

KINGS BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the General Meeting held on Thursday 13th April 2023 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.

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

Public Session: Four members of the public were present.

Forum. No members of the public wished to speak at this point. The meeting followed the Open Meeting and did not commence until 7.55pm.

1. **Apologies and approval of absence.**
Cllrs. Mrs. G. Pitchford. (work commitments); N. Crawley (holiday).
County and Dist. Cllr. R. Cox. Dist Cllr. T. Marshall and R. Crosse.
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(i)

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 9th March 2023 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 resident re A38 diversions and traffic issues. This had been circulated previously. No further action was sanctioned.(ii) Email from Carnell Group re public liaison for ongoing A38 works. Clerk to place on next agenda and send holding reply. **Action: Clerk.** (iii) FOI reply from SCC. Clerk to ask SCC who to now contact in Highways. **Action: Clerk.** (iv) LDC reply from Jennifer Whittle. Clerk to locate original letter and to circulate to Councillors and to place the item on the May agenda. **Action: Clerk.** (v) Emails from Grass Contractors and quotes. To be discussed under item 4b iv below. (vi) Email from resident re trees and overgrowth around his property. Clerk to ask tree contractor to deal with this and to inform resident. **Action: Clerk.** (vii) Email from resident re Leofric Close footways. Clerk to ask Highways if the footways are also being treated and to make a reply to the resident. **Action: Clerk.** (viii) Email from LDC re CIL payment. This email was amended subsequently to say that no payment would be forthcoming. A discussion took place around CIL payments – it was thought that a minimum payment of £100 would be made. Clerk determine by contacting LDC.

Action: Clerk. Cllr. Bowman circulated a list of local parishes showing CIL payments that had been issued to those with a Neighbourhood Plan. This highlighted the value of having such a plan.

b) **Finance.**

- i) Financial Statement. Current a/c £3,233.76 (as of 24/3) Reserve a/c £9,305.71 (TBC)
- ii) Payments Received. None.
- iii) To authorise payments.
 - 1. Clerks net salary, income tax, expenses and postage costs - £648.00
 - 2. Handyman – fence repairs - £230.00
 - 3. SPCA subscription - £291.63
 - 4. Handyman work – concreting - £157.70
 - 5. Ian Colclough – Best Kept Village entry postage cost - £3.49

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

(iv) To select the grass maintenance contractor for 2023 to 2025 inclusive. The clerk read out emails from contractors, two of which stated that their original quote still stood at the same value. A third quote from Perennial Landscapes was also received at a cost of £1,732.50 plus vat. After discussion it was proposed by Cllr. Cole and seconded by Cllr. Browne that the tender is awarded to Perennial Landscapes. All were in favour. Clerk to contact. **Action: Clerk.**

(v) Date of next meeting – Annual Meeting of the Council - 16th May. The clerk explained that this is the earliest date that the May meeting can be held due to the Kings Coronation and the elections. Several councillors present said that they would not be able to attend on this date. The clerk said he was unavailable from 17th to 27th May too. Clerk to look at other suitable dates that fall within the designated legislation and to report back to the councillors in due course. **Action: Clerk.**

(vi) To review the Councils financial controls. The document had been circulated previously. No comments were forthcoming. It was proposed by Cllr. Cole and seconded by Cllr. Browne that the document is adopted.

(vii) End of year accounts and audit. A copy of the accounts had been circulated previously. No questions were forthcoming. The clerk said that the accounts would be delivered to the internal auditor, Tomkinson and Team soon. This year there is no requirement for an external audit although the usual forms will need to be completed. This will be done in June. **Action: Clerk.**

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

No councillors present and no reports received.

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

Cllr. Cole reported that he attended the first Cemex liaison meeting which was part face-to-face and part on-line. The next time Cemex will attend rather than joining on-line. Some of the planning conditions laid down by SCC have still not been met. SCC's Enforcement Officer was present. A further meeting will be held soon. Permission only applies to HS2 phase 1 work not phase 2 and 2a. The Parish Council have received no further information following the Government decision to postpone Phase 2a. As soon as any up-date is received, it will be circulated to all members, affected landowners and placed on the Parish Council web-site. **Action: Cllr. Cole.**

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

Cllr. Burkinshaw said that no further progress has been made on the charging points. The sound deadening material will be fixed in the main hall soon.

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

The clerk had read out an email from SCC who still insist that the road is not maintainable at public expense. Clerk to write back to find out who to contact in Highways – see under correspondence above. **Action: Clerk.** It was suggested by Cllr. Burkinshaw that Carnell are approached to see if they would undertake the resurfacing of the village footways under their offer (see correspondence above). After discussion it was felt that SCC would not allow this. He also suggested they may like to get involved in signing walking routes with QR codes or perhaps providing computer training for residents. This to be added to the next agenda. **Action: Clerk.**

9. To receive an update following the meeting with LDC about planning issues at the War Memorial.

The chairman said he met with an officer from LDC on site. If the new fence looks broadly the same as the old then there should be no problem undertaking the work. He asked for a copy of the drawings / sketches. Cllr. Burkinshaw will provide these via the clerk who will then send to LDC. **Actions: Cllr. Burkinshaw and clerk.**

10. To hear a final report from the ‘Long Hard Winter’ working group.

Cllr. Bowman reported. Much has been taken / learnt from the whole exercise. He was not sure if the publicity on the website, for example, had an impact. The initiative to engage with younger people through cooking to a budget is still being explored and a session will be held at the Cricket club in due course. One of the main difficulties was identifying people that may require assistance as some are reluctant to say they need help. The sessions were well attended. The Wednesday Club members had asked about computing and this will be looked at. Costs were as low as 28 pence per person per week. Thanks to the many volunteers and other helpers including the Co Op who supplied tea and coffee. Big thank you to Alison Howard for all her hard work. The final document will be published on the website. This was agreed. The chairman thanked Cllr. Bowman for all the works and time he had dedicated to this initiative.

11. To discuss options to celebrate to Kings Coronation.

This is on 6th May. The chairman said the village hall will be open to all on the day of the Coronation where tea and coffee will be available through the WI. Clearance / permission has been given to project the proceedings publicly. Margaret Smith will help set up the equipment. Clerk to put notices on the website and notice boards. **Action: Clerk.**

12. To consider Councillor reports – for information only.

Cllr. Howard asked that the village plan is added to the next agenda. **Action: Clerk.** There then followed a discussion over how future cheques will be signed. Clerk to look into this. **Action: Clerk.**

The meeting closed at 9.30pm.

Signed (Chairman) Date: 16th May 2023.