

KINGS BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the General Meeting held on
Thursday 11th January 2024 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 (Chair); S. Browne; P. Till; C. Davies; N. Crawley; J. Burkinshaw.
A. Farrington.
County and Dist. Cllr. R. Cox (arrived 8.30pm); Dist. Cllr. Tom Marshall (arrived 8.50pm)

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

Public Session: Three members of the public were present.

Public Forum:

No one wished to speak at this time.

1. **Apologies and approval of absence.**
None received.
2. **a) in accordance with Section 31 of the Localism Act 2011, members to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in items on this agenda.**
None made.
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 December 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 Rhiannon Godley re Assets of Community Value. Item 12 below.
 2. Email from Cllr. Davies – Community Engagement Team Process. Item 9 iii below.
 3. Email from PCSO – police report. The clerk read out the report.
 - b) **Finance.**
 - i) Financial Statement. Current a/c £5,396.69. Reserve a/c £15,676.79 (of which £2,080.11 is ring fenced for capital projects).
 - ii) Payments Received. £280 from VHMC towards grass cutting at the hall.
 - iii) To authorise payments.
 1. Clerks net salary, income tax, expenses and postage costs - £669.00
 2. Charles Cole – defibrillator pads - £143.88 inc. vat.

All were in favour of paying these invoices.

iv) Council to decide on its Capital projects for 2024/5. Cllr. Browne suggested allocating funds to publish the village walking maps which were put on hold due

to HS2. After discussion it was felt that this could be linked with the Community Engagement initiative and the maps proposed in that project. Cllr. Cole thought that council should look into purchasing Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs). This was seconded by Cllr. Davies who also suggested looking into crowd funding. Ideally three units would be required. More information is required on costs. It was understood that Elford Parish recently obtained a pre used device. Clerk to contact Elford and also obtain pricing on devices.

Action: Clerk.

It was suggested that the local village groups are also involved. It was then proposed by Cllr. Browne and seconded by Cllr. Till that £1,000 is set aside in the first instance to be used for the purchase of a SID. The clerk asked if this amount should be ring fenced along with the monies already held for other projects. The answer was yes.

v) Council to decide on its precept for 2024/5. Signing of form. After detailed discussion two proposals were made. Cllr. Cole proposed that the increase should be 5%. This was seconded by Cllr. Browne. A counter proposal was made by Cllr. Davies who proposed increasing the precept by 7.5%, this was seconded by Cllr. Till. A vote was taken on the counter proposal – 2 in favour and 5 against. A second vote was taken on the original proposal – 5 in favour and 2 against. The first proposal was carried. The chair signed the forms ready for the clerk to return to LDC.

Action: Clerk.

vi) Meeting date change – the clerk said the new date would be Tues 17th September.

vii) Tree survey and maintenance tender for 2024 to 2026 inc. The clerk said he had sent out five tender documents. Two were returned by the post office as the companies had moved but no other documents were returned. He asked if any councillors knew of suitable companies and to let him know so that he can reissue the documents.

Action: All.

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

County and Dist. Cllr. Cox reported. The provider of the new cinema is now known and will be announced soon. It is expected that approval to build the new leisure centre will be given next week. Councillors Community Fund will be available again. Applications invited. He is pushing for a feasibility study to look at options to improve road safety in the village before he starts lobbying for funds.

Dist. Cllr. Marshall reported. The Royal Oak's inclusion as an Asset of Community value was now no longer on the register. A new application needs to be made. Item 12 below. A question was asked about the third Dist. Cllr attending a future meeting as, to date, she has not been seen. It will be suggested that she attends. A further question was asked over brown bin collections over Christmas. There was some confusion over published dates, due to an error on the LDC paper calendar. Hopefully this confusion can be avoided this year.

The chair thanked the Councillors for their reports.

6. To consider the latest HS2 information including Cemex quarry.

Cllr. Cole reported. It is estimated that £65B is required just to complete phase 1 of the project. There is a meeting with Cemex scheduled for 22nd Jan.

The County and District Councillors arrived at this point.

7. **To receive reports on current highway issues.**
This had largely been covered under 4b iv above. Cllr. Cole said he has the 30 and 40mph bin stickers for distribution and a map showing the areas to be covered. Could councillors help please?
Action: All.
8. **To receive reports on current footpath issues.**
Cllr. Burkinshaw said that the kissing gate at the show field was rotten and needs replacing. He said it needs to be disabled / buggy friendly. Clerk to write to the Show Society again.
Action: Clerk.
Cllr. Davies complimented the work done to clear the previously reported footpath located off Crawley Lane.
9. **To hear an update on progress on the identified key projects for 2023/4.**
(i) Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr. Cole has drafted a brief to go to the consultants. After discussion it was felt that the document should go to one consultant only. This was proposed by Cllr. Davies and seconded by Cllr. Burkinshaw. All in favour. Clerk to contact Urban Vision and to inform Eldnar that their services will not now be required.
Action: Clerk.

(ii) War Memorial fence replacement. Cllr. Burkinshaw said that he will be meeting with the clerk next week to discuss the drawings, design and the planning application.
Action: Cllr. Burkinshaw and Clerk.

(iii) Community Engagement and Communications. (CEC) the chair thanked the group for progressing this initiative. A suggestion was made that a local ramblers and bird watching group may be formed so that they could make use of the Manor Park quarry. The next parish community group meeting will be held in Feb / March and a meeting with the BKV judge will be arranged soon.
Action: Cllr. Davies and the working group.

(iv) Maintenance policy for parish owned areas. Cllr. Burkinshaw suggested setting up small groups to 'manage' these areas. It would still be the parish councils responsibility to maintain these areas. The idea is to engage with the local community to encourage them to take an interest in these areas. He will make a start by setting up a group to get involved in the village hall grounds (Friends of) and will liaise with Julie Bamber. This could then lead to other groups being formed. Cllr. Browne offered to try and create a group for Leofric Close. It was felt that the area in Lanes Close was already looked after well by residents.
Actions: Cllrs. Burkinshaw and Browne.
Mention was made about Carnell and if they will be returning to complete the work by the left hand wall at the rear of the hall. The clerk said he had contacted them but not received a reply. It was suggested that the local handyman is asked to do this work.
Clerk to contact.
Action: Clerk.
10. **To consider the village hall accounts and agreements.**
Cllr. Burkinshaw said he had still not heard from Julie Bamber. Clerk to write to her.
Action: Clerk.
11. **To consider additions to the play equipment.**
This will be included when the group in 9 iv is set up.
Action: Cllr. Burkinshaw.

- 12. **To make an application to register land/buildings as assets of value.**
 After discussion it was decided to make another application to register the Royal Oak as an Asset of Community Value. A suggestion was made that a similar application is lodged for Manor Park quarry. Clerk to make the applications.
Action: Clerk.

- 13. **To discuss the level of service offered to the parish by Royal Mail.**
 This was put forward due to irregular collections particularly on a Saturday. The problem has now been resolved after a conversation with the local postman.

- 14. **To consider Councillor reports – for information only.**
 Cllr. Browne continues to try and arrange a site meeting with the local bus company. He mentioned the recent local flooding and said he was concerned though the level did not get as high as a few years ago. This year the floods took 48 hours to recede and several cars were stuck on the A515 and A513. He has spoken to the parish flood officer, Mr. Boswell and the situation is being monitored. There is a Government website that gives the latest river levels. Clerk to put a link on the council website.
Action: Clerk.
 The chair then thanked Cllr. Burkinshaw for taking down the Christmas tree.

The meeting closed at 9.47pm.

Signed (Chairman) Date: 8th February 2024..