

KINGS BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the General Meeting held on

Thursday 8th December 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; N. Crawley; J. Burkinshaw

Dist. Cllr. T. Marshall. (arrived at 8.13pm)

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

Public Session: Five 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.**
Cllrs. Mrs. G. Pitchford. (work commitments). County and Dist. Cllr. R. Cox; Dist Cllr. 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. J. Bowman on item 8 as his wife recently fell in a pothole by the War Memorial.

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 10th November 2022 are a correct record.**
The minutes from the meeting above had been distributed previously. It was proposed and seconded that these 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) Email from SAAA regarding appointment of external auditors for 2023 to 2027. The clerk said that Mazars would once again be the councils auditor for the next three years.
 - ii) Email from resident regarding pointing work at the village hall. Cllrs. Burkinshaw and Crawley reported that the pointing is hard and of no great concern yet. A RSJ is exposed and some point around that and in other places should be done in the spring. It is estimated that a full repoint would cost between £5,000 and £10,000. Some facias are rotting and need repainting. Cllr. Browne said that Graham Bancroft has recently cleaned out the gutters. Traditionally an inspection of the gutters and roof tiles has been undertaken. Cllr. Burkinshaw said he would see to this. Maintenance for the

outside of the building rests with the Parish Council and the inside with the Village Hall Management Committee.

- iii) Email from Smiths of Derby offering a further 3 years maintenance of the church clock. The clerk did not have the figures to hand but intimated that the 3 year cost had increased by around £26. a question was raised as to why the council actually maintains the clock and if it had an obligation to do so. After discussion Cllr. Howard said he would investigate and report to the next meeting. **Action: Cllr. Howard.**
- iv) Email from resident regarding potholes near War Memorial. Cllr. Bowman said that his wife had fallen beside the hole and was badly injured, having to attend A&E. Two local residents at the meeting said that the area in question was not shown as being owned on the Land Registry records. Previous investigations by Cllr. Burkinshaw also failed to find an owner. The clerk said that despite chasing, the County Council has not replied to his questions over ownership either. It was decided to continue to press them. **Action: Clerk.**
- v) Email regarding Medical Transport Scheme. A new organiser has been found and details are on the website. Thanks were expressed to Mrs. Hutchins for running the scheme.
- vi) Email from LDC Environmental Protection Officer regarding Crawley Lane kennels. The clerk read out the email that went some way to answering original questions put to her. It seems that a person that was bitten by one of the dogs did report this to the police as LDC were aware. The clerk was asked to write back to LDC to say that the parish council knows that HS2 are aware of the issues and to ask for a copy of the monitoring results when available and to set a deadline for a reply of 31st January.

b) **Finance.**

- i) Financial Statement. Current a/c £7,100.94 Reserve a/c £9,805.71
- ii) Payments Received. None.
- iii) To authorise payments.
 - 1. Clerks net salary, income tax, expenses and postage costs - £588.64
 - 2. Parish Online subscription - £45 plus vat.
 - 3. SLCC subscription - £139.00

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

(iv) Capital Projects for next year. The clerk asked Councillors to consider projects large and small for next year so that a list can be compiled. **Action: All Cllrs.**

(v) Precept bid for 2023/4. The clerk said he needs to submit the bid in January and had provided a summary of this years income and expenditure and the expected amounts for next year. Based on this he also provided figures to show what certain percentage increases in the precept would produce. After discussion the clerk was asked to provide more details of costings at the next meeting when a decision on any increase would be made. **Action: Clerk.**

(vi) Play area defects and signs. The clerks said that he has provided a list of minor work to the handyman. There was some doubt over some of the jobs so the clerk said he would meet with him to explain. Discussion took place over what a new sign should say. It was decided that the clerk should contact the originators of the report to ask them. **Actions: Clerk.**

This led to a question as to whether the police had sent a report. Nothing had been received. Clerk to ask why no report was forthcoming and to indicate that crimes in the area are on the increase and to ask what the police are doing to intervene. **Action: Clerk.** A discussion took place around car thefts which are

nationally on the increase. It was suggested that a post is made to the website and social media to highlight the issue and to offer advice on solutions. **Action: Clerk.** Several road gully covers have also been stolen.

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

Dist. Cllr. Marshall (arrived at 8.13pm) intimated that a proposal to develop land on the outskirts of the village may be made to LDC but that he thought it would be unlikely to be approved as it resides on parts of the flood plane. He has recently met with HS2 and SCC (with Cllr. Cox) to discuss compensation for local landowners. Originally he was optimistic of progress but has since heard nothing. He was asked about the plans to fully pedestrianise the city centre and said that he thought 95% of residents were in favour but realises that there will be a major issue in providing for disabled access and parking.

The chairman thanked Cllr. Marshall for his report.

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

Cllr Cole reported on a recent meeting between Staffordshire Parish Councils, HS2 and the Highways Authorities on issues affecting transport during HS2 construction. To date, no communications have been received by the landowners from HS2. HS2 have suggested a date in January for a further meeting with KBPC and Alrewas Parish Council.

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

Cllr. Burkinshaw said that the CCTV was installed but not yet connected as he is waiting on a key to the store from Julie Bamber. Likewise no progress on the other items until he speaks to Julie (who is proving difficult to contact).

8. To receive reports on current highway and footpath issues (I) update on the maintenance of the unadopted road outside No1 Lichfield Road.

This is was dealt with under item 4 a iv above.

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

Cllr. Bowman thanked those councillors that had replied or commented upon the draft document. He now feels the group has taken this as far as is possible but that a future council may wish to take it further by possibly appointing a consultant. He feels the document forms a 'route map' that could benefit future councillors. The document will be put on the website and social media. All were in favour of this. It was decided not to print copies for all households but instead to place several in the village hall for people to see if they wished. Comments can be made by email to the clerk.

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

No further progress has been made as it has been impossible to contact Julie Bamber.

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

Cllr. Burkinshaw said that no further progress had been made. He suggested that a meeting is called to get all village organisations together. This was agreed. It was suggested hat this meeting is merged with one to discuss the proposal to provide warm spaces for residents. This was also agreed.

12. To hear an initial report from the ‘Long Hard Winter’ working group.

A flier has been designed and is available for distribution. A meeting will be called of local groups (see item 11 above). At present the WI have two meetings per months with the third Thursday of each month being a drop-in cafe with drinks and cakes available. LDC run a warm space area at Frog Lane each working day from 8am to 5pm but may extend this to cover the weekends with hot food available. There is a map of ‘warm space’ locations on their website.

13. To hear an update on the volunteer role as Medical Transport Scheme organiser.

Covered in item 4 a v above. The chairman added that there are currently 12 drivers and that regular users know the new contact number for Yvonne Sheldon, who has taken over the role. Clerk to write to Joy Hutchins to thank her for her work. **Action: Clerk.**

14. To consider Councillor reports – for information only.

Cllr. Howard said the new sign has been erected on the Leofric open space. Cllr. Burkinshaw was thanked for erecting the Christmas tree and lights. Cllr. Cole reported that the Travellers had now moved on and that they had left the verge tidy and free from rubbish. Cllr. Browne reported that a lorry had damaged the Lanes Close name plate. Clerk to report to LDC. **Action: Clerk.**

The meeting closed at 9.58pm.

Signed (Chairman) Date: 12^h January 2023.