

KINGS BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on
Wednesday 8^h July 2020 commencing at 7.35pm.

**Due to the Coronavirus outbreak this meeting was held remotely
using Internet based software.**

Note – corrections to these minutes will be recorded in the minutes for the following month.

Present: Cllrs. A. Howard (chairman); C. Cole; N. Crawley; S. Browne; J. Burkinshaw;
Mrs. G. Pitchford. Dist. Cllrs. R. Cox. T. Marshall. N. Binney.

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

Public Session: Two members of the public were present at the 'remote' meeting. (One joining the meeting at 8pm)

Forum. No members of the public wished to speak at this point.

1. **Apologies and approval of absence.**
Mrs. J. Higgins (holiday)
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. 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 Remote General Meeting held on 10th June 2020 are a correct record.**
These had been distributed previously. It was proposed and seconded that the minutes are signed as a true record. All were in favour. The chairman signed the minutes and will return them by post to the Clerk. **Action: Cllr. Howard.**
4. **Clerks Report.**
 - a) **To consider correspondence received.**
 - i) SPCA news – several issues. Placed in circulation file.
 - b) **Finance.**
 - i) Financial Statement. Current a/c £21,748.91 as of 26/6. Reserve a/c £9,269.60 as of 26/5. The end of quarter accounts summary had been distributed previously to Councillors. The clerk asked if there were any questions on the figures as presented. Cllr. Browne asked about the large reserves that the council seem to be accumulating. The clerk said that an item is on the November / December agenda each year asking for Councillors to consider capital projects for the following year.
 - ii) Payments Received. Grant from Groundworks for £2,634. VAT refund of £733.92.
 - iii) To authorise payments. 1. Clerks net salary, income tax, expenses and postage costs - £547.01 .2. Perennial Landscapes – grass cutting - £271.72 inc. vat. .3. LDC – Bin emptying - £885.60 inc. vat .4. CPRE – subscription - £36.00 .5. SCC – purchase of new speed gun - £229.00

Cheques had been issued for signing in advance of the meeting to Cllrs. Howard and Burkinshaw. To be returned by post to the clerk.

It was proposed and seconded that the above invoices are paid and this action was acceptable. All were in favour.

- iv) Clerks salary 2020/21. No further information is currently available. Once a settlement is made it will be backdated to 1st April.
- v) Re-glazing of BT phone box – estimated at £882 inc. vat and delivery. After discussion the chairman said he would contact a local person who said he could do the work for less than this amount. **Action: Cllr. Howard.**
- vi) To review the Council's working practices. The clerk said that Cllr. Higgins had made some suggestions as to how the council could operate in a more effective manner. The clerk had listed these suggestions in the summons to attend along with his comment. After consideration the councillors felt that the council was operating in a satisfactory manner and that there was no need to change anything at this time.
- vii) Use of the Village Hall and cleaning. The clerk said he has received a form from Julie Bamber asking about future use of the hall with a view to its possible re opening. However, it did say that any users will be responsible for pre and after cleaning to meet current guidelines on coronavirus. The chairman said that if council is allowed to meet face to face in future then he would arrange the necessary cleaning. Clerk will keep council informed of any lifting of restrictions. **Action: Clerk.** The clerk has completed a risk assessment for the play area and produced a suitable notice based on a template from another council. This will be posted on site soon. A question was asked about hand sanitising. After discussion it was decided that a suitable hand sanitising point should be provided. Clerk to arrange. **Action: Clerk.**

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

A question was asked about the whereabouts of County Cllr. Tittley. Dist. Cllr. Cox said that he was well but unwilling to join in with 'Zoom' meetings as it was felt that they were not secure enough. Dist. Cllr. Marshall said that LDC had been issuing grants to businesses following the pandemic. The application for 57 homes off Alrewas Road is still on-going but he expects a decision by the end of the week. More information was required from the developer. Dist. Cllr. Cox said that the LDC Proms in the Park had been cancelled. Cllr. Browne asked where LDC waste was processed. It is sent to a recycling centre in Aldridge but after that he did not know. He will find out and report.

