

KINGS BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on
Wednesday, 10th June, 2010 – 7.45 pm
Kings Bromley Village Hall

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

In attendance: Mrs S Buxton (Clerk);

Public Session

Drain by the bus stop on Alrewas Road (just above the shop) – the clerk has reported this to the Highways department and will arrange for it to be chased up **Footpaths** - there was a general discussion on the condition of footpaths and how diversions are notified

Alrewas Road surfacing – outside the Rectory and between the Old Friary and the build out by the Village Hall the tarmac is breaking up in the centre of the road. The clerk will report this

Sliproad in front of 67 – 71 Alrewas Road - there is a large hole where the water lies. The clerk will report this.

Alrewas Road junction with A515 – the white lines are almost completely worn away, can they be redone. The clerk will report this to the Highways department

BT Pole outside Bromley Farmhouse - there is a piece of steel which keeps falling away and could be potentially hazardous to people. The clerk will report this.

The chairman opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. He began by sending the council's best wishes to Mrs Brown for a speedy recovery following surgery and condolences to the clerk following the death of her sister.

3819. Apologies

County Councillor Janet England

3820. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Mrs Jarman – Staffordshire Cares

Cllr Brown – development at the rear of The Hollies

3821. Minutes of the last meeting

Agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 12th May, 2010 be signed as a true and correct record

3822. Report of the Clerk

i. **Village Walk Leaflet** – it was reported that the clerk and Cllrs Mrs Gair and Pritchard had met with Mr Rothery and Mrs Berry re: the village walk leaflet project

Agreed that the council would support a project to reprint all four of the original walk leaflets (amended as necessary) with a contribution of £200 over and above the grant from the Staffordshire Community Footpaths Initiative. It is anticipated the project will cost around £800 and then it is hoped the Horticultural Society will meet the balance of the costs. The reprint will also include new photographs and be in full colour.

It is hoped that supplies can be put in the Church, Royal Oak and at the Village Hall, with a references on the village noticeboards about availability from the parish clerk by post and also that they could be downloaded from the Horticultural Society website

- ii. **Services to the development at the rear of The Hollies** - the clerk has received a letter from BT acknowledging receipt of the council's letter and she has had to forward the relevant correspondence to their Illegal Installations department.

Agreed that the clerk should seek a wayleave for laying cables under parish council land and compensation for doing so without permission
The clerk has also written to British Gas and is currently awaiting a reply

- iii. **8 Vicarage Lane** – following the report at the last meeting over the reduction in the height of the gates to 1 metre, Lichfield District Council felt that their enforcement action had been completed. However, the council was still concerned about the gates opening out on to the road and Lichfield District Council had advised that this was a highway matter, but the parish council felt the county council would not get involved as it is on an unadopted road

Agreed that Cllr Pritchard will discuss this matter with officers at Lichfield District Council

3823. Finance

- i. **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>
57/300195	Mrs S Buxton	365.98	Salary and taxable expenses	
57/300196	SCC	77.51	Pension contributions	
57/300197	S Buxton	4.80	Other expenses	
58/300198	Hardy Signs	111.63	Mole sign Leofric Close	
59/300199	KB Village Hall	155.35	Room hire April 2010 to March 2011	
	TOTAL	715.27		

- ii. **Receipts**

None

- iii. **Future Projects funded from Reserves**

The chairman reminded the council of the need to give some consideration to any projects which could be funded from reserves. The Village Hall heating system was one suggestion

3824. Correspondence

- i. **Parking in Crawley Lane**

There have been complaints from two residents in Crawley Lane about cars parking on verges in such a way that they cannot access their properties fully. This is happening at the beginning and end of school. The clerk has reported this to the police who have been out. The police are going to send a letter to parents at the school and will then do some spot check visits to check that vehicles are not parked in such a way as to cause an obstruction.

- ii. **Chamberlain Close Fence**

There has been an incident where a resident moving out of Chamberlain Close had taken down the fence to access the property and had not replaced it. This has now been reinstated and the problem solved

iii. Review of Correspondence

No items to be discussed

3825. Highways and Signs

i. Neighbourhood Highway Teams

The next week's visit to Kings Bromley is due 16th August, 2010 and the clerk has sent all current items to Staffs County Council for the list. She will add any other items as and when they arise. The County Council has declined to visit a parish council meeting as the officer responsible has 108 parish councils and he could simply not visit everyone so they don't do visits unless there is a particular problem. They are in the process of putting together an information sheet about the role of the Neighbourhood Highway Teams for parish councillors

ii. Drains at Alrewas Road/Yoxall Road Junction

This has been reported to Staffordshire County Council and a job number has been issued for the work to be done

iii. Chamberlain Close manhole covers

One of the utility companies has attended to its covers and it is hoped the other utility company will attend to theirs shortly

iv. Grasscutting of Verges

The clerk reported that Staffordshire County Council only cut rural verges a maximum of 5 times a year which means that at times the verges are longer than would be ideal. Particular areas of concern are one of the triangles at the entrance to The Grange (the other three are kindly looked after by residents); the verge on Yoxall Road adjacent to the Almshouses and verge outside the Rectory

