

KINGS BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on
Wednesday 14th October 2020 commencing at 7.35pm.

Due to the continuing Coronavirus pandemic 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. Cllr. R. Cox.

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.**
Cllr. Mrs. J. Higgins (holiday). County Cllr. M. Tittley (unable to gain access as internet permissions prevented this).
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 Extraordinary Meeting held on 9th September 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.
 - ii) Email from Mazers raising a question over the council asset register - item 4biv.
 - iii) Letter from Cllr. Alan White (circulated previously) thanking councils for their involvement during the pandemic.
 - iv) Email from Zurich Insurance regarding tree inspection regime - item 4d.
 - v) Flier from NALC – checklist for holding an in-person council meeting. From guidance received to date it was felt unlikely that any face-to-face meetings would be held for some time yet.
 - b) **Finance.**
 - i) Financial Statement. Current a/c £17,756.95. Reserve a/c £9,269.60. The clerk had circulated previously an end of quarter 2 accounts summary. He ran through some of the items and asked if it was in order for the council to waive the grass cutting cost for the work done at the village hall, this to help them with their finances. This was agreed. Clerk to contact Julie Bamber. **Action: Clerk.**

- ii) Payments Received. None.
- iii) To authorise payments. 1. Clerks net salary, income tax, expenses and postage costs - £560.75 .2. Perennial Landscapes – grass cutting - £271.72 inc. vat. .3. Allan Howard – one months’ subscription to ‘zoom’ software - £14.39. 4. Royal British Legion – donation - £25.00.

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

- iv) External Audit Outcome. The clerk said that a query had been raised over the asset register following his updating of it to reflect the current assets (after adding them to GIS). Some figures were incorrectly stated and the auditor will correct these at a charge of £50.

- c) **Risk Assessment.** This had been circulated previously to all councillors and amended to show the names of those responsible for checking the condition of the assets identified. It was agreed that this document could be ‘signed off’. All in favour.
- d) **Tree Inspections.** As part of the risk assessment the clerk said he had been in communication with the councils’ insurers and had been advised that a full inspection of the parish trees should be undertaken once per year by a qualified arborist. It was decided that quotes for the inspection are obtained. **Action: Clerk.** A report of a branch falling on a car from a parish maintained tree had been received. Clerk to report back to house owner on progress. **Action: Clerk.**
- e) **Wetpour surfacing on play area.** The clerk reported that the surfacing under the climbing unit has shrunk and part had lifted causing a trip hazard. He has covered the hazard with two cones. A question was asked if the surface was still under warranty. The clerk said unlikely as it was laid over 10 years ago. Clerk to obtain quotes to have the area repaired and / or resurfaced. **Action: Clerk.**

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

Cllr. Cox said that the application for 57 houses off Alrewas Road had been assigned to a new case officer and that the application had been refused. However, the applicant will have a right to appeal. County Cllr. Tittley has asked that Cllrs. email if they have any questions.

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

Cllr. Cole said there was a virtual meeting last week and minutes will be circulated soon. Issues still remain over the widening of Wood End Lane and the link from Crawley Lane to the A515. Some local work has commenced and this was not mentioned in the meeting. A letter has been sent to Michael Fabricant MP suggesting that the ‘tie-in’ to the main line is made south of Lichfield – this would save a crossing of the A38. Dist. Cllr. Tom Marshall is well informed and any questions could be emailed to him.

7. 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) Work has commenced on site. Clerk to write to Matt Griffin at SCC Mineral Team to inform him and say it must stop as no planning approval has yet been given. All in favour of this action. **Action: Clerk.**
- (ii) Nothing further to report – item to be removed from agenda.

8. To receive reports on current highway issues. (i) Weight restriction latest. ii) Parking in turning head on Yoxall Road service road (iii) Parking.

