

KINGS BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the General Meeting held on
Thursday 13th July 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. C. Cole (Chairman); S. Browne; J. Burkinshaw; P. Till; N. Crawley; C. Davies.
Dist. Cllr. T. Marshall.

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

Public Session: Six members of the public were present.

Forum. A member of the public informed the meeting of a recent theft of wheels and other car parts from a local residence. The clerk was asked to contact the PCSO to ask what is being done about this. **Action: Clerk.**

1. Apologies and approval of absence.

Apologies had been received from 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. Davies on item 14 as his wife works in communications.

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 Annual Meeting held on 8th June 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.

1. Email from LDC regarding status of Yoxall Road Service Road. LDC state that they maintain this road. Cllr. Marshall will speak to them (Nathan Fox) to confirm. 2. Email from Mazars re submission of the audit return. The clerk said that the external auditor had acknowledged receipt of the return (though this is only posted online). 3. Email from Mrs. A. Howard re Kings Bromley United Charities trustee nomination. A request that the council nominate Mr. O'Dea for another four year term. This was agreed subject to clarification of the need for the parish council to be involved. Clerk to contact Alison Howard. **Action: Clerk** 4. Letter from BT regarding increase in broadband charges. The clerk said that the council was paying £29.99 per month and that this letter indicated an increase to £35.99, however the last two invoices (direct debits) from BT took £41.17. Clerk to see if Julie Bamber has the recent statements and to contact BT to find out why. **Action: Clerk.** 5. Quote from Perennial Landscapes to remove weed growth in Leofric Close open area and to fill in the hole left by the felled tree. £95 plus vat to fill the hole and £780 plus vat to strim weeds and to rotavate. After discussion it was felt that the hole could be filled but that the quote for the weed

removal was too high. A suggestion was made that Carnell could be approached to see if this is something their staff could attend to. Clerk to contact. **Action: Clerk.** Comment was also made that weed ingress from a neighbouring property should be dealt with by the adjoining neighbour.

b) **Finance.**

- i) Financial Statement. Current a/c £7,412.54 Reserve a/c £20,544.43.
- ii) Payments Received. None.
- iii) To authorise payments.
 - 1. Clerks net salary, income tax, expenses and postage costs - £642.14
 - 2. Perennial Landscapes – grass cutting - £247.50 plus vat
 - 3. Lichfield Tree Works - £250 plus vat
 - 4. LDC – litter bin emptying - £1,104.33 inc vat
 - 5. G. Bancroft – handyman repairs etc - £160.00

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

(iv) End of Q1 accounts summary. This had been circulated previously. The clerk indicated an error on the amount shown as the precept. The figure should read £18,109 which would suggest an excess of £428 for the year.

(v) September meeting date. The clerk asked that the date is altered to 19th September which is a Tuesday. This was agreed.

(vi) Tree survey and maintenance tender for 2024. The clerk said that this tender was due for renewal this year and asked approval to draft a new document. This was agreed. It was suggested that a 'get out' and 'review period' clause is built in.

Action: Clerk.

(vii) Possible co option of Councillors. The clerk informed the meeting that LDC have indicated that a councillor can be co opted to fill the current vacancy. Discussion took place as to the best way to achieve this. It was proposed by Cllr. Burkinshaw and seconded by Cllr. Browne that the vacancy is advertised on the noticeboards and website inviting applications before the next meeting, accompanied by a short CV, to be returned to the clerk. Clerk to arrange notices. **Action: Clerk.**

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

Dist. Cllr. Marshall reported. The Knife Angel sculpture is now in place outside the council offices in Frog Lane and is generating lots of interest. It has cost £30k but some of this has been found through sponsorship. The pedestrianisation of the city centre has met with some opposition especially from those with 'blue badges' as they cannot now drive to the local shops in the centre. The scheme is experimental for 18 months when a final decision will be made. Those interested can go online to fill out a survey or get a paper version from the council. There is a suggestion that blue badge holders may be exempt on certain days. This is being looked at. A question was asked over the demolition of the multi storey car park and what will replace it. Cllr. Marshall said he will check.

The chairman thanked the Councillor for his report.

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

Cllr. Cole reported that Phase 1 is continuing to plan. Phase 2a projects are in the process of being 're-scoped' following the Government's decision to postpone work on this for 2 years. Landowners have been told they can farm compulsorily purchased land under licence for this year. There will be a further meeting with Cemex later this month.

- 7. To receive reports on current highway and footpath issues.**
There is a rumour that the A513 is to be closed soon for 2 months at Orgreave. The clerk was asked to determine from SCC if this is correct and to ask why the council has not been informed. **Action: Clerk**
- 8. To consider the village hall accounts and agreements.**
A draft document (Constitution and Policy and Procedures) has been sent to Julie Bamber and a response awaited.
- 9. To agree key projects for 2023/4.**
The chairman outlined his thoughts by stating that the council should consider projects that are achievable and cost effective. These projects were as detailed on the agenda for tonight's meeting, namely, to create a Neighbourhood Plan, to make repairs to the War Memorial fence, to look at better ways to communicate with residents and to look at ways to perhaps make use of the Manor Park quarry area. These were discussed at length and a summary is under the agenda items as below – items 11, 13 and 14. It was agreed that these items should be the council's main projects for the coming year.
- 10. To finalise Councillors responsibilities for 2023/4.**
The clerk and chairman ran through the responsibilities which had been circulated previously. Several amendments were made. A copy of this document is available on the website.
- 11. To look at setting up a Working Group to create a Neighbourhood Plan.**
Cllr. Cole said he would pick up this project but that the council may need to appoint a consultant. He will contact LDC for further guidance. Much work has already been undertaken by John Bowman, who he thanked. Documents are on the website. It will be necessary to seek grant aid.
- 12. To consider the offer made by the Carnell Group to support the parish.**
It was suggested that Carnell could be approached, not only to undertake some tidying work at the rear of the village hall, but also on the open space area in Leofric Close. Clerk to meet with Allan Howard at village hall to see what work is required. Clerk then to contact Carnell. **Action: Clerk.**
- 13. To provide an update on the planning application at the War Memorial.**
Cllr. Burkinshaw and the clerk met last evening to discuss the best way to progress this. It was decided to call all interested local groups / parties to a further meeting where a final decision on the fences design could be reached. Once this is done the tender document will be produced and sent to three companies, after which a planning application can be made. **Actions: Cllr. Burkinshaw (call meeting) and Clerk (create draft tender document).** A working group will be formed comprising Cllrs. Burkinshaw, Davies and Browne.
- 14. To look at better ways to communicate with parishioners.**
It was suggested that this is named Communications and community engagement. Cllr. Till said he would be 'page administrator' for the social media page and others would help as required. There then followed a discussion around access to Manor Park quarry as this is seen as an ideal village amenity. There are however issues around ownership. It was proposed to hold a meeting with the sailing club and perhaps the angling club as a first step. A working group was proposed comprising Cllrs. Till, Davies, Browne, Cole and Burkinshaw.

15. To consider Councillor reports – for information only.

Cllr. Browne asked about Crawley Lodge kennels. The occupants have now been evicted by HS2 and have moved to a location at Hill Ridware.

61 people attending the CPR / choking course at Yoxall village hall. He is proposing to hold a similar event at Kings Bromley hall in the near future.

Cllr. Burkinshaw asked if council thought that an August break is something that should be considered. After discussion it was felt, to aid continuity, that the council ought to meet every month.

The meeting closed at 9.45pm.

Signed (Chairman) Date: 10th August 2023.