

KINGS BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on

Wednesday 13th January 2021 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; J. Burkinshaw;
Mrs. G. Pitchford; Mrs. J. Higgins.

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

Public Session: One member of the public was present at the 'remote' meeting.

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

1. **Apologies and approval of absence.**
Cllr. S. Browne. Dist. Cllrs. Cox, Marshall and 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. Higgins on item 8 concerning parking.
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 December 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 Glen Wright – Parish Magazine subscription will be £4 this year.
 - iii) Email from Sovereign Play with notice of work to be commenced in January. Chairman will monitor work.
 - b) **Finance.**
 - i) Financial Statement. Current a/c £16,569.59. Reserve a/c £9,269.60.
Un cleared cheques including this month - £2,176.12
 - ii) Payments Received. None.
 - iii) To authorise payments.
 1. Clerks net salary, income tax, expenses and postage costs - £523.67 after holiday pay overpayment. The clerk informed the meeting that his salary and expenses cheque from December had been lost in the post and that he has had these re-issued and will stop the original cheques.
 2. Allan Howard – one months' subscription to 'zoom' software - £14.39.
 3. SLCC – annual subscription - £112.00
 4. Mazars – Council Audit Fee for 2019/20 - £528 inc. vat

Cheques had been issued for signing in advance of the meeting to Cllrs. Howard and Burkinshaw. These will be returned by post to the clerk.
It was agreed that the above invoices are paid and this action was acceptable. All were in favour.

- c) **Grass cutting and tree survey / maintenance tenders.**
The clerk reported that these tenders have been sent out to three contractors for each. One has since been returned completed. Closing dates are early February and he will report outcomes at the next meeting. **Action: Clerk.**
- d) **End of Quarter 3 accounts.**
Copies had been distributed previously to all Councillors. The clerk quickly went through some of the figures and asked for questions. None were forthcoming.
- e) **Appointment of handyperson.**
The clerk said he had been in contact with a local resident who is prepared to take on the role. A question of insurance has been raised. Clerk to check the situation with its insurers. **Action: Clerk.** If it is necessary for the resident to obtain his own cover it was agreed that the cost could be met by the council. All were in favour.
5. **To receive oral / written reports from County and District Councillors.**
None present and no reports submitted. Thanks were made to Cllr. Cox for providing a comprehensive report of the situation regarding homelessness in the District. The chairman raised the issue of Covid rapid testing and its effectiveness. He asked if the council ought to be advertising this on its website. After discussion it was felt that LDC already does this and that there is a link from the councils' website to that information. 5 in favour and 1 abstention. Mention was made that the voluntary car share scheme has had to be suspended. Clerk to investigate if any funding is available to take vulnerable people by taxi and to contact LDC to see what they are doing. Clerk to also write to Yoxall and Alrewas Health Centres about the availability of 'local' anti Covid injections so that those who cannot travel can receive theirs close to home. **Action: Clerk.**
6. **To consider the latest HS2 issues and receive reports from Councillors.**
Cllr. Cole reported that the Phase 2 Bill has passed through the House of Lords and was expected to receive Royal Assent this month. He is trying to get a date arranged for the next meeting with HS2, SCC and National Power. When work commences on the works necessary around the A38 crossing, he said he foresees major traffic disruption facing the village. Comment was made that local works are already causing disruption in particular with contractors depositing mud onto the local roads. Cllr. Cole will speak to HS2 and clerk to log a report with SCC. **Actions: Cllr. Cole and Clerk.**
7. **To receive an update on the proposed Cemex quarry south of the A513.**
Nothing further to report. Clerk to contact SCC to find out when their enquiry will be. **Action: Clerk.**
8. **To receive reports on current highway and footpath issues. (i) Parking restrictions.**
(i) A meeting took place with SCC. Cost of providing restrictions around the crossroads would be around £4,000. After discussion it was felt that this initiative is dropped as the money could be better spent elsewhere.

The only issue reported concerned the footpath by the poly tunnels which is overgrown. Discussion took place around responsibility. The clerk said that it is the landowner who should keep paths clear as they are classed as Highways. Cllr. Burkinshaw will mail a location plan to the clerk so that it can be reported. The chairman said that the dog waste bin at the top of Crawley Lane has been damaged again. Clerk to investigate and

report to landowner. **Actions: Clerk.** Mention was again made of the sunken manhole outside Archers. Clerk to chase SCC again. **Action: Clerk.**

9. To receive updates from Councillors / Clerk on the following issues raised at the last meeting – Local Lottery, Flag Pole, Grant Applications, Parking Issues, Wetpour repair.

Local lottery – there is a remote meeting on Monday and Cllr. Crawley will attend. Flag pole – still waiting on reply from LDC. Grants – looking into these from Wild Life Trust and NFU. Parking – no further quotes for the village hall car park. Wetpour – will be done this month.

10. To consider councils involvement in the LDC ‘Good Neighbour’ scheme.

Cllr. Higgins said a scheme is in place in South Staffs. She felt that what the council does at present is probably adequate. She is keen to get the dementia group started and is concerned that with the current Covid situation many carers are unable to seek help outside the home. Cllr. Higgins will continue to look into this. **Action: Cllr. Higgins.**

11. To receive an update from the Neighbourhood Plan working group.

The chairman said he had distributed a document for comment outlining suggested policies based upon the questionnaire results. He requested that all Councillors read the document and made comment back to him. It was decided that 5 copies of the questionnaire results are printed by Benhill Press and distributed to those that have requested a hard copy. Chairman will see to this. **Action: Cllr. Howard.**

12. To receive an update regarding ‘re-wilding’ at the rear of Chamberlain Close.

The clerk has emailed Bromford who still wait on their legal team. They will be in touch.

13. To consider Councillor reports – for information only.

Cllr. Howard asked if the poster concerning reporting illegal lorry turns could be erected. All were in favour. Cllr. Pitchford offered to encapsulate one and attached it in a prominent position near the crossroads. Clerk to place on notice boards and website. **Action: Clerk and Cllr. Pitchford.** Comment was made by the member of the public present that the Christmas tree was exceptional and thanked those involved.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.

Signed (Chairman) Date 10th February 2021.