

KINGS BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the General Meeting held on

Wednesday 10th October 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. T. Marshall.

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

Public Session: Mary Lee (SCC Highways) and two 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.

Cllr. 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 12th September 2018 are a correct record.

These had been distributed previously. Several typographical errors were identified and noted before being initialled by the chairman. With these amendments made, it was proposed by Cllr. Lee and seconded by Cllr. Cole that the minutes are signed as a true record. All were in favour. Cllr. Pritchard asked if it is legal for him to place a collection box in the local public house to collect towards the parishes Christmas tree. Clerk to seek advice off SPCA. **Action: Clerk.**

Item 7 was taken at this point. Two members of the public left the meeting.

4. Clerks Report.

a) To consider correspondence received.

- i) SPCA news – several issues. Placed in circulation file.
- ii) Letter from Surveillance Camera Commissioner. Placed in circulation file.
- iii) Letter from Royal Mail. Placed in circulation file.
- iv) Letter from Police regarding Remembrance Sunday parades. Passed to Cllr. Howard.

b) Finance.

- i) Financial Statement. As of 26/9/18 - the current account stands at £11,871.94 and the reserve account at £9,234.92.(as of August)
- ii) Payments Received. None.
- iii) To authorise payments. a) Clerks Salary, expenses and income tax inc. any postage stamps – total £530.07 b) R. B. Hayward – grass cutting - £432.00. c) I. Colclough – dog signs - £5.96 inc. vat d) SPCA – Councillor training - £20.00 e) Smartwater - £516 inc. vat f) Hall Hire - £29.50. It was proposed by Cllr. Gair and seconded by Cllr. Browne that the above invoices are paid. All were in favour.
The clerk asked if there were any questions on the end of quarter 2 accounts summary which had been circulated previously. None were forthcoming. Cllr. Gair had undertaken a routine check and found all to be in order. The projected year-end balance is around £3,900. It was suggested this could be used to offset the cost of the village entrance gateways.
- iv) Grass cutting tender for 2019 – additional areas. The clerk said the tender was due to be renewed ready for next year and asked Councillors to consider any additional areas that might be added to the schedule. An item will appear on next month's agenda.
Action: All Cllrs. The SPCA had asked councils to inform them of any additional duties and cost where the work of SCC is being take over. The clerk was asked to make a reply

stating that the parish council will be looking after the milestones and possibly additional grass areas. The clerk said the cost of this will be £1 per m2. **Action: Clerk.** He was also asked to contact SCC to find out what other services the parish could undertake.

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

Cllr. Tittley had covered most of his report in the various items on this agenda. He mentioned ANPR and said that he is due to meet with the police to discuss this on Friday. He added that the Surveillance Commission is not keen.

Cllr. Marshall reiterated that the Friarsgate project will not now go ahead. The development will be known as the Birmingham Road site. A working group has been formed to meet with various bodies and he is the chairman of that group. He said that progress needs to be made quickly. He added that he attended the Conservative Party conference in Birmingham and found that there are many senior politicians who remain in favour of scrapping HS2. The chairman thanked the Councillors for their reports and contributions.

6. To receive an update on HS2.

Cllr. Browne said that he has not seen any new drawing yet. Balfour Beatty is the new contractor and he has opened dialect with them. The most important item for discussion will be Wood End Lane. The next meeting is on 8th January next year. Cllr. Cole said that he still waited on the additional provisions for phase 2 and expects these later this year.

7. To consider new and on-going highway and footpath matters. (This item was taken after 3 above)

a) **Highways updates. (i) weight restriction.** Work had started on the installation of the signs but stopped unexpectedly. Cllr. Tittley said that the 'situation was developing' and this will delay things for 2 weeks. He could not say what those issues were. The chairman said he had written to SCC on 13th September about the lack of consultation but had no reply. He wrote again on 27th September and was told he would receive a reply soon but still has heard nothing. It appears that discussions over the restriction were made in private with no consultation. **(ii) Speedwatch.** This initiative is working and the volunteers will be out and about tomorrow on the A515. Volunteers are allowed to note the registration numbers of lorries. **(iii) Entrance Gateways.** Cllrs. Lee and Cole met with Mary Lee from SCC to look at possible locations for the gates. It was suggested that they are positioned near to the 40mph signs as the verges were highway land. This was agreed. Cllrs. Lee and Cole will meet again to work out costing and report to the next meeting. **Action: Cllrs. Lee and Cole.** Cllr. Tittley said he may have grant money available next year. A question was raised about the condition of some village signs with letters missing. Cllr. Marshall undertook to see if LDC were responsible for them. **Action: Dist. Cllr. Marshall. (iv) Subsidised transport scheme following withdrawal of support from Staffs CC.**

Mrs. Pollard, the voluntary car scheme co-ordinator was present and told the meeting that Staffs County Council had informed her that they would be withdrawing their support. This will mean the loss of £75 pa. The scheme is open to any resident that cannot access transport to attend the doctors, dentist, and hospital. There are currently 8 volunteers drivers but more are required. Two Councillors then volunteered their services. The demand fluctuates from month to month with last month seeing 17 trips. Users pay the drivers directly. She currently has enough funds to run the service for 2 more years. After discussion it was decided to advertise the service and to ask for more volunteers. Clerk to organise.

Action: Clerk. Cllr. Tittley asked that he is emailed so he can approach SCC to see if they will reconsider. The chairman thought that perhaps the parish council could take responsibility for the service. He will set up a working group with Mrs. Pollard and Cllrs. Browne and Gair and report to a future council meeting. Cllr. Marshall said he thought this a commendable scheme and offered his services as a driver.

Cllr. Browne then updated the meeting regarding the local bus service. There had been an issue with the closure of the road (Town Hill) in Yoxall and the buses had been suspended. After much negotiation Midland Class are now to use an alternative route so the service will resume.

b) Footpaths / footway issues if any. Regarding the wall on Lichfield Road, the clerk said he had received and circulated an email from the land owner's agent stating that maintenance work will be undertaken after an assessment is done.

8. **To consider options to improve security around the parish. (a) SmartWater update.** Cllr. Pritchard has been looking at suitable signage to inform that the village is protected. He will obtain costings and report to the next meeting. **Action: Cllr. Pritchard. (b) ANPR update. This was covered under** Cllr. Tittley's report above.
9. **To receive a progress update on the village hall refurbishment project.**
The clerk said he had received a phone call this evening from Groundworks UK (HS2) saying that the bid for grant funding has been approved subject to conditions. Further information would be available tomorrow. Clerk to liaise with the working group. **Action: Clerk.**
10. **Royal British Legion – wreath for Remembrance Day service.**
Cllr. Howard said this had been ordered. Cllr. Tittley is unable to attend and asked if a parish Councillor could lay the wreath on his behalf. This was agreed.
11. **To consider Councillor reports – for information only.**
Cllr. Howard informed the meeting that parishioner and husband of an ex Councillor, Mr. Graham Rothery, has passed away recently. The clerk was asked to write to Mrs. Rothery expressing the council's condolences. **Action: Clerk.** He continued by mentioning that a grant was available to purchase more play equipment from a fund set up through Fields in Trust. It was agreed to make an application. Cllr. Howard will administer through the Historians. This was agreed. **Action: Cllr. Howard.** Cllr. Browne said that the bus service was temporarily lost due to the closure of Town Hill in Yoxall but, after negotiation with Midland Classic an alternative route had been identified and the service resumed. The Councillors thanked Cllr. Browne for this. Cllr. Crawley said he is due to attend the next LAG meeting shortly.

There being no further business the main meeting closed at 9.30pm.

Signed (Chairman) Date 14th November 2018.