

# KINGS BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the General Meeting held on

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> August 2021 commencing at 7.45pm at Kings Bromley Village Hall.

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; S. Browne  
J. Bowman.  
County and Dist. Cllr. R. Cox; Dist. Cllr. T. Marshall.

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

**Public Session:** No members of the public were present at the meeting.

**Forum.** No members of the public were present.

1. **Apologies and approval of absence.**  
Mrs. G. Pitchford (work commitments)
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 said that the HS2 Action Group was inactive and so he did not feel it was necessary to declare his interest any longer.  
**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 General Meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> July 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.
4. **Clerks Report.**
  - a) **To consider correspondence received.**
    - i) SPCA news – several issues. Placed in circulation file.
    - ii) Letter (reply) from Matt Griffin at SCC regarding Cemex application and traffic through Kings Bromley. Clerk read out the letter. Item 9.
    - iii) Email from resident regarding dog fouling on the Show Field. Clerk to reply to resident to explain land is not council land and that the complaint should be directed to the Show Society. **Action: Clerk.**
    - iv) Email from Staffs Police and Crime Commissioner. Clerk read out part of the email. It was suggested that the new Commissioner, Divisional Inspector and PCSO are invited to attend a future council meeting. Clerk to arrange. **Action: Clerk.**
    - v) Email from commercial organisation regarding placing their information on the website. This was discussed and discounted. Clerk to inform. **Action: Clerk.**
  - b) **Finance.**
    - i) Financial Statement. Current a/c £17,957.46. Reserve a/c £9,303.60.
    - ii) Payments Received. None.
    - iii) To authorise payments.
      1. Clerks net salary, income tax, expenses and postage costs - £567.69
      2. Perennial Landscapes – grass cutting - £282.85 inc. vat

3. Lichfield Tree Works - £420 inc. vat
4. Annual donations to village organisations. PCC £250.00 for maintenance of the churchyard, Garden Guild - £150 for maintenance of flower borders around the War Memorial and Jubilee bench. The annual donation to the Village Hall of £55 was discussed and it was felt that this donation should now be withdrawn. Clerk to inform Julie Bamber. **Action: Clerk.**

It was agreed that the above invoices are paid. All were in favour.

- iv) Dedicated email accounts. The clerk referred councillors to an article in the SPCA News regarding the impact of councillors using their own email addresses. He added that by not doing so it could leave council open to FOI and GDP claims that could not easily be met. After discussion it was decided by 5 votes with one abstention not to use generic email addresses.
- v) Car park resurfacing quotes. To appoint a contractor. The quotes were listed on the agenda under appendix C. After discussion it was decided by 5 votes in favour to one abstention that the work is awarded to Westcot Contractors Ltd subject to them clarifying the guarantee period and agreeing to surface under the shed. The bins will also need to be moved. Julie Bamber will need to organise this. Clerk to contact Westcot and Julie Bamber and inform unsuccessful tenderers. **Action: Clerk.** Village Hall Committee has agreed verbally to pay 50% of the cost. Cllr. Burkinshaw said he had looked into obtaining grants but this was looking unlikely because the car park surface already exists and it is not a 'new' car park. Cllr. Cole will pursue obtaining grants off HS2. A suggestion was made that fitness equipment could be obtained and located in the play area. Clerk to get prices. **Action: Clerk.**

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

Dist. Cllr. Marshall reported. He said that Dist. Cllr Nick Binney had resigned and that there could be a local election to fill the vacancy. He said that there is a local councillor community fund available totalling £300. Applications are invited from small groups. The Local Plan consultation has now ended. Concern was expressed that the plan makes no reference at all to HS2. Cllr. Cole will write to LDC via the clerk to make this point. **Action: Cllr. Cole and clerk.** The Community Lottery is offering a £1000 holiday as a prize. Proms in the Park are on 4<sup>th</sup> September. Voter registration is due. County and Dist. Cllr. Cox reported. He has £2,500 in his Local Cllr fund. The damaged road sign at Wood End Lane has been reported over 6 months ago. Clerk to chase. **Action: Clerk.** Cllr. Browne asked what LDC is doing about Covid testing. This is an issue for the NHS. The MyStaffs App is useful for reporting all sorts of issues. The chairman thanked the councillors for their reports.

