

KINGS BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the General Meeting held on

Wednesday 13th February 2019 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); I. Pritchard; C. Cole; N. Crawley; S. Browne; Mrs. M. Gair. County and Dist. Cllr. M. Tittley; District Cllr. T. Marshall.

In attendance: Mr. I. Colclough (Clerk) was unwell so the content of the meeting was recorded electronically before being passed to the clerk subsequently for writing of the hard copy record.

Public Session: Three members of the public present. The chairman informed the public that they may be asked to leave once item 10 is discussed.

A question was asked regarding responsibility for HS2 contractors who are making a mess on the verge and road as they enter fields from A515. It was suggested that pictures are taken. Cllr. Tittley said he will take these issues up with SCC highways. **Action: Cllr. Tittley.**

1. **Apologies and approval of absence.**
Ian Colclough (Parish Clerk – unwell).
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.
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 9th January 2019 are a correct record.**
These had been distributed previously. Item 4 had the incorrect referencing numbers – these were amended by the chairman. With the amendment made, 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) Email with grass cutting quote off Mr. Hayward. This was read out by the chairman.
 - iii) Letter of the Diocese of Lichfield re the village hall work. This was read out by the chairman who said that a new lease will be created in due course. **Action: Cllr. Howard.**
 - iv) Letter from Eric Roy re web hosting and charges. This was read out by the chairman. There was also a copy of the web site statistics for January which showed around 700 hits. A discussion took place around the new email facility. It was felt that it was too cumbersome and it was proposed by Cllr. Browne and seconded by Cllr. Crawley that the system is dropped and the council reverts back to the old system of personal emails. All were in favour. The chairman said that any new councillors may wish to revert back again after the elections.
 - v) NALC information re new pay scales for clerks. This was passed to Cllr. Gair who said the subject will be discussed in camera at the next meeting.
 - vi) Letter re public sector web site accessibility. More information on this will follow.
 - b) **Finance.**
 - i) Financial Statement. As of 25/1/19 - the current account stands at £11,336.75 and the reserve account £9,236.37.
 - ii) Payments Received. £280.00 Village Hall contribution to grass cutting.
 - iii) To authorise payments. a) Clerks Salary, expenses and income tax inc. any postage stamps – total £552.27 b) CCC Finance – play equipment deposit - £598.70 c) Eric Roy – web hosting and new email facility - £175.00

It was proposed by Cllr. Crawley and seconded by Cllr. Gair that the above invoices are paid. All were in favour. Regarding the new play equipment, the chairman said that installation would be on 26th February with a launch date of 2nd March. Everyone is invited to attend from 2pm. There will be poems, choir and displays by The Historians followed by turf cutting. Big Ideas and Motherhood Loss will be present. A bench is to be installed at no cost to the Council. However, a small amount will be required for the liner and chippings. Teas will be provided afterwards by the WI.

iv) Grass cutting tender update. The chairman said that tender deadline date was 22nd February and that a decision on who to appoint would be made at the March meeting.

vii) Report from Mr. Toplis - VAT advisor. The chairman said that no further information was available at this time however, Julie Bamber had produced a document, provided by a village hall organisation, suggesting that she should speak directly to HMRC which she has done.

vi) National revision of clerks pay scales. This was covered under correspondence above and will be added to the March agenda.

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

District Cllr. Marshall said that a working group was looking at the Birmingham Road site redevelopment. There will be a public consultation through the LDC web site along with two events. They have a local expert involved. The development will be done in phases and will include retail and residential. Cllr. Browne said that the parish does not get the local papers and asked if details could be sent to the clerk. The police station is to be demolished once planning approval goes through. There will be a coach park.

Cllr. N. Crawley asked if there was any news on old Marks & Spencer site. Cllr. Pritchard said a new grocer may take it on. Regarding the old cinema, 3 retail units and apartments at rear are proposed. Cllr. Howard said he had heard that a planning application will be made to build houses on land at the rear of the ex-council homes on Alrewas Road. Cllr. Marshall confirmed that an outline application had been received and that the parish council will get notification in due course. The reference number is 19/00191/OUT – it is for 57 houses with 2 existing to be taken down to give access.

Cllr. Browne thanked LDC for creating centres for homeless people.

The chairman thanked Cllr. Marshall for his report.

Cllr. Tittley said he would contribute as items occur later in the meeting.