6. To consider the latest HS2 issues and receive reports from Councillors.

Cllr. Cole said there had been a very interesting 'Zoom' meeting held with HS2 looking at archaeological surveys. Parishioner, Mr. Stoney commented that the road link from Crawley Lane to the A513 was not high on HS2's agenda. They are more focused at the moment on trees and wetland areas.

The first part of the 'Zoom' meeting ended at 8.10pm and recommenced at 8.13pm. Dist. Cllr. N. Binney left the meeting.

7. To receive an update regarding the SCC Consultation in connection with Planning Application No L.20/03/667M – quarrying south of the A513.

Lesley Servian, a member of the public, joined the meeting and gave a resume of the work she has undertaken in relation to this application. Discussion revolved around access, longevity of the plant on site, Cemex planning statements, access to the borrow pits in Kings Bromley, the definition of 'material needs' and 'national needs' and

'environmentally friendly sites'. The consultation period has been extended to 7th August. The chairman thanked Lesley for her contribution. Cllr. Cole added that it was stated previously that no HS2 traffic would pass through Kings Bromley.

8. **To receive an update on the possible future sale of Manor Park Quarry.**
No further information as this may be linked to the Cemex application above.
9. **To receive reports on current highway issues. i) Weight restriction ii) purchase of speed gun.**
 - (i) The police have attended at Wood End Lane. Some lorries are driving south past the junction and undertaking a U turn at Seedy Mill. The chairman will contact Highways about getting a 'no U turns' sign erected. The weight restriction will be permanent on 14th August.
 - (ii) The speed gun has been purchased but not delivered yet.
10. **To receive reports on public footpath or highway footway issues.**
No reports presented.
11. **To receive updates from Councillors / Clerk on the following issued raised at the last meetings – grant applications, local lottery, bonfire off Crawley Lane (log sheet to complete).**
No further updates on grants or local lottery. Cllr. Burkinshaw said the bonfire is 'growing' but no log sheet completed yet. Thanks were made to Cllr. Burkinshaw for filling the potholes in the village hall car park. The chairman said that he has had parishioners approach him about making donations to the council to say thank you for the help given during the pandemic. After discussion it was decided that donations should be directed to support the Alms houses. This was agreed.

Dist. Cllr. T. Marshall left the meeting.
12. **To receive reports from the Neighbourhood Plan working group.**
Cllrs. Howard and Cole continue to work on the plan. A developer, who has proposals for more homes off Lichfield Road, has again contacted the council offering to be involved in the plan preparation. After discussion it was again felt that this is inappropriate. Clerk to reply to them. **Action: Clerk.** The questionnaire has been modified and will be circulated again and distributed once lockdown is fully over.
13. **To receive an update from the Village Hall Working Group.**
The chairman will arrange a 'Zoom' meeting on 22nd July so that this item can be progressed. The clerk was asked again about the accounts. It is his understanding that the Village Hall accounts are produced historically 13 months or more after the year end which means that they are always over 12 months out of date. It was agreed that this was not good practice and will be addressed.
14. **To receive an update regarding the suggested 'local electricity scheme'.**
Cllr. Cole said there will be a second reading of the Private Members Bill on 11th September and that he is monitoring the progression.
15. **To consider what the parish council can do to help parishioners that suffer with dementia.**
It was requested that this item be placed higher on the agenda for the next meeting. **Action: Clerk.** Comment was made that Yoxall has a 'dementia' group (Warren Bradley organises). Cllr. Browne will inform Cllr. Higgins of this group. **Action: Cllr. Browne.**

- 16. To consider ways to make the parish more wildlife friendly.**
The chairman said he wished to set up a small working group with some residents to come up with suggestions and proposals. This was agreed.

- 17. To consider Councillor reports – for information only.**
Cllr. Howard said that there were 22 gardens in this year’s new virtual open garden contest.
The Wednesday Club has stated that it will not recommence its meeting until January 2021.
The Historian will not meet for a few months yet either.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm

Signed (Chairman) Date 9th September 2020.