

KINGS BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the General Meeting held on

Thursday 12th December 2024 commencing at 8pm 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); J. Burkinshaw; Mrs. B. Panayