

KINGS BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on
Wednesday 9th September 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. Mrs. J. Higgins. Dist. Cllrs. R. Cox. T. Marshall.

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

Public Session: Two members of the public were present at the 'remote' meeting
Forum. No members of the public wished to speak at this point.

1. **Apologies and approval of absence.**
Dist. Cllr. N. Binney.
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 8th July 2020 are a correct record. Note no meeting was held in August.**
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.
 - ii) Copies of Village Hall accounts and other information – placed in circulation file.
 - iii) Letter from Lord Lieutenant of Staffordshire thanking councils for their help during the pandemic – placed in circulation file.
 - b) **Finance.**
 - i) Financial Statement. Current a/c £18,513.31. Reserve a/c £9,269.60.
 - ii) Payments Received. None.
 - iii) To authorise payments. 1. Clerks net salary, income tax, expenses and postage costs - £544.64 .2. Perennial Landscapes – grass cutting - £271.72 inc. vat. .3. SPCA training - £25.00 .4. Ian Colclough – gratuity to council's internal auditor Tomkinson and Teal - £40.00 in wine.

Cheques had been issued for signing in advance of the meeting to Cllrs. Howard and Browne. These were 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. A figure of 2.7% has been agreed. The clerk stated that this represented an increase of £13.68 per month gross. This will be backdated to 1st April.
- v) Risk Assessment. This had been circulated previously to all councillors. The clerk had identified several areas where items of asset would require periodical inspection. Names were identified and added to the schedule. A question was asked about the need to keep paper records. The clerk said that he thought this unnecessary as long as a person is identified as being responsible for the inspection (usually annually).

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

A question was asked about the planning application for 57 new houses off Alrewas Road. Both the District Cllrs. said they were frustrated that they were unable to get any further information from their own planning officers and apologised for this, adding that the decision ought to go to a full council meeting. It was suggested that the parish council writes to LDC to ask when a decision will be made. This was agreed. **Action: Clerk.** Copies to the District Councillors.

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

Cllr. Cole said there was not much happening. The go ahead for phase 1 has been given and twenty two thousand will be recruited. A meeting with Balfour Beatty and HS2 is still being planned. Mr Stoney (public) commented that all was quiet and that there was no further information on the link road between A513 and Crawley Lane.

The first part of the 'Zoom' meeting ended at 8.10pm and recommenced at 8.15pm.

7. To consider what the parish council can do to help parishioners that suffer with dementia.

Cllr. Higgins said this item came about following her completion of an on line survey on the subject. She felt that the parish was doing little to support these people. Discussion took place around options. It was decided to ask Cllr. Higgins to look into this in more detail and to come up with some ideas that may include a regular meeting for those suffering and their careers, in the upstairs room at the public house. **Action: Cllr. Higgins.**

8. To receive an update on the proposed (i) Cemex quarry south of the A513 and (ii) council involvement on the possible purchase of Manor Lakes.

- (i) Dist. Cllr. Marshall said that the deadline for comments has been extended to 18th September. LDC has formulated its draft submission which has the support of 3 local ward councillors. It was felt that many valid points had been highlighted including that the quarry was not required or requested by HS2 despite this being stated in the application. The chairman asked for a copy of the LDC submission once it is made. This was agreed. He then thanked the Dist. Cllrs for their work on this.
- (ii) Nothing further to report but keep on agenda.

9. To receive reports on current highway issues. i) Weight restriction latest ii) 'U' turns.

- (i) The restriction became permanent in late August. A local survey was done at the A513 / 515 junctions and found that on average only one HGV every hour was infringing the regulation. Comment was made that there are a lot of HGVs passing through / along the A515 overnight. It was felt that this could be due to the A38 night time closures. The clerk had received and distributed an email from

a resident stating that some lorries were turning into Crawley Lane, reversing into Lanes Close and exiting to the A515 to circumnavigate the turn restriction. The person concerned has been asked to record names and numbers and send to the Clerk.

- (ii) SCC has said they are unable to add signage to prevent U turns at Seedy Mill junction however they did say they may be erecting cameras at the location.

10. To receive reports on public footpath or highway footway issues.

Complaints have been received by some Cllrs. about vehicles parking on the footway and in dangerous locations near the Co Op. It is possible to park in some areas without breaking the law. Some sympathy was noted when someone just needs to quickly access the shop to purchase their lunch or a drink. After discussion it was felt that the parish council could do little in this instance and that any law infringement was a police matter.

Cllr. Burkinshaw said he could not understand SCC's decision to close footpath No. 9 simply because a bridge was defective. He felt walkers could circumnavigate the bridge by walking along the roadside. Farmers are now closing the path and he fears that it will be hard to get it fully open again once the bridge is repaired in 6 months. The clerk was asked to write to SCC to outline these concerns. **Action: Clerk.**

Cllr. Browne asked about a mirror being placed opposite the Co Op car park exit. This has already been turned down by SCC on the grounds of reflective dangers to road users.

11. To receive updates from Councillors / Clerk on the following issued raised at the last meetings – re glaze of BT phone box, grant applications, local lottery, and bonfire off Crawley Lane (log sheet to complete).

BT box - Cllr. Howard has again obtained quotes which are similar to those obtained by the clerk. Costs are £685 plus vat (£822). It was decided to go ahead provided a local resident identified previously would still undertake the work free of charge. 6 in favour and 1 abstention. No further updates on grants, although the outcome from an application is awaited. No further news on the local lottery. Cllr. Burkinshaw said the bonfire situation is being monitored and he will be better able to see the site once the foliage dies back in the autumn. The District Cllrs. were also concerned that toxic materials are being burnt at times. The clerk said that LDC has been informed and that they provided a log sheet for the council to complete and that Cllr. Burkinshaw would do this in due course.

12. To receive reports from the Neighbourhood Plan working group.

The chairman asked whether it was still worth having a neighbourhood plan now that there is a White Paper on planning reforms as this appears to take away powers from District Councils. Community Infrastructure Levy may also be replaced / amended too. The process may take some time so after consideration he felt that the council should press ahead with issuing the questionnaire. This was agreed. A final version will be issued to councillors – please respond. **Action: All Cllrs.** One questionnaire will be issued to each household. If more are required then spares will be available. A box will be placed in the local public house. A time for return will be set at 2 weeks after distribution. Replies will be made to the chairman or via the box in the public house.

13. To consider and compile a list of capital projects for the year 2021/22.

Cllr. Browne asked that reserves are used to support local groups that have suffered losses due to the pandemic. This will be added by the clerk to the list of suggestions received to date. **Action: Clerk.**

14. To receive an update from the Village Hall Working Group.

This item was deferred.

- 15. To receive an update regarding the suggested 'local electricity scheme'.**

This item was deferred.

- 16. To consider ways to make the parish more wildlife friendly including planting to roadside verges.**

This item was deferred.

- 17. To consider Councillor reports – for information only.**

None as the meeting had timed out

The meeting timed out at 8.50pm

Signed (Chairman) Date 14th October 2020.