

# KINGS BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the General Meeting held on

**Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> September 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); C. Cole; S. Browne; N. Lee; I. Pritchard; N. Crawley.  
County and Dist. Cllr. M. Tittley; District Cllr. R. Cox.

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

**Public Session:** Two members of the public were present.

1. **Apologies and approval of absence.**  
Mrs. M. Gair (holiday); District Cllr. T. Marshall.
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 8<sup>th</sup> August 2018 are a correct record.**  
These had been distributed previously. It was proposed by Cllr. Cole and seconded by Cllr. Pritchard 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) Email from SPCA regarding the data protection regulations. This will be covered below.
    - iii) Letter from Lichfield Diocese regarding Fields in Trust Ceremony.
    - iv) CC of Staffs – Best kept village competition – judges comments. These had been circulated previously. It was felt that some minor points had been recorded this year and that perhaps there was a desire to give the top award to another village.
    - v) Email from SCC Highways regarding maintenance to local footways. It was stated that some footway work had been undertaken in 2106/17 but that no funds were available for further work at present.
    - vi) Flier – Action on Hearing. Placed in circulation file.
    - vii) CC of Staffs press release informing that the CC of S will be bringing their work to an end after 64 years.
    - viii) Fliers from the Royal British Legion. Placed in circulation file. So that a wreath can be ordered, Cllr. Pritchard passed a note to the chairman with the name of the local organiser.
    - ix) NALC news regarding amendments to model standing orders. Placed in circulation file.
  - b) **Finance.**
    - i) Financial Statement. As of 26/8/18 - the current account stands at £13,797.65 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 £534.11 b) R. B. Hayward – grass cutting - £144.00. c) LDC annual emptying of bins - £717.60 inc. vat d) LDC – new dog bin and emptying - £450.00 inc. vat.

It was proposed by Cllr. Lee 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 had received a 64 page document on the subject from NALC and had then asked the SPCA if they had produced a summary of the document that was applicable to small parishes. Their reply indicated that something would follow but that the ICO had indicated if a parish was making 'some effort' (not defined) then that would suffice. The clerk said he had put in place measures to protect data stored on his laptop and asked that Councillors did the same. He added that the council's files in the cabinet were more at risk as they were currently not secure but felt that there was little in them that would be of use to anyone from a data gathering perspective. Cllr. Pritchard and Cole made mention of data they had recently collected. It was felt that this information was given willingly and once used would be archived and that it was only an issue if it were to be passed onto to a third party for commercial gain.

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

Cllr. Tittley is due to meet with the police on 12<sup>th</sup> October regarding ANPR cameras. The financial state of the County Council remains serious with a deficit of £35m and the possibility of more this year. There is £18m held in reserve. An £80m shortfall is expected in 2 years. The council has to, by law, have a balanced budget. Northant CC has ceased to function and Staffordshire is 8<sup>th</sup> on the list of those in a similar position. The problem is with the geographical extent of the rural counties and the extra cost of social care in these areas. He added that he expects more county council functions to come the way of the lower tier councils.

Cllr. Cox had nothing to add other than he does not know the solution to these financial problems. Cllr. Pritchard added that the District funds will run out in 2020 but that generally LDC is doing well as they do have assets and ideas to raise finances through various initiatives. The chairman thanked both Councillors for their reports.

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

Cllr. Browne said that he was waiting to see the latest phase 1 drawings.

Cllr. Cole he had written and circulated a draft reply to Michael Fabricant MP and would send that off to him soon. He will be chasing Mr. Shar at HS2 regarding the additional provisions as they affect Common Lane. These must be provided before the year end. Bill Cask MP was on the BBC web site saying that 50% of MP's are now against the project. He has had no further communications from him or with SCC (Sarah Mallen).

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

**a) Highways updates.**

Wall fronting Lichfield Road. The clerk said he had obtained the email address of the owner and mailed him with a summary of the report made by LDC. Cllr. Pritchard said he was concerned that the owner may decide to demolish the wall and replace it with something less attractive. This was noted.

Cllr. Howard said that even though the parish was not getting a full weight restriction he felt that what was being proposed - a turn restriction - should be monitored to see if reductions in heavy traffic will be made. It was felt that many of the problems with obtaining the restriction were tied up with HS2 and that decisions over the restrictions were being made with HS2 in mind. The main concern was that these decisions are being made without any consultation with either the parishes or the SCC members. He and Cllr. Browne are to attend a meeting with SCC tomorrow where they will be making this point in the strongest possible terms to Clive Thompson who must be honest with them. The parish council feels extremely let down with the county going back on its promises and not following due processes. Cllr. Tittley reiterated that the situation with Wood End Lane needs to be tackled first and that the new signage (turn restrictions) should be erected in October.

The chairman added that the speedwatch programme had commenced and more training is being organised. Five more volunteers are required. Signs will be erected in 3 months.

**b) Footpaths / footway issues if any.** No monies are available for any further work.

8. **To consider options to improve security around the parish. (a) SmartWater update.** 41 have taken up the offer so far. **(b) ANPR update. This was covered under** Cllr. Tittley's report above.
9. **To receive a report from the Chairman on the Centenary Fields dedication ceremony held on 8<sup>th</sup> September.**  
Cllr. Howard said he now has the plaque and that the field at the rear of the village hall is now protected in perpetuity. This is the first time in the country that any Church of England land has been dedicated. The project in Kings Bromley will be a headline main feature on the Fields in Trust web site in October.
10. **To receive a progress update on the village hall refurbishment project.**  
Cllr. Lee said that the application to the Co-op for a grant had been accepted and that they will send a cheque for an unknown amount. HS2 are looking at the grant application and continue to ask for more information.  
9.13 Dist. Cllr. Cox left the meeting
11. **To consider the CC of Staffs Best Kept Village judges report.**  
This was covered under correspondence above but the chairman added that many people that work had around the village to keep it tidy were very upset by some of the comments. The clerk was asked to order some new 'no dogs' signs for the play area. **Action: Clerk.** He added that there is a dead tree in the wild flower area and that he will remove it and plant a replacement.
12. **To consider Councillor reports – for information only.**  
Cllr. Browne asked about this year's Christmas tree and that the gardening guide has suggested a collection box in the local public house. This was thought a good idea and Cllr. Pritchard offered to action this. **Action: Cllr. Pritchard.** He added that the weekend buses had been cut to 3 on a Saturday with none on a Sunday. He said that the pharmacy hours at the Yoxall surgery had changed and asked the clerk to place notices. **Action: Clerk.**  
Cllr. Crawley said he would be meeting with Heather Bowman (school governors) in the next few days.  
Cllr. Lee asked that 'village entrance gateways' is added to the next agenda. Cllr. Tittley said he had grant funds available for such a project. The clerk was asked to contact SCC Highways to determine who owns the land. **Action: Clerk.**

There being no further business the main meeting closed at 9.24pm.

Signed ..... (Chairman) Date 10<sup>th</sup> October 2018.