6. To receive an update on HS2.

Cllr. Browne said that there was a meeting with Liz Davis from HS2 and Tahir Ahmed from the main Contractor for Phase 1 - Balfour Beattie Vinci. Unfortunately, the newly appointed Liaison Manager for Phase 1, Chris Humphreys, was unable to attend. Items discussed included the widening of Wood End Lane and improvements to the Hilliards Cross road junction onto the A38. Tahir Ahmed outlined the plans for Wood End Lane as far as Phase 1 was concerned but said that changes to the Hilliards Cross junction was outside his remit. Cllr Tittley said that Balfour Beatty had three plans for Wood End Lane.

Cllr. Cole up-dated the meeting on the documentation received from HS2 on 'Additional Provisions' for Phase 2. A meeting of the HS2 Working Group was being arranged to go through these documents to agree plans with local residents, landowners, businesses and the school on future actions, which was likely to include a further Appeal to the House of Commons Select Committee on the closure of Common Lane during the construction phase. Appeals are required to be lodged by 13.00hrs on 15th March. Cllr Pritchard said that he would take any information forward to the LDC Cabinet Meeting on 12th March.

Item 10 was taken at this point. The public and Cllr. Marshall left the meeting.

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

a) Highways updates. (i) Weight restriction. Cllr. Tittley said that the restrictions would take effect from 26th February. There will be a need to monitor lorry movements. A question was asked as to whether haulage companies had been told – yes, this has been done by Tim Hemminsley at SCC. As a council it can report any lorries seen breaking the restriction. The

police will be out on motorcycles monitoring the situation and the Speedwatch group can take photos of offenders and submit them to the police.

(ii) Entrance Gateways. Cllrs .Lee and Howard have attended at Longdon to see their set up which looks impressive. They propose that the Kings Bromley gateways are similar – plastic and in white. Each gateway will have a village name sign, speed limit and a ‘please drive carefully’ plate attached. All three approaches to the village will be covered with gateways by the 40mph signs on Alrewas Road and Lichfield Road and by the 30mph sign on Yoxall Road. The recommendation put forward was proposed by Cllr. Howard and seconded by Cllr. Browne. All were in favour. Mary Lee at SCC needs to be consulted re costs and erection details. **Action: Cllr. Howard.** Regarding Speedwatch, Cllr. Howard said that signs can now be put up and they are 20 by 15 ins. Three signs are needed at £20 each. For Amey to erect them it will cost £150 to £200 per sign. With this in mind, it was agreed that the signs will be ordered and the erection of them discussed later.

b) Footpaths / footway issues if any. None reported.

8. **To consider options to improve security around the parish - ANPR update.** Cllr. Tittley said that he has met with the police and that they were going to do a site visit in the village to determine where the ANPR site(s) should be.
9. **To consider Councillor reports – for information only.**
Cllr. Cole said the clerk had written to some Alrewas Road residents about them parking on verges. One reply had been received but on the whole the problem had improved and cars were being left on the road. Cllr. Crawley asked if there are any plans to re build the wall on Lichfield Road. This is on-going and the council is in touch with the owner but it is felt he will not do anything while the HS2 roundabout project is ‘on the table’.
10. **To receive a progress update on the Village hall refurbishment project.**
The chairman said that the council needs to approve the selected successful tenderer as put forward and recommended by the working group. Cllr. Crawley said the working group had meet with and interviewed three contractors and each was asked the same set of questions. One had suggested improvements to the layout and produced a revised plan. This had been circulated to the other tenderers so there was a direct comparison. The lowest two where then asked re quoted. There was a clear winner, RJK from Alrewas. The working group then met with RJK and Julie Bamber. It was proposed by Cllr. Crawley and seconded by Cllr. Gair that RJK are appointed. All were in favour.
The proposed start date is 25th March. A meeting to go over the final details has been held and the builder has responded this evening. HS2 Groundwork forms have been completed and will be passed to the clerk to send off. **Action: Clerk.** There will be a retention and penalty clause. Cllr. Howard asked about VAT and said that if the council is unable to claim this back then he estimates that around £5,000 will have to come from parish council reserves. Cllr. Gair said that a separate grant application will be required to decorate the main hall. It was agreed that a press announcement can be made. Clerk to place on web site. **Action: Clerk.** The work is scheduled to last 8 weeks and it may be necessary to move the polling station to the school. RJK will be attending on 2nd March with copies of the new drawings. Material choices will be left to the village hall group and Julie Bamber to decide.

There being no further business the main meeting closed at 9.35pm.

Signed (Chairman) Date 13th March 2019.