

KINGS BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the General Meeting held on

Thursday 9th September 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; S. Browne; Mrs. G. Pitchford; J. Bowman.
County and Dist. Cllr. R. Cox.

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

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

Forum. A member of the public spoke about his concerns over HS2 traffic particularly when the A38 is closed. He was concerned about the speed of night time vehicles through the village and along the A515 past Newton Lane. He also expressed his concerns about the need for those living in the Lane to cross the road, as there is no footway on that side of the road. Cllr. Cole made a comprehensive reply explaining that the council had been in long discussions with HS2, Highways England, Staffs CC and Lichfield DC to mitigate the impacts of HS2's traffic and other activities on the local community. HS2 are offering one to one on-line forums for anyone with concerns. Clerk was asked to place a poster on the noticeboards. **Action: Clerk.** Any infringements should be notified to Cllr. Cole who will take them up directly with HS2.

1. **Apologies and approval of absence.**
Cllr. J. Burkinshaw (holiday); Dist. Cllr. T. Marshall.
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. Crawley on items 9 – trees and hedges and on item 11, as some of the land fronts his property.
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 12th August 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 from Glen Wright (Churchwarden). Thanks for donation to the PCC.
 - iii) Email – quote for additional car park resurfacing work. Item 4b iv.
 - iv) Quote – Caloo Play Equipment – Outside gym. Item 9.
 - v) Quote – additional hedge cutting work. Item 9.
 - vi) Email from Heather Bowman, Staffs School Multi Academy Trust re HS2 traffic. Item 6. This had been distributed previously and was not read out at the meeting. Clerk to make reply. **Action: Clerk.**

b) Finance.

- i) Financial Statement. Current a/c £16,375.92. Reserve a/c £9,303.60. Un cleared cheques £1,057.25.
- ii) Payments Received. None.
- iii) To authorise payments.
 1. Clerks net salary, income tax, expenses and postage costs - £569.40
 2. Perennial Landscapes – grass cutting - £282.85 inc. vat

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

- iv) Car Park resurfacing latest. Cllr. Crawley said the work is due to commence on 11th October for 3 days. The car park will be closed for 5 days to allow for the material to harden. The clothes bank and shed will be removed prior to the work starting. It will be necessary to close the village hall while the work is being undertaken. Julie Bamber will be informed.
- v) Invitation to PFCC. The clerk said he had been in contact and the PFCC said he would ring Cllr. Howard. This has not happened so clerk to chase. **Action: Clerk.**

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

County and Dist. Cllr. Cox reported. Money has been made available over 5 years to improve the Council Planning and Enforcement Department. The County Council is still encouraging people to have Covid vaccinations and to undertake lateral flow testing. A consultation on bus services ends next week. A question was asked as to why there is such a large spike in Covid cases in the District. The reason is unknown but investigations are underway. It could be to do with a local 'rave' or perhaps the Beacon Park Proms. The chairman thanked the Councillor for his report.

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

Cllr. Cole said the parish council working group had a meeting last Tuesday. Wood End Lane will be widened to a 7.3m carriageway that will allow two lorries to pass easily. The road then will be upgraded to an 'A' class and Alrewas Road downgraded to a minor status. Draft minutes from the meeting will be sent out and posted on the website.

7. To receive and update, if any, on the Cemex quarry planning application.

Nothing new had been reported however it seems that the application approval only applies to HS2 phase 1 and that a new application will need to be made if and when supply is provided for phase 2a. The clerk was asked to write again to Matt Griffin at Staffs CC highlighting this. **Action: Clerk.**

8. To receive reports on current highway and footpath issues.

The chairman said that traffic violations such as those breaking the turn restrictions, are now reportable through the Staffs Police website. He will submit a recorded violation and see what becomes of it. **Action: Cllr. Howard.**

The clerk said he had again reported the issues with the large tree damaging a lighting column outside the Vicarage and also the damaged turn sign on the A515 / Wood End Lane along with damage to two manholes on Lichfield Road.

9. To receive updates from Councillors / Clerk on the following issues raised at recent meetings – Grant applications (JB), PC trees and hedges (Clerk). Possible HS2 funding of outside gym equipment, cycling and walking routes (CC). Wi fi at village hall (AH).

Grants – no further information as Cllr. Burkinshaw was not present. The clerk said that he has received a quote of £120 to cut the hedge in front of 25 Leofric Close. After

discussion it was decided to go ahead as a 'one off'. Clerk to inform Perennial Landscapes. **Action: Clerk.** The logs left on site have now been removed. Cllr. Cole will look at HS2 grants to fund the gym equipment, war memorial posts and car park work as a single package. A quote of £12,580.80 has been received for the gym equipment including fitting. **Action: Cllr. Cole.** Clerk and Cllrs Cole and Crawley will meet to work through an application to Groundworks. The cycle / walking routes initiative is more of a long term plan. As Julie Bamber has not yet replied, there is no further information on the Wi Fi at the hall

10. **To receive an update from the Neighbourhood Plan working group.**
Attendance at the village hall is still restricted to 30. The feeling is that no more than 30 are likely to attend so it was decided to book the hall for 23rd October. A flier has been designed and will be hand delivered to all households in the parish. **Action: Working Group.**

11. **To consider developing parish owned land as a nature area.**
Cllr. Bowman has taken advice and issued to all a copy of the communication he has had to date. Discussion took place around the various land parcels and what could be undertaken at each. It was suggested that advice is sought from Staffs Wildlife Trust and other partners. The school are keen to develop an area in the top right hand corner of the play field as a wildlife area. A group of village volunteers will be formed to look at ways to improve the area in Lanes Close. The land in Leofric Close requires more thought. A working group comprising Cllrs Howard, Crawley, Bowman and Pitchford will meet, possibly on site, to discuss options and report to a future meeting. **Action: Cllrs Howard, Crawley, Bowman and Pitchford**

12. **To consider Councillor reports – for information only.**
Cllr. Browne. He has copies of the old walking route leaflets and suggested having these reprinted as a short term measure. This was agreed. It is likely that some paths may be re-routed when HS2 comes through. There is a lot of information on the village available via the Historians. He will report back at a future meeting. **Action: Cllr. Browne and Burkinshaw.**

The meeting closed at 9.35pm.

Signed (Chairman) Date: 14th October 2021.