Initial:

- (i) The chairman said he receives 2 / 3 emails per week with photos of lorries breaking the restriction. He has contacted the companies and they all apologise. It is hard to track some companies / lorries as they carry no livery.
- (ii) Discussion took place around the parking in Yoxall Road service road. It was felt this was not a parish council issue as the road is private. The clerk however, was asked to contact the complainant to see if a letter could go to residents to ask they park responsibly. **Action: Clerk.**
- (iii) Discussion took place about parking issues in general around the village. The council could not afford to purchase land for parking. It was suggested that use is made of the village hall car park but this in itself could cause issues when those hiring the hall need the spaces. The car park at the Co Op / Public house is often full with customers anyway. It was suggested that Cllr. Crawley ask the school through the LAG that perhaps the car park is opened up at weekends. **Action: Cllr. Crawley.** A question on parking has been included in the neighbourhood plan questionnaire. A manhole on the village hall car park is in a dangerous condition. Cost to repair is c£385. After discussion it was agreed to 'plate' it as a temporary measure. **Action: Cllr. Burkinshaw.** Discussion took place around resurfacing the car park. It was suggested that quotes are obtained to fully resurface or to surface dress. **Action: Cllr. Crawley.**

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

Clerk was asked to contact SCC to find out when the repairs to the footbridge on path No. 9 will be undertaken. **Action: Clerk.**

Comment was made about dog mess appearing on the show field and around parts of the village. Chairman will place signs. **Action: Cllr. Howard.** Comment was made again about the poor state of many of the footways around the village. Clerk to contact SCC again to see if these had progressed up their list. **Action: Clerk.** The damaged manhole outside Archers has still not been repaired. Clerk to inform SCC for the third time.

Action: Clerk. The clerk said he had been contacted by a resident concerning flooding along Alrewas Road. He had reported this to SCC who replied that an engineer had visited and found no issues (it was dry at the time). It was suggested that County Cllr. Tittley is approached as it is believed he has some funds available to tackle flooding problems. Clerk to contact. **Action: Clerk.** Clerk also to ask him about progress on the funding to have a pedestrian crossing provided. **Action: Clerk.** Now there is no Mercury it was suggested that copies of a new paper are obtained and placed in the public house and Co Op. Clerk to investigate. **Action: Clerk.**

10. To receive updates from Councillors / Clerk on the following issues raised at the last meetings – re-glaze of BT Box (AH), grant applications (JB), local lottery (NC), bonfire off Crawley Lane (JB), helping those with dementia (JH).

BT box - Cllr. Howard has the kit and will arrange fitment. No further updates on grants, or the local lottery. Cllr. Burkinshaw said the bonfire situation is being monitored and asked for the item to be removed from the agenda. The question over helping those with dementia will be put on hold until the virus is defeated.

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

The chairman said the final version of the questionnaire was ready and copies for distribution will be issued soon. Return will be within 2 weeks.

12. To discuss options regarding the resurfacing of the village hall car park (links with item below).

Cllr. Crawley said quotes are not available yet. He will obtain costs for a full resurface or a surface dressing option. **Action: Cllr. Crawley.**

13. **To consider and compile a list of capital projects for the year 2021/22.**
The clerk said that a decision on spend needs to be made before the precept bid in January. The notice board in the village centre needs to be replaced. Clerk to obtain quotes. **Action: Clerk.** A suggestion that parish funds are used to make donations to the church, alms houses and village hall was not supported by the remaining councillors. However, it was felt that smaller groups could be helped. Councillors to come forward with suggestions. **Action: All.**

14. **To receive an update regarding the suggested 'local electricity scheme'.**
Cllr. Cole said this was a Bill to allow local councils to purchase electricity and sell directly to parishioners in an effort to save money for them. There is a debate in Parliament tonight. Cllr. Cole will let everyone know the outcome. **Action: Cllr. Cole.**

15. **To consider ways to make the parish more wildlife friendly including planting to roadside verges.**
There is a parcel of land off Chamberlain Close that could be used. However, there is still no date for a meeting set by Bromford who own the land. Clerk to chase. **Action: Clerk.**

16. **To consider the implications of erecting a flagpole in the village centre.**
SCC Highways say there is no issue if the pole is erected on private land. However planning approvals will be required as the site is in a conservation area and near a listed monument. Cost of a pole is estimated at £265. Claire Hinds at LDC is the officer to contact regarding permissions. Clerk to contact. **Action: Clerk.**

17. **To consider Councillor reports – for information only.**
Cllr. Crawley said he would help with speedwatch but not during the working day. Mr. Baker has also offered his help.
The chairman asked for authority to continue to sign-up to 'zoom' for future meetings. This was agreed. All in favour.

The meeting closed at 9.40pm

Signed (Chairman) Date 11th November 2020.