

KINGS BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the General Meeting held on

Thursday 14th November 2024 commencing at 8.55pm at Kings Bromley Village Hall.

Note – corrections to these minutes will be recorded in the minutes for the following month.

Present: Cllrs. C. Davies (chair); S. Browne; J. Burkinshaw; Mrs. B. Panayi;
Mrs. Y. Sheldon.
County and Dist. Cllr R. Cox.

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

Public Session: Seven members of the public were present.

The chairman informed those present that this evening's meeting was being recorded electronically.

Public Forum. No one spoke at this time, however the chair informed the meeting that tonight was the last one for Cllr. Steve Browne who will be standing down after the meeting. He said that Steve had been a councillor for well over 30 years and that he was Parish Chairman for some of that time. He thanked him for his dedication and commitment and said that his huge input to council affairs would be greatly missed. Steve responded and said that he has enjoyed his term in office and that he loves being part of the village and its community and he hopes that the other councillors will feel the same as he has.

1. Apologies and approval of absence.

Cllrs. P. Till; N. Crawley (both on holiday). Dist. Cllr. T. Marshall.

2. To co-opt a councillor including the signing of the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

The chair said that there was one application, from Julie Bamber. She was informed that her position would commence at the December meeting. She signed the declaration, dated 15th November 2024.

3. To fill the vacancy on the Planning Committee and to sign the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

Julie Bamber was told that she would now become a member of the planning committee. She signed the declaration dated 15th November 2024.

4. 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.

5. To resolve that the minutes of the Kings Bromley Parish Council General Meeting held on 17th September 2024 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.

6. Clerks Report.

a) To consider correspondence received (some of the below had been circulated previously to all Councillors)

1. Email from Paul Keats re Rural Affordable Housing. Report from Cllr. Davies. Cllr. Davies said he had a conversation with Mr. Keats and that things were moving forward. There would be no charge for his services.

2. Email from resident regarding installing a Petanque court at the village hall. The clerk read out an email on the subject from Cllr. Till, after which several other comments were made by the other councillors. The general consensus was that this would not be appropriate use of the village hall open area. Clerk to contact the resident who suggested the idea.

Action: Clerk.

3. Quote – Perennial – to fell tree in Leofric Close - £650.00 plus vat. After discussion it was decided to seek a further quote. Clerk to arrange.

Action: Clerk.

4. Email – Zurich Insurance re indemnity insurance. The clerk said that Zurich do not offer this service. Clerk to seek prices from other companies.

Action: Clerk.

5. Email from resident re traffic in the village. Clerk has already responded.

6. Email from Tim Middleton re EV charging points. Forms completed but awaiting return contact.

7. Email from LDC re CIL bidding round. Deadline is 22nd November. Chair to look into this.

Action: Cllr. Davies.

8. Email from SCC re Sakura Cherry Tree Project. There was no interest in this.

9. Email from Cllr. Till re article to publish regarding SID installation. Agreed to wait until the devices were set up and working.

10. Email from Cllr. Till re discussion with resident. The chair will speak to the resident and inform clerk of outcome. A letter can then follow.

Action: Cllr. Davies and clerk.

11. Email from Julie Bamber re village hall charges. These had been noted by all.

12. Email re Pyford Brook meeting on 18th November. Cllrs. Davies and Dist Cllr. Cox will attend.

Action: Cllr. Davies.

13. Email from Staffs Foundation re BKV prize. The prize is £1,000. Cllr. Davies proposed the setting of a 'community fund' using this money. The idea would be for local community groups to apply to access funding for any projects they wish to pursue. This idea was seconded by Cllr. Sheldon. All were in favour.

14. Email from police – report. The clerk read out the report. Cllr. Cox made comment about traffic and how the turn restriction had forced lorries onto other neighbouring roads.

15. Email from Cemex – application update. There is a meeting next Monday and the question over lorries not turning towards the village will be highlighted again. See 12 above.

16. Email from LDC regarding social media and engagement pack – local plan consultation. The clerk will place the posters on the notice boards.

Action: Clerk.

b) Finance.

i) Financial Statement. Current a/c £5,328.86 after all cheques clear. Reserve a/c £15,676.79 (Ring fenced £4,613.11).

ii) Payments Received. None.

iii) To authorise payments.

1. Clerks net salary, income tax, expenses and postage costs - £700.68

2. Perennial Landscapes – grass cutting - £247.50 plus vat
3. LDC – Play Inspection report - £78.00 inc vat
4. Ian Colclough – Waterhaul – litter picker purchase - £129.60
5. Keble Heath – SID post installation and fitting - £3,458 plus vat.
6. SLCC annual subscription - £150.00
7. Allan Howard – RBL wreath - £25.00

All were in favour of paying the above invoices.

iv) To authorise a transfer of £7,636.98 from the reserves to the current account to cover SID purchase and installation. This was agreed. All in favour.

c) Other matters.

- i) NALC 2024 Model Financial Regulations. The clerk said that he and the chair were still working through this document and it would be presented for consideration by all in due course.
- ii) To consider setting up a working group to review the Councils Standing Orders. This was agreed. Cllr. Till (in his absence) and Cllr. Sheldon to form the working group. Clerk to mail the document to them.
Action: Clerk.
- iii) Councillor calendar. Some are able to access the calendar and others are having password difficulties. Clerk to investigate.
Action: Clerk.

