needed to be made tonight as the matter had dragged on'.

Item 6 b) – the action should have been attributed to Cllr. Howard.

Item 7 – Cllr Cox said by email that the line part ... 'an announcement in 3 weeks-time would say' should have read ... 'that the Secretary of State for Transport was due to make a statement and he was hopeful '

It was agreed to amend the minutes as above. With the amendments 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) Letter from Community Council of Staffs re best kept village judge's comments. Clerk to copy and distribute. **Action: Clerk.**

b) Finance.

i) Financial Statement. As of 26/9/16 - the current account stands at £10,121.18 and the reserve account at £19,493.65.

ii) Payments Received. Donation of £5,000 from Cameron Homes.

iii) To authorise payments. a) Clerks Salary, expenses and income tax – total £496.95 b) R B Hayward – grass cutting £414.00.

iv) Cllr. Cole to sign 'Declaration of Acceptance of Office'. Cllr. Cole duly signed and this was witnessed by the chairman and clerk.

Initial:

- v) Audit Outcome 105/16. The audit had been signed off with comments made by the external auditor which the clerk read out. The clerk then asked if there were any questions regarding the end of quarter 2 financial summary. None were forthcoming.

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

County Cllr. Tittley reiterated that SCC has financial problems supporting social care. Cllr. Browne asked if the white roadside lines on Alrewas Road will ever be reinstated. It was thought very unlikely as the county has no spare funds. The lines were never designed to be a 'cycle lane' as the strip was too narrow. Many traffic bollards on Alrewas Road have been knocked over and lay in residents front gardens. Clerk to report to Highways. **Action: Clerk.** District Cllr. Marshall said that LDC management was undergoing a restructuring. There had been robberies locally and offenders had been apprehended. Be aware of scams and bogus officials operating in the area. Clerk does forward the neighbourhood watch emails. The Revenue Support Grants is diminishing year on year and will be zero by 2018 whereupon the District will have to raise its revenues from business rates and monies received from builders when new homes are completed. The building of new houses is a slow process. The Friarsgate development is looking positive and expected to go ahead soon. The District is still awaiting the outcome of the Inspectors report on several large housing developments including the one for 700 homes at Curborough. Cllr. Browne asked if anything was being done with the old cinema in Lichfield. It is likely to be converted to retail units and apartments but its façade will be retained. The chairman thanked the Councillors for their reports.

6. To consider on-going highway and footpath issues.

- a) **Highway Issues. (i) Street Lighting.** Cllr. Tittley said, due to the cost, it was very unlikely that any new lighting would be installed on Lichfield Road. Chairman will speak to Mr O'Dea who raised the query. **Action: Cllr. Howard.**
(ii) Ice Busters. SCC were again asking if the parish wished to be involved in this initiative which means that a volunteer would spray affected areas in busy locations such as outside the school and elderly persons houses. After discussion it was felt that more information is required. Clerk to contact SCC. **Action: Clerk.**
(iii) Weight restriction update. Cllr. Browne met with Messrs Deaville and Thompson of SDCC. They were sympathetic and have decided to create a transport forum. An overnight ban was suggested with lorries prevented from using the local 'A' roads for 3 months from 9pm to 9am. They will investigate this option. It has been agreed by the police that CCTV from a shop in Yoxall can be used to monitor the traffic. The action group is due to meet on 14th November and the parish agreed to pay for the room hire. This was proposed by Cllr. Lee and seconded by Cllr. Browne. All were in favour. The group will take images of lorries on footways and pass these to the police.
- b) **Footpath issues. (i) Lewis's Lane vehicle access.** This had been covered during the public forum.

7. To receive an update on HS2.

Cllr. Browne attended a meeting on 5th October that was to show the route with its various alterations. A meeting on 10th October was held with local land owners. The Action Groups is due to meet again. The new proposal shows the rail on a 17m high embankment but the finished height will depend on other engineering issues. Cllr. Browne and Mr. Saddler are to meet with SCC Highways on 17th to discuss local road alterations including the possible re-alignment of the A515. The council comments on the latest information from HS2 Ltd are required by 7th November. The council gave approval for Cllrs. Browne and Gair to make a response on behalf of the council.

8. To reconsider areas of Councillor Responsibilities.

Cllr. Cole said he would be a representative on the Parish Forum.

9. To receive an update, if any, on the SCC Minerals Plan.

There was no more to report.

10. To receive an update on progress re the adoption of the BT Phone Box by The Book Club.

The Clerk has copied the report from the book club to all Councillors. Cllr. Howard said the council must first buy the box for £1 and he will look into this. **Action: Cllr. Howard.** The book club were asked to submit invoices for their work up to a value of £200 – the amount won by the parish in the best kept village competition.

11. **To consider a reply to the Community Council of Staffs re their annual report.**
There was a feedback form which Cllrs. Howard and Gair will complete. **Action: Cllrs. Gair and Howard.**
Cllr. Tittley left the meeting at 9.20pm
12. **To consider prices to replace a felled tree in Leofric Close.**
This had been undertaken by Cllr. Howard at a cost of £35.00. Council to reimburse. It was reported that an oak tree in Manor Road was dying and that LDC tree officer had been informed. Cherry Trees at the Co-Op site have also been taken down. Cllr. Marshall will speak to Gareth Hares at LDC. **Action: Dist. Cllr. Marshall.**
13. **To consider options for cleaning areas around the War Memorial.**
Cllr. Pritchard said he will arrange to spray the moss. **Action: Cllr. Pritchard.**
14. **To receive an update on the Centenary Fields initiative.**
Cllr. Higgins said the vicar was unwell and she cannot make contact. She will draft a letter to the diocese and forward to the clerk to send. **Action: Cllr. Higgins and Clerk.** Update at next meeting.
15. **To discuss ways to improve web site involvement by / for parishioners.**
Cllr. Howard and Cole have some ideas and the clerk will pass them to Eric Roy for his comments. **Action: Clerk.**
16. **To consider a donation to this year's poppy appeal.**
Cllr. Howard has spoken to Mr. Gilmour and a wreath to the value of £25.00 will be ordered. This was proposed by Cllr. Howard and seconded by Cllr. Higgins. All in favour. Clerk to place order and to inform Mr. Gilmour that Cllr. Browne will carry the wreath on behalf of the parish council. **Action: Clerk.**
17. **To consider registering the local public house as an 'asset of community value'.**
Cllr. Lee said this was an option under current planning legislation and would prevent the site being developed for six months to enable the community to investigate ways to save the asset. Cllr. Pritchard said he would find out if the pub was listed. Cllr. Lee will send details to the clerk. **Actions: Cllrs. Lee and Pritchard.**
18. **To consider purchasing and presenting an award at the John Taylor presentation evening from 2017 onwards.**
It was agreed that this was a good idea and Cllr. Lee will get costings for the next meeting. **Action: Cllr. Lee.**
19. **To consider Councillor report – for information only.**
Cllr. Cole handed around a document with details of the various defibrillators. To be discussed at next meeting.
Cllr. Browne reported that the Graveyard Gang had again won the prestigious gold award given by the Diocese.

There being no further business the main meeting closed at 9.45pm.

Signed (Chairman) Date 9th November 2016.