

# KINGS BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on  
Wednesday 10th February 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; Mrs. J. Higgins; S. Browne.

**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.

Cllrs. J. Burkinshaw (working); Mrs. G. Pitchford (other commitments)

Dist. Cllr. Binney. County Cllr. Tittley.

Cllr. Higgins informed the meeting that she will be leaving the village soon and would be resigning from the parish council. She will email the clerk with a formal resignation letter. Clerk to inform LDC. **Action: Clerk.**

## 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 – HS2.

**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 13<sup>th</sup> January 2021 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) Letter from Support Staffordshire – subscription request.

iii) Tree and grass cutting tenders.

iv) Letter from Staffordshire Lieutenancy regarding nominations for unsung heroes. The clerk requested that any nominations are sent to him.

### b) Finance.

i) Financial Statement. Current a/c £15,293.47. Reserve a/c £9,269.60.  
Un cleared cheques - £900.00

ii) Payments Received. None.

iii) To authorise payments.

1. Clerks net salary, income tax, expenses and postage costs - £513.38.

2. Allan Howard – one months' subscription to 'Zoom' software - £14.39.

3. Support Staffordshire subscription - £25.00

4. Sovereign Play – wetpour repairs - £1,887.67 inc. vat

5. G. Bancroft – handyperson insurance - £92.50

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 – tenders received.**

The clerk said that he had received two tenders for each category, having issued three. He ran through the figures submitted. Grass cutting. Perennial Landscapes £1,650.00 plus vat, SJL £3,375.00 plus vat. It was proposed, seconded and carried that the lower tender is accepted. Clerk to contact Perennial Landscapes. **Action: Clerk.** Tree survey. Lichfield Tree Works £400 plus vat. ProHort £1,675 plus vat. It was proposed and seconded and carried that the lower tender is accepted. **Action Clerk.**

**d) Appointment of handy person, insurance and list of jobs.**

The clerk said that insurance was in place and that a cheque had been raised to pay for this. A list of jobs, including those identified at the play area and by Cllr. Browne has been compiled and will be issued once the weather improves. Cllr. Browne said he would like to be involved when the work is commenced.

**e) Clerks Allowances.**

The clerk had circulated previously information on pay and allowances. After explanation it was proposed, seconded and carried that an increase of £1 per month is authorised to cover additional broadband costs.

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

Dist. Cllr. Cox reported. Litter pick around the village. This was well supported with around 40 bags being collected. He said that the parish could retain the litter grabbers for future use and would be actively encouraging regular picks. He will source the better quality bags too. It was good to involve the community and felt it helps with people's wellbeing and health to get involved. He asked if he could use images to publicise the good work done. This was agreed. Local Plan Regulation 19. This has been approved by LDC and will go to consultation then to the Inspector.

Dist. Cllr. Marshall. Housing survey. A question was asked as to whether the recently housing needs survey issued by a local builder would be used to formulate LDCs decision on local housing needs. There was concern that it invited comments from those not residing in the parish and this may sway the results. The Cllr. intimated that this would not be the case. Litter issues. He continued by saying that the litter pick was a huge success and thanked those involved. He is looking to obtain funding for more of these. A national policy on litter is required. HS2. There has been a top level meeting with HS2 where they were told there would be a zero tolerance policy for their contractors who appear to be operating with little concern for the local communities. The chairman thanked the two Cllrs. for their input.

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

Cllr. Cole said following a question from a member of the public, that the parish council had been fighting to keep Common Lane open so that traffic does not have to pass the village school. The chairman of the Select Committee had made a site visit some months ago and accepted that no traffic should be routed down Crawley Lane. HS2 has issued, following the House of Lords recommendations, that a consultation is made with those affected. However, HS2 has no obligation to take account of any comment made. It was thought this to be a paper exercise only. Comment was made that the new link road from Crawley Lane to A515 / A513 was not shown on any plans. Assurance was given that this is the preferred solution. This has stalled because HS2 are in consultation with local landowners who say that nothing has been heard from HS2 for three months.

