

KINGS BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the General Meeting held on

Thursday 11th August 2022 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; S. Browne; J. Bowman; J. Burkinshaw;
Mrs. G. Pitchford.
County and Dist. Cllr. R. Cox; Dist. Cllr. T. Marshall.

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

Public Session: Seventeen (17) members of the public were present.

Forum. No members of the public wished to speak at this point, choosing to contribute as the items were discussed.

1. **Apologies and approval of absence.**
Cllr. N. Crawley (holiday), Dist. Cllr. R. Cross.
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. Bowman on item 6 as he resides in Lanes Close.
Cllr. Burkinshaw on item 11 as his brother works in sound materials.
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 July 2022 are a correct record.**
These had been distributed previously. One addition was suggested - both Cllrs. Crawley and Browne attended the John Taylor Presentation Evening. With this amendment noted, 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) Numerous emails from residents of Leofric Close regarding the parish owned grass area and proposals to plant an orchard and erect a sign. Item 6 below.
 - ii) Email from SCC regarding proposed amendment to current weight restriction order. Item 7ii below.
 - iii) Letter of thanks from John Taylor School for donation.
 - iv) Email regarding Neighbourhood Plan with suggestions regarding public footpaths. Clerk to add this to the September agenda. **Action: Clerk.**
 - v) Letter from Co Op Bank – new signatories are now in place.
 - vi) Email from SCC regarding the Road Safety Fund. Funding possibly through HS2 for road safety projects. Cllr. Cole is aware.
 - vii) Letter from LDC regarding Crawley Lodge kennels. This is on going. Item 8 below.
 - b) **Finance.**
 - i) Financial Statement. Current a/c £11,821.81 Reserve a/c £9,805.71

- ii) Payments Received. None.
- iii) To authorise payments.
 - 1. Clerks net salary, income tax, expenses and postage costs - £587.08
 - 2. Perennial Landscapes – grass cutting - £282.85 inc. vat.
 - 3. Accountant gratuity - £46.94
 - 4. J. Burkinshaw – padlock for play area gate - £15.29 inc. vat.

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

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

County and Dist. Cllr. Cox said that he still has some funds left in his Community Fund and invites applications.

Dist. Cllr. Marshall said that the City requires a new leisure centre and that it will cost around £17m. An application has been made to Central Government from the Levelling Up Fund. The council has spare office space and this is being offered to local businesses. The council is seeking views on the Local Council Tax Support Scheme. There is a Climate Action Fund available through SCC. £1500 is available. £300 is also available from Cllr. Cox. Applications are invited using an on-line form. Chairman will draft an advert for the website. Clerk to advertise these . **Action: Cllr. Howard and Clerk.**

The chairman thanked the Cllrs. for their reports.

6. To consider ways to improve the Lanes Close and Leofric Close open spaces.

The chairman gave the meeting an update on the background to this item. The area was dedicated as Public Open Space by the original planning permissions. It has to remain as open space for public use. The spaces are maintained by the parish council with grass being cut and trees attended to as required. Three or four months ago it was suggested that more could be done to utilise the spaces. Wildflower areas have been created on the Lanes Close site. It was suggested that fruit trees are planted on the Leofric Close site and a sign erected offering the space for use by the wider community. An old sign regarding mole activity was removed and a site meeting held to discuss options. It was proposed that a new sign was erected and a draft was circulated for consideration by the councillors. This was subsequently amended but not approved yet. Seven new fruit trees have been planted.

The members of the public then joined in the debate giving many reasons as to why the area should remain much as it is. Councillors listened to the various arguments and proposals. The chairman said that these opinions would be discussed at the next meeting in September.

Comment was made that the hedge fronting the area had not been cut and was very untidy. The clerk said the tender was to cut the hedge every autumn. The chairman thanked the public for attending.

Cllr. Pitchford left the meeting at 9pm.

7. To receive reports on current highway and footpath issues (I) potholes in unadopted road outside No 1 Lichfield Road (ii) SCC proposed amendments to current weight restriction.

(I) Cllr. Burkinshaw has looked into this and will make further enquiries of Alrewas Estates, The National Trust and The Diocese. It would seem that no one 'owns' the

area. The clerk pointed out that the old BT phone box and post box do sit on the land. Also the War Memorial. BT and the Post Office may have records.

(ii) Cllr. Cole said that the Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) was varied for phase 1. this has now been added into phase 2a and will include farm traffic and livestock transporters as well as HS2 traffic. He has tried to contact SCC liaison officer, Sean Phillips but has yet to receive a reply. Cllr. Cox said he had no further information but he has a meeting next week with Julia Jessell where a response from Kings Bromley is required please? He will report back by email as he is on holiday in September. It was pointed out that the Parliamentary Committee confirmed that no HS2 traffic would pass through the village. Cllr. Cole will draft a reply and send to the clerk for submission to Cllr. Cox. **Action: Cllr. Cole and Clerk.** Cllr. Cole will up-date Cllr. Cox with Councils objections before he meets Cllr. Jessell and will formulate Councils response to SCC before the closing date of 26th August.

There followed a discussion on the non responses from HS2 that local landowners are having to endure.

Cllr. Bowman brought to the attention of the council issues with Amey when they closed Crawley Lane. Signs were placed on private gardens and staff were obstructive and abusive. The clerk intimated that he thought roads could not be closed without special closure orders being issued. It was suggested that in the first instance the clerk contacts SCC (Mary Lee) and then Gary Hunt. **Action: Clerk.**

8. To hear an update on the issues around noise emanating from Crawley Lodge Kennels.

Letters on the subject have been received from HS2 and LDC. The case is on-going. Cllr. Marshall said that many senior officers at LDC are looking into it and treating it as an urgent case.

Cllrs. Cox and Marshall left the meeting at 9.45pm.

9. To hear proposals to manage the village hall by setting up Trustees.

The chairman had circulated a draft document prior to the meeting. All agreed its content. There will be one more meeting with Julie Bamber then the final policy will be drafted and presented at the September meeting. **Action: Cllr. Howard.**

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

This was covered in 7(ii) above.

11. To hear an update on the proposed installation of CCTV / EVC points / sound deadening material at the village hall.

Cllr. Burkinshaw said that the cameras are £75 and will be installed soon. He has met with a representative regarding the EVCPs. Three options are available. He gave costs etc. It was felt option 3 was most favourable – this is app driven and uses a QR code. Julie Bamber has give her agreement to the idea. The clerk pointed out that as any monies raised would not be collectable by the Parish Council they would have to go to the Village Hall Management Committee.

He is still looking into the issues around installing sound deadening material to the main hall.

12. To consider options to fund and replace the fencing around the War Memorial.

No further progress to report.

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

Cllr. Bowman said that he has circulated a draft to all councillors and asked for comments. The clerk was asked to place all three documents on the website in a dedicated area. The clerk said that this may cost as it would involve the webmaster in additional work. A sum of £250 maximum was authorised. All in favour. **Action: Clerk.**

14. To consider Councillor reports – for information only.

Cllr. Burkinshaw asked that an agenda item ‘ Councillor Code of Conduct and Declarations of Interest’ is added to the next agenda. **Action: Clerk.**

Cllr. Browne reported that Midland Classic had been sold to Diamond Buses and this may affect services.

The meeting closed at 10.13pm.

Signed (Chairman) Date: 11th August 2022.