Agreed that the council is very grateful to all those residents who look after verges and small areas of open space

Agreed that the clerk will request the grasscutting contractor to cut the one triangle at the entrance to The Grange, the verge on Yoxall Road and verge outside the Rectory

Agreed the clerk should reply to Mr Howard as he had raised this in his role as Best Kept Village Co-ordinator

v. Crawley Lane Nameplate

This has been missing for sometime and it has been reported to Lichfield District Council who are going to replace it.

Agreed that the clerk would chase Lichfield District Council about its replacement

vi. Drain by the Bus Stop at top of Alrewas Road

The clerk reported that this has been reported to Staffordshire County Council

vii. Alrewas Road Gulleys

These are still problematic as general road debris soon blocks up the holes and then the road sweeping does not actually take the debris away

viii. Verge outside the Rectory

The verge contains a large manhole which is potentially very dangerous. The clerk has already reported this to Staffordshire County Council

3826. Play Equipment

i. Pre School Proposal

The agreement drawn up by Staffordshire County Council to gift the play equipment and its ongoing obligations to the parish council has been looked at by a solicitor from NALC on behalf of the parish council. The agreement actually makes the Pre School and the Parish Council joint grantees and could lead to problems with apportionment in the future. The agreement contains a number of conditions which can be changed during the course of the agreement by the county council and which the grantee is then bound by. The agreement does not make it clear what the terms of clawback are and so the grantees cannot be sure what the liability in the future maybe. The SPCA raised queries regarding the ability of the parish council to insure equipment it does not own and doesn't believe it would be possible to do this and also highlighted problems with equipment being sited on land not owed by the parish council. It suggested that a way forward may be for the parish council to meet with the Pre School and the county council to look at the options. Overall, the advice from NALC is that the parish council should not sign this agreement.

There would be no reason why the Pre School and the parish council could not enter into a separate agreement with regards to inspection of the play equipment.

Agreed that the parish council does not sign this agreement as it makes the Pre School and Parish Council joint grantees, there are issues relating to the nature of the clawback, ownership of land on which equipment will be sited, ability of parish council to insure the equipment.

Agreed that as the grant is being made to the Pre School as a child care provider there is an obligation on them to resolve issues relating to the content of any agreement they are asked to sign. They cannot be the only Pre School who faces problems with regards to future liabilities and should seek advice from their own advisers, Ofsted, insurers or professional bodies.

ii. Parish Council Play Equipment

The chairman informed the meeting that Mrs O'Brian had spoken to him about her offer to fund an item of equipment for older children and he asked councillors to give some consideration to what should be provided prior to the next meeting.

3827. Best Kept Village Competition

Cllr Mrs Gair will be presenting the certificates and book tokens at the school tomorrow.

3828. Oaklands College Development

Mrs Morris, Principal of Oaklands has offered two dates for a visit by parish councillors to Oaklands to look at the current developments and plans.

Agreed that the date of Tuesday, 22nd June, 2010 be accepted and that if possible the visit should take place at 6.30 pm.

The clerk has received a request from one of the neighbours for them to be included in the visit.

Agreed that as the invitation to visit was extended to the parish council it was not fair to ask them to include residents in the visit. However, the residents may like to approach Oaklands direct and ask if they could accompany the parish council on their visit

3829. Staffordshire Cares

Nothing to report

3830. Lichfield District Council

i. Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessement 2010

Agreed that the council should ask Lichfield District Council will be continuing with this project in view of the recent change of government and notify councillors accordingly. If the project is ongoing, councillors should submit their comments to the clerk prior to 23rd June, 2010

ii. Parking on Yoxall Road laybys

Enforcement action is the responsibility of Lichfield District Council and as anyone has a right to stop for up to two hours, any enforcement action needs two visits at least two hours apart and the district council will not meet the costs of the overtime to carry out the visits

Agreed that unfortunately this problem seems to be unsolvable as the district council is not able to provide the resources required for enforcement

3831. Staffordshire County Council

Nothing to report

3832. SPCA

i. Clerk's Training Day – 17th June, 2010

ii. Training Courses 2010/2011

These two items of correspondence were noted

3833. Review of Items for Next Meeting

i. Health and Safety Risk Assessments

ii. Review/introduction of council policies

iii. Pigeons

3834. Date of Next Meeting

Agreed that the next meeting be held at 7.45 pm on Thursday, 14th July, 2010 at the Village Hall, Alrewas Road.

There being no other business, the chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.20 pm