Comment was made that there seems to be additional gravel lorries using the A515 and a question was asked if these were to do with HS2 works. This was unknown. Cllr. Cole is yet to decide if he will complete the latest HS2 consultation document. He will circulate the draft minutes from last weeks' meeting. **Action: Cllr. Cole.** National Grid is undertaking a 'restringing' exercise and this will affect some village properties. A meeting to inform will be arranged in March. A new pylon is to be constructed. Part of Wood End Lane (affected by phase 1) will be increased in width to 7.3m. If this road is widened it may be re-classified as an A road and the Alrewas Road downgraded to a C road and a weight restriction applied to it. SCC does have reservations and the road is the main link from Rugeley to Tamworth. Cllr. Howard said he would write to Cllr. Tittley and Julia Jessell about this concern. **Action: Cllr. Howard.**

Out of hours working is an issue as is poor communications so LDC has asked for a senior meeting with HS2 every two months. Communication between LDC and the parish also needs to improve. Cllr. Cox has asked for a meeting with the Environment Agency. Tim Heminsley from SCC is now overseeing their involvement with HS2. Cllr. Cole said he will be involved on the communications issues and suggested regular meetings between all parties. The problem is that there are several levels of contractors / sub-contractors all working under one another. Road closures on the A38 will have the biggest impact on traffic in the parish. Highways England needs to be involved too.

**7. To receive an update on the proposed Cemex quarry south of the A513.**

Alrewas PC has a Zoom meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> February at 6.30pm. Cllrs. Howard and Cole will attend. No decision from SCC yet.

**8. To receive reports on current highway and footpath issues. (i) dog fouling tighter regulations (ii) parking at village hall (iii) electric fence blocking path.**

(i) Cllr. Cox said that LDC are taking action and issuing fines. Footpath stencils are being used as to are card drops to local hot spots. These are available and he will supply some. The damaged bin off Crawley Lane should be moved to near the brook bridge. Clerk to arrange. **Action: Clerk.**

Cllr. Higgins left the meeting at 8.50pm as she was unwell.

(ii) Cllr. Howard has spoken to Julie Bamber who says she is in agreement that residents can use the village hall car park if they wish. He will speak to her again about getting a disclaimer sign erected. **Action: Cllr. Howard.**

Cllr. Marshall left the meeting at 9pm.

(iii) The landowner is aware of the issue and stated that the sheep will be moved soon and the fence taken down.

**9. To receive updates from Councillors / Clerk on the following issues raised at the last meeting – Local Lottery update, Flag Pole, Grant Applications, Re wilding, local access to Covid-19 vaccine.**

Local lottery – Cllr. Crawley attended a Zoom meeting recently but has heard nothing since. He will chase LDC. **Action: Cllr. Crawley.** Flag pole – nothing from LDC yet. Grants – HS2 and Balfour Beatty are suggesting that further grants are available and these could be applied for to resurface the village hall car park. This will be monitored by Cllr. Cole. Cllr. Crawley will chase a third quote for the resurfacing work. The Village Hall Committee will contribute some funding too. **Actions: Cllrs. Cole and Crawley.** No further news on the re-wilding – clerk to chase. **Action: Clerk.** The vaccine is now available at local health centres.

**10. To consider councils involvement in setting up a dementia group.**

Cllr. Higgins had left the meeting so there was no update. The chairman said that whoever is co-opted / elected to the council would be expected to take on this role.

- 11. **To receive an update from the Neighbourhood Plan working group.**  
The chairman said he had distributed a policy document but had received no feedback. The working group will now look at a full draft and report to a future meeting. **Action: NP Working Group.**
  
- 12. **To consider Councillor reports – for information only.**  
Cllr. Browne wished to congratulate local farmers off Shaw Lane for digging out the roadside ditches. Note to be placed on website. **Action: Clerk.**

The meeting closed at 9.25pm.

Signed ..... (Chairman) Date 10<sup>th</sup> March 2021.