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

Cllr. Cole said that the next meeting is on 7<sup>th</sup> September. A38 tunneling will cause major traffic issues. The diversion route takes traffic to the M42. National Grid is now erecting new pylons and weekend working is planned. Building materials are in short supply.

**7. To consider / comment upon the Lichfield District Council Local Plan.**

The plan indicated that there is not much that affects the parish. However, there is concern that the new national planning legislation will affect the plan. Mention is made about improvements to the access to the A38 at Fradley. It was reiterated that the plan does not mention the impact of HS2 on the District environment. Cllr. Marshall said the plan is mainly about housing needs and development up to 2040.

8. **To approve council's draft tree policy (circulated previously).**  
All were in favour and the policy was adopted.
9. **To hear the outcome / future actions on the Cemex quarry planning application.**  
The clerk had read out the reply from SCC under correspondence above. It was felt that this gave SCC the ability to allow whatever was required to service HS2's needs. Cllr. Browne reiterated that he thought the council should write to SCC asking for a full weight restriction on the A513 now. This was not supported by the rest of the councillors. No further updates have come back from Alrewas Parish Council.
10. **To receive reports on current highway and footpath issues.**  
The only issue reported was that a resident had complained about dust on the lane at the rear of Vicarage Lane. No action could be taken.
11. **To receive updates from Councillors / Clerk on the following issues raised at recent meetings – Voluntary Car share organiser (AH), Grant applications (JB), Replacement of posts around War Memorial (JB). PC trees and hedges (Clerk). Possible HS2 funding of cycling and walking routes (CC). Wi fi at village hall (AH).**  
VCSS – this is dealt with, a new coordinator found. Grants – deadline is end of August, will know more then. Cllr. Cole will look at HS2 grants. **Action: Cllr. Cole.** The Police and Crime Commissioner has opened a 'proceeds of crime' fund. CCTV is needed at the village hall as drug dealing appears to be taking place nearby. War Memorial – the posts used are of poor quality. Metal would be better but will cost around £5,000. There is a safety issue with metal posts next to the highway. It was however agreed to look into this via a grant possibly from HS2. **Action: Cllr. Cole.** The clerk has asked the grounds maintenance contractor for a price for cutting the hedge by the land on Leofric Close. Cllr Cole is looking at grants for walking routes. No further actions on the Wi Fi at the hall.
12. **To receive an update from the Neighbourhood Plan working group.**  
Consultations will now commence once the attendance restrictions of 30 are lifted at the village hall. Clerk to ask Julie Bamber when this will be. **Action: Clerk.**
13. **To consider developing parish owned land in Leofric Close as a nature area / orchard.**  
Cllr. Bowman suggested developing council owner land for the benefit of the community. The land in Lanes Close is no longer a wildflower area and looks unkempt. Cllr. Burkinshaw said he is aware of a very good community growing scheme in Yorkshire and offered to take councillors to see the work done. This was agreed.
14. **To consider Councillor reports – for information only.**  
Cllr. Cole. Congratulations to the Gardening Guild for raising over £3000 through open gardens. Cllr. Howard. The lamp column opposite The Vicarage is still being damaged by the overhanging tree bough despite being attended to. Clerk to report again. **Action: Clerk.** Cllr. Browne. Copies of the old walk leaflets have now been obtained. A 'village booklet' is required and he and Cllr. Burkinshaw will work on that. **Cllr. Browne and Burkinshaw.**

The meeting closed at 10.15pm.

Signed ..... (Chairman) Date: 9<sup>th</sup> September 2021.