

KINGS BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the General Meeting held on

Wednesday 13th June 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. District Cllr. T. Marshall; District and County Cllr. M. Tittley.

In attendance: Mr. I. Colclough (Clerk). 4 members of the public were present.

Public Session: Mr Coxon a resident of Manor Park read out a statement concerning his fears for the possible demise of many trees on the Manor Park area. He said that several fir trees had recently been felled and that others were under threat. He said that tree preservation orders were placed on some and that LDC did appear to have their protection under review for which he thanked the council. He added that 28 residents had contacted him about their fears for the trees. He was concerned that the Parish Council are informed of any proposals to fell trees. He had three proposals, firstly that the LDC tree officer, Mr Hare is invited to a future parish council meeting to hear these concerns, secondly that the parish council makes sure it is informed of any applications to fell a tree or trees and lastly a way that makes sure any trees get lasting care. Cllr. Pritchard enlightened the meeting on the role of LDC and Cllr. Marshall said he would contact Mr. Hare and get back to Mr. Coxon. **Action: Cllr. Marshall.** A second resident asked about obtaining better village entrance signs as other villages around the area seem to be doing this. It was pointed out that the parish council would probably have to fund this. Cllr. Tittley said that he may be able to help financially. The clerk was asked to obtain prices for signs and village entrance gates. **Action: Clerk.**

1. Apologies and approval of absence.

Dist. 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 Annual Meeting held on 9th May 2018 are a correct record.

These had been distributed previously. Several errors were identified and noted by the clerk with the minutes being amended. (Public session – Mr Browne should read Brown, item 8 line 1 should say Select Committee at the House, last line should read 'thanked LDC and SCC' and item 15, third from last line should have read Cllr. Lee said 'the Book Club did not want to approach the Show Society'). With these amendments made and initialled by the acting chairman, it was proposed by Cllr. Gair 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 - RBL – Poppy Appeal. Clerk to order Wreath to value of £25. Proposed by Cllr. Lee and seconded by Cllr. Cole. All in favour. **Action: Clerk.**

iii) NALC – Data Protection legislation for public authorities. This will be covered under item 4 b iv.

iv) Email from resident of Manor Road re proposed location of dog waste bin (item 12 on agenda)

- v) Email from Lichfield Diocese re proposed improvements to the village hall. The clerk read out the email which indicated that it was thought there would be no objection to the making of the improvements. Item 11 below.
- vi) Letter – Seafarers UK re flying the Red Ensign. Placed in circulation file.
- vii) Email from resident re tree obstruction visibility. It was felt this to be an issue with Highways as the tree would appear to be on Highway land. Clerk to inform SCC and copy in Cllr. Tittley. **Action: Clerk.**
- viii) Letter – Crossland Construction. This was passed to Cllr. Gair.
- ix) NALC re ICO fees. The clerk said that the fee for this year was now £40.
- x) Email – R B Hayward – to cut back scrub at rear of village hall. A quote of £70 had been received. It was proposed by Cllr. Howard and seconded by Cllr. Gair that this quote be accepted. Clerk to instruct Mr. Hayward. **Action: Clerk**
- xi) Letter from John Taylor School inviting two Councillors to attend their presentation evening. Cllrs Browne and Lee volunteered.
- xii) Email from LDC stating that no election to fill the councillor vacancy was required and that the co-option process could begin. Clerk to place notice on the boards asking for interested residents to write to him in the first instance. **Action: Clerk**
- xiii) Letter from Community Council of Staffs saying that their proposed merger with Support Staffordshire would not go ahead and that they will be investigating other options. The best kept village would continue this year as normal.

b) Finance.

- i) Financial Statement. As of 25/6/18 - the current account stands at £20,639.13 and the reserve account at £9,234.92
- ii) Payments Received. £747.54 vat refund. £2,543.39 CIL from LDC
- iii) To authorise payments. a) Clerks Salary, expenses and income tax inc. any postage stamps – total £530.42 b) R B Hayward – grass cutting - £343 in March and £288 in May c) Benhill Press – brick leaflets - £80 plus vat d) Ian Colclough - £90 – Amazon BKV prizes e) Charles Cole – HS2 expenses – trip to London - £216.18 f) ICO subs - £40 g) KB Village Hall refurbishment fund – from Community Infrastructure Levy off LDC - £2,543.39 h) Benhill Press – SmartWater fliers - £59 plus vat.
It was proposed by Cllr. Gair and seconded by Cllr. Browne 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 reminded the meeting that the new legislation would not apply fully to parishes but he still awaits guidance from SPCA as to what actions may be required and will report once more is known.

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

Cllr. Marshall said that 1000 new homes are to be built in the District close to the Tamworth boundary and that 37,000 will be needed shared between 9 authorities locally. There may be 5000 on the eastern side of the A38. Local Authorities will be getting even less funding from Central Government while HS2 gets extra money. Cllr. Browne asked what the latest position was with the Friarsgate development. This remains unresolved but a definitive answer should be known within the next month. Funding is the main issue.

Cllr. Tittley said he is still making on-going enquiries regarding CCTV and NPR but he felt there was little chance of getting CCTV due to privacy laws. He is liaising with the new Chief Police Inspector about Number Plate Recognition but has no cost estimates yet. Cllr. Browne again asked about mental health issues in the District. There are 4 rough sleepers one of which has been offered a flat but refused to take it. The other 3 have been processed and failed. There is an agreement with the NHS to set up individual plans. At the moment it is confusing because the NHS, District and County Councils are all involved. Regarding the weight restriction – it is hoped that it will be in place by October.

