

KINGS BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on
Wednesday 10th March 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; S. Browne; J. Burkinshaw;
Mrs. G. Pitchford.

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 – 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 10th February 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) Email from resident concerning parking in Yoxall Road. This will be discussed under item 8.
 - b) **Finance.**
 - i) Financial Statement. Current a/c £12,014.55. Reserve a/c £9,269.60.
Un cleared cheques - £234.69 to end of Feb.
 - 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. Eric Roy – website support and hosting - £140.00
 4. SPCA subscription - £308.00

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) **Website – new page for all HS2 information.**
After discussion it was decided that this was a good option. Cost will be around £50. All in favour. Clerk to contact webmaster. A request was made to host other village organisations information on the website. Clerk to seek advice on the practicalities from webmaster and report back. **Action: Clerk.**

d) **Election / Co Option of Councillor.**

The clerk said he had received the go-ahead from LDC – no election has been called and this opens the way for the council to co-opt someone. Notices have been placed on social media, the website and noticeboards with a closing date in early April. Interested candidates should either email or write to the clerk with their details. If more than one person shows interest then an interview process will be required. Clerk will inform councillors once the closing date has passed.

Action: Clerk.

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

Dist. Cllr. Marshall. Covid figures are dropping but LDC remains 4th highest in the County. Burntwood Leisure Centre has closed as there are heating problems. Lateral flow tests are being done at Lichfield Football Club ground. Local elections will be on 6th May. Two new senior planning officers have been appointed to cover large increase in workload. LDC is in a 'reasonable' financial position but there are 'challenging' times ahead.

Dist. Cllr. Cox. He is to stand as a candidate at the forthcoming County Council elections. The PCC is also due for election. Friary Grange is now open having been refurbished and was completed under budget. A question was asked about empty units on Fradley Industrial Estate. Covid has slowed take-up but eventually more new jobs will be created.

The chairman thanked the Councillors for their reports.

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

7. Cllr. Cole thanked the Dist. Cllr Cox for copies of the recent meeting slides which he will now circulate. He has made a reply to the Consultation document but is unsure how much notice will be taken of the replies. Liz Davis is to set up a web meeting with local residents affected by pylon work being carried out by National Grid. Overall, the meeting expressed satisfaction in the help being given by Liz Davis and communications from National Grid. A discussion took place with on-going work being carried out to locate utilities in the fields adjacent to the A515. There is a problem locating the SSW sewer. HS2 are looking for local representatives to sit on the Construction Commissioner Steering Group (CCSG). It was agreed that Cllr. Cole applies. **Action: Cllr. Cole.** Local landowners commented that no real consultations were taking place with them regarding concerns they have expressed about the impact of the project on their land. **Action: Cllr. Cole** to raise with Liz Davies at the next meeting. HS2 helplines don't actually help as those manning them do not have the answers. A public footpath will be temporarily closed when the new pylon is built. Cllr. Cox said there should be no out of hours working except for maintenance of equipment. LDC will require a section 61 application if out-of-hours working is required. Landowners should let LDC and Cllr. Cole know if out of hours work is occurring. Cllr. Cox said that Environmental Health Dept. at LDC is likely to have increasing problems with HS2 as the construction work ramps up. There is a need to get quarterly meetings with LDC re-established.

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

Alrewas PC has a Zoom meeting on 11th March at 6.30pm. Cllrs. Howard and Cole will attend. Decision from SCC has been delayed again.

9. **To receive reports on current highway and footpath issues.**

The footpath to Alrewas is still closed as the bridge work was delayed due to wet ground. Problems still exist with dog waste being left on paths. Yoxall Traffic Action Group has done a survey at Wood End Lane junction and found only a few lorries breaking the turn restriction. Some are still acting illegally in Kings Bromley and owners are being informed. A resident has expressed concerns over speeding along Alrewas

Road. She will be invited to join the Speed Watch group. Concern was expressed about the poor visibility when leaving the Co Op car park. This had been noted before but it was felt little could be done as Highways will not allow a mirror. A question was asked if No Littering signs could be supplied and erected. Cllr. Cox will find out. It was felt central government needs to take a lead. MP will be contacted. LDC is looking at external funding to address this national problem.

The clerk then referred to an email received from a resident on Yoxall Road regarding cars blocking the cul de sac turning head. After discussion it was felt that, as the road is private, there is little the council can do. Clerk to write to parishioner to inform him and suggest that things may improve when lockdown ends and when another resident completes work on his drive. **Action: Clerk.**

Comment was made about 2 damaged manholes and road signs being left on the verges in Alrewas Road. Clerk to report to Highways. **Action: Clerk.**

10. **To receive updates from Councillors / Clerk on the following issues raised at the last meeting – Local Lottery update, Car Park surfacing, Flag Pole, Grant Applications, Rewilding, car park sign at village hall, re-siting of dog waste bin.**
Local lottery – Cllr. Crawley spoken to LDC. The Parish Council cannot operate the scheme but a local ‘charity’ could. It was suggested that Kings Bromley United Charities are approached. Cllr. Crawley will approach them. **Action: Cllr. Crawley.** Car Park surfacing. Cllr. Crawley furnished the meeting with a spreadsheet containing four quotes. He ran through the figures. Discussion took place around the best way to proceed. Cllr Cole stated that funds are available from HS2 Phases 1 and 2a. The Village Hall Committee has indicated that they will fund 50% of the cost. The clerk reiterated the necessity to go out to formal tender when council is ready and that this will include those that have quoted. Cllr. Crawley will send copies of the quotes to Julie Bamber. **Action: Cllr. Crawley.** Clerk to locate old files from when the refurbishment grant claim was made. **Action: Clerk.** Cllr Cole floated the idea of extending the Village Hall at the back to provide a multi-purpose sports hall with increased meeting room capacity upstairs. There was no support for pursuing this. Flag pole – LDC has asked for pictures and drawings. Cllr. Burkinshaw to organise. **Action: Cllr. Burkinshaw.** Grants – these are being looked into. **Action: Cllr. Burkinshaw.** Rewilding. Clerk has chased Bromfords – no further progress and they are waiting on their land agents. Car Park sign – will be erected to say use at own risk and do not cause an obstruction. Dog waste bin – clerk has made an insurance claim and new bin ordered.
11. **To receive an update from the Neighbourhood Plan working group.**
It was felt that the referendum could be held in the Village Hall in June or soon after. Once more is known about the opening of the hall, a date will be set.
12. **To consider Councillor reports – for information only.**
Cllr. Pitchford said she had attended a LAG meeting at the school and that Paul Lovern, the Executive Head of the Small Schools Multi Academy Trust, which includes Richard Crosse Primary School is due to retire soon. The clerk reported that Graham Bancroft has started work on the list of repair jobs around the village and will liaise with Cllr. Browne.

The meeting closed at 9.28pm.

Signed (Chairman) Date 14th April 2021.