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

Cllr. Cox reported. The Local Plan is out for consultation and once in place will be the plan until 2043. County Councillor elections will be held next year. Julie Bamber thanked Cllr. Cox for a grant the village hall management committee received to replace the water heater.

8. To discuss input to the LDC Local Plan.

This item was taken under 15 (i) below.

9. To consider the 2025/6 council budget including capital projects.

A summary of the current and projected finances had been circulated to all. The chair asked councillors to think about any projects for next year and to bring them to the next meeting where a decision on the precept will be made. Funding for the War Memorial site improvements are now in place and covered by the Section 106 money from LDC and the ring fenced funds in the reserves. The chair said he would like to see purchased a portable public address system for use by the whole community. Monies may also need to be allocated for the neighbourhood plan and printing / consultations.

10. To adopt the flood risk appraisal / report.

The chair thanked Cllr. Browne for compiling this report which will be incorporated into the neighbourhood plan in due course. It will also become a part of the village risk assessment when that is finished. Cllr. Davies proposed and Cllr. Burkinshaw seconded that the report as drafted by Cllr. Browne is adopted. All were in favour. Clerk to print the report on headed paper.

Action: Clerk.

- 11. To consider any village hall issues (i) hall administration. (ii) building condition survey (iii) acoustics in the main hall (iv) parking and charging at / for the hall car park.**
 (i) No update. Cllr. Browne asked about the provision of door stops. This is not legal as the doors are fire doors. (ii) No progress. (iii) It was agreed that this proposal should be included in the list of projects for the next financial year. Cllr. Burkinshaw and Julie Bamber will look into the implications and costs and report to the next meeting.
Action: Cllr. Burkinshaw
 (iv) no update.
- 12. To consider the latest HS2 information including Cemex / Tarmac quarry.**
 HS2 still has no idea as to how it will connect the phase 1 line into the west coast main line near Handsacre. They are still committed to widening and straightening Wood End Lane. Cemex – meeting to take place on Monday 18th November. More will be known after that.
- 13. To receive reports on current highway issues – update on SID Installation.**
 The posts and devices are now in place. Switch on soon. Discussion took place around vehicles parking on the War Memorial site. A suggestion was made that yellow lines should be requested although parking in that vicinity is illegal as it is within close proximity to the junction and also near a pelican crossing. This to be added as an item at the next meeting.
Action: Clerk.
- 14. To receive reports and updates on current footpath issues.**
 Cllr. Davies said that a voluntary group has been formed and that they now await a meeting with the SCC representative. Cllr. Cox said that if there are issues with any public footpath to inform him.
- 15. To hear an update on progress on the identified key projects. (i) Neighbourhood Plan. (ii) War Memorial fence tender and land ownership (iii) Community Engagement and Communications including new website.**
 (i) Chair is looking at a housing needs assessment. The neighbourhood plan needs to mirror the LDC local plan. A draft will go the LDC soon but ideally we need to see their draft local plan first. Cllr. Cox said that would not be available until around spring 2026.
 (ii) Funds are now in place. Clerk to compile a tender to go to three contractors. It is hoped to do the work in spring 2025. We have until April 2026 to do the work.
Action: Clerk.
 (iii) Chair is looking into options for a new website and .gov.uk domain with dedicated emails.
Action: Cllr. Davies.
- 16. To consider this year's Christmas tree and lighting arrangements.**
 Cllr. Panayi said that the new landlord at the Royal Oak was keen to be involved in any community gathering and has offered to provide mulled wine and mince pies at the carol concert by the Memorial. Advent calendars have been purchased and song sheets will be printed at a cost of £25. It was proposed by Cllr. Davies that the council fund this. This was seconded by Cllr. Browne. All were in favour.
- 17. To hear any progress on deferred items a) Village risk assessment b) Cricket Ground as an ACV c) Maintenance policy for parish owned areas. d) Suggestion to establish a wildlife area off Lichfield Road.**
 (a) Progressing with flood plan and to cover other major incidents such as power loss, pollution incidents etc, though it is acknowledged that these cross over with the risk

handled by LDC. Cllr. Davies asked what the mitigation plans are. Cllr Cox will send details to him. (b) No progress (c) Cllr. Sheldon has spoken to a resident who has been maintaining the open area in Lanes Close. He has indicated that he will no longer do this as his endeavours are unrecognised. Clerk to write to the resident to thank him for what he has done and perhaps to encourage him to think again. Mention was made that the sign is now showing wear and needs to be replaced.

Action: Clerk.

(d) It was suggested that the village is asked what they think about the ideas put forward. Cllr. Burkinshaw said that grants may be available and sighted The Community Ownership Fund. This could be a project for next year. Clerk to write to resident to say that this proposal will be added to future agenda.

Action: Clerk.

18. To consider Councillor reports – for information only.

None.

The meeting closed at 9.58pm.

Signed (Chair) Date: 12th December 2024.