Cllr. Howard added that he and Cllr. Browne will be attending a working party meeting this Friday.

The chairman thanked the Cllrs. for their reports.

6. To receive an update on HS2.

Cllr. Browne said that HS2 will be holding a community forum at the village hall on 24th July. Nearer the time he will arrange for it to be publicised. Cllr. Cole said he had appeared before the Select Committee in London on 10th May. They listened to the case presented. Mr Mould QC on behalf of HS2 informed the Select Committee that although Staffordshire County Council and Kings Bromley Parish Council had welcomed a proposal from HS2 on keeping Common Lane open, he said that it would be closed during the construction period for nearly 4 years. The new proposed alignment for Common Lane would not be built until after construction of the new line was completed. Cllr Cole told the Select Committee that this was the first time this timescale had been mentioned. It was totally unacceptable and the Parish Council would be petitioning against any 'Additional Provisions' that did not meet with the councils expectations. Cllr Cole also said that the Parish Council would be monitoring closely any decisions on the height of the embankment, Borrow Pits, HS2 traffic movements in the Village and relocating satellite sites near Pyford Brook. A strong objection had been lodged as this did not agree with what had been discussed with LDC and SCC. Cllr. Pritchard added that LDC had not presented their petition, this being based on what was thought to have been agreed. Now they must continue to work with other parties to sort out a satisfactory solution. Cllr. Cole continues by saying that the Common Lane issue will mean traffic passing the school and he now feels the process is back to square one. Cllr. Marshall said that the costs are continuing to escalate and that MPs are worried as to where the funding will come from. Cllr. Cole said he was getting lots of support from the parish and will continue to fight. SCC and LDC reserve the right to still petition. Mr Stoney added that he now finds out that the haul road will be built on the opposite side of the track not as originally stated. The whole matter is causing untold physical and mental stress on those affected and not directly affected. Cllr. Lee added that Cllr. Cole and Mr. Saddler had done a fantastic job so far – well done to them and thank you on behalf of the parish. The chairman thanked the Cllrs. for their efforts and report.

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

- a) **Highways updates.** Condition of the wall fronting Lichfield Road. Cllr. Howard said that he felt the wall was dangerous and could collapse at any time. Part has already fallen and now a vehicle has damaged it. He thought that health and safety rules would make someone responsible to ensure it is safe. Cllr. Marshall said he would discuss the matter with someone from building control at LDC and report back. **Action: Dist. Cllr. Marshall.**
- b) **Footpaths / footway issues if any.** None raised.

8. To consider replacing a felled tree at the rear of the village hall.

The clerk said he had been told that the tree had been removed but that in fact it had not as yet. No decision on its replacement could be taken.

9. To consider options to improve security around the parish.

Cllr. Pritchard has had SmartWater leaflets printed and these will be distributed around the parish. Cllr. Howard will arrange the leaflet drop. **Action: Cllr. Howard.** Cllr. Tittley said he had covered the CCTV and NPD issues in his report (above).

10. To decide on The Centenary Fields dedication ceremony date and format.

The plaque will now be ordered and a date for the ceremony was set for Monday 27th August. Clerk to check this date with the Fields in Trust representatives. It was decided to also invite the new Reverend, Jan Higgins, someone from The Diocese, church wardens and any relatives of the soldier killed in WW1. Cllr. Howard will also arrange to purchase an addition plaque. **Action: Cllr. Howard and Clerk.**

11. To receive a progress update on the village hall refurbishment and to decide on the role of the clerk in the project.

Cllr. Gair said a meeting had taken place last Monday to look again at the plans and to incorporate the minor revisions suggested by parishioners one of which was to have no urinals

in the gents but to have 2 cubicles instead. Julie Bamber was present at the meeting. To gain extra storage space it is proposed to utilise the under stairs cupboard. Two 'quotes' have now been submitted and a further builder has been seen and is interested in quoting. Match funding will be sought and a further meeting will be held next week to look at lottery grants and HS2 grants. The forms are long and complex. There is only a four in one chance of getting the funding. The current lease of the hall expires in 2034 and it was felt worth investigating getting this extended for a further 35 years before any improvements are made. Clerk was asked to contact the Diocese. **Action: Clerk.** The clerk said he was concerned about his role in the project and was fearful that if too many people are involved things may be duplicated or overlooked. He said he felt that the working group should undertake the day to day administration but that his involvement should be when formal communication is required, for example when tenders need to be prepared and let. The clerk was asked to send a copy of the councils insurance to the Show Society secretary prior to the use of the stand. It was decided that no tables would be required and that the council would source its own gazebo. **Action: Clerk.**

12. To consider a further recommended location for a dog waste bin in Manor Road.

The clerk had already read out the letter of complaint from a resident regarding the proposed siting of the bin. After discussion it was felt that the bin should not be located as planned and that an alternative site be sought. One was suggested but it was on private land so was thought not practicable. Cllr. Howard offered to look at other locations. **Action: Cllr. Howard,**

13. To consider Councillor reports – for information only.

Cllr. Howard said he attended the best kept village poster prize giving at the school and gave out the gift certificates. He was informed that all names and ages of the children had to be removed from the back of every poster and that had been done now. (Safeguarding rules). The clerk said he had received some emails off the children thanking the council for the gifts. Cllr. Lee reminded the chairman that he had undertaken to do a count of the houses on the two main roads so that 30mph stickers could be purchased for placing on the refuse bins. **Action: Cllr. Howard.**

There being no further business the main meeting closed at 9.37pm.

Signed (Chairman) Date 11th July 2018.