

KINGS BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the General Meeting held on

Thursday 11th November 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.
Dist. Cllr. T. Marshall.

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

Public Session: Two members of the public were present at the meeting.

Forum. No one wished to speak at this point.

1. **Apologies and approval of absence.**
Cllr. J. Burkinshaw (holiday); County and Dist. Cllr. R. Cox.
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 item 13.
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 14th October 2021 are a correct record.**
These had been distributed previously. One error was identified with the October meeting minutes – item 14 should have read Jane not Sue. With this amendment made 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 HS2 Groundworks regarding grant application. The clerk said that the application had been refused for several reasons including it involved multiple items. It was suggested that another application is made seeking a grant for single items. It was agreed to consider this at the next meeting.
 - iii) NALC paper – ‘What can local councils do on climate change?’ This large document was handed to Cllr. Browne. The other councillors agreed that they would print off their own versions.
 - b) **Finance.**
 - i) Financial Statement. Current a/c £9,069.17 Reserve a/c £3,305.09. Un cleared cheques £337.85
 - ii) Payments Received. £6,357.60 from KBVHC (car park) and £1.49 interest.
 - iii) To authorise payments.
 1. Clerks net salary, income tax, expenses and postage costs - £581.70
 2. Perennial Landscapes – grass cutting - £282.85 inc. vat
 3. LDC – annual play inspection report - £67.00 plus vat
 4. SPCA – training course - £30.00

5. Ian Colclough – gratuity for Mrs Pollard - £25.00
6. Allan Howard – RBL wreath - £25.00
7. Ian Colclough – postage stamps - £7.92

The clerk explained the position regarding vat on the VHC contribution to the car park resurfacing. He and the chairman had agreed that it was not legal for the council to claim vat on the element that was being paid for by the VHC. The sum will pass through council's accounts without a vat claim being made to HMRC.

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

- iv) Annual play equipment / play area inspection report. The clerk has distributed a summary of the findings to all councillors. All items identified were low risk and minor. It was agreed that some items could be dealt with by the local handyperson. Clerk to contact. **Action: Clerk.**
- v) Capital Projects 2022/3. The clerk asked councillors to consider small scale projects for the next financial year as these will be discussed at the next meeting. Cllr. Browne suggested an award of some kind to recognise achievements of any local school children in their support of the local community. Item for next agenda. **Action: Clerk.**
- vi) Precept Bid 2022/3. The clerk said that he has received the forms for LDC and these need to be submitted in January. He will prepare an estimate of expenditure for next year and present this at the next meeting.

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

Dist. Cllr. Marshall reported. There is to be a by election on 16th December. Make sure you are registered to vote by 30th November. It will cost £36 to have brown bins emptied. LDCs car park strategy will include for electric car charging points. An application from Government for £5m was turned down. Civic Service was held and he attended. There was a ceremony to plant a 5th generation Johnson Willow at Stowe Pool.

The chairman thanked the councillor for his report.

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

Cllr. Cole said the A38 southbound had been closed over the last few weekends and to expect more closures next year. HS2's one to one sessions are running – they need to show they are consulting with locals. The next meeting between the Parish Council, Staffordshire County Council and HS2 is due to take place in mid-January.

7. To consider a suggestion that a 'SCC Lichfield Rural West Division Parish Forum' is convened.

As Cllr. Cox was not present this item was deferred until the next meeting.

8. To receive reports on current highway and footpath issues – white lining on Alrewas Road / drainage. Weed growth.

Clerk to ask Cllr. Cox about the lining. Weeds were sprayed then the gutters were cleared. There remains an issue on Yoxall Road – clerk to report. **Action: Clerk.** Also the tree on Alrewas Road continues to foul the street light. Clerk to report. **Action: Clerk.** The dog waste bin by the school is always full. Discussion around options. Clerk to ask LDC for cost of new bin or to move the one from further down Crawley Lane. **Action: Clerk.** Cllr. Burkinshaw reported by email that there were no issues with local footpaths other than those closed by HS2 were now open again. Lorries passing through the village - clerk to send approved letter to AquaDirect. **Action: Clerk.**

Comment was made of the poor visibility when exiting the Co Op car park. Clerk to write to near neighbour asked if the hedge could be cut back. **Action: Clerk.**

9. To receive updates on grant applications – Groundworks (HS2)

Grants – an application to Groundworks (HS2) has been made and turned down. Cllr. Cole thought that a further application could be made but not to include outdoor gym equipment. To be discussed at the next meeting.

10. To hear progress, if any, on i) Wi fi / CCTV at the village hall ii) reporting of turn restriction infringements.

(i) Still no feedback from Julie Bamber regarding CCTV and Wi fi. Clerk to write to her formally. **Action: Clerk.**

(ii) It was decided to submit a FOI request to the Derby Courts. Chairman will draft a letter and send to clerk. **Action: Cllr. Howard.**

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

Cllr. Bowman reported. The first consultation has taken place. It was not well attended but nonetheless useful. The next meeting will be a presentation of findings and questionnaire results in January. It is hoped to sign off by mid Spring 2022 and have the plan ready by May 2023. Discussion took place around negative feedback emanating from social media. It was felt that council does what it can by using its own website and social media pages and cannot control what others wish to post even if those post are negative or misleading.

12. To consider producing walking route leaflets.

An estimate of cost is £415 for a set of 500 or £550 for 1000. More details to be presented at the next meeting. It was mentioned that some footpaths may change following HS2.

13. To consider options to develop areas to install outdoor seating.

The chairman suggested seating is provided at the Leofric Close open area and asked if a consultation should take place. After discussion it was decided to see if the area is used first. The 'mole' sign has been taken down and will be replaced with one stating that the area is open for all to use. **Action: Cllr. Howard.**

14. To receive an update on a proposed meeting with the PFCC.

Nothing further to report. Cllr. Burkinshaw, by email, express concerns over more trade vehicles being broken in to and asked what the police were doing to tackle the problem.

15. To consider the response from Hansons regarding Manor Park Quarry's future.

A discussion took place over access to the site. Cllr. Marshall said he would look into it from a LDC planning perspective. Cllr. Cole said he would draft a letter to be sent to The Environment Agency. **Action: Cllr. Cole.**

16. To offer / arrange further defibrillator training.

Cllr. Cole will look into this and arrange something in the New Year. **Action: Cllr. Cole.**

17. To look at communication between the council and its parishioners.

There was much discussion on this item. The question was asked as to whether the council does enough to tell parishioners what it is doing and has achieved. There is a conflict with other social media groups that operate in the village. Ideally residents would sign up to the councils own social media group. Cllr. Pitchford said she would look at options and draft suggestions and email them round for comment. **Action: Cllr. Pitchford.**

18. To consider Councillor reports – for information only.

Cllr. Howard said that this year’s Best Kept Village ‘competition’ was done virtually and that the council had ‘won’ a tree. He was unsure if that meant that Kings Bromley was an overall winner. Cllr. Burkinshaw has intimated that he will wire up the car park for the Christmas lights and is obtaining prices for 3 car charging points. The shed will be re-erected on 22nd November. Cllr. Browne asked that the Cemex planning application is reinstated to the next agenda and that an update is obtained from SCC. **Action: Clerk.**

The meeting closed at 10.05pm.

Signed (Chairman) Date: 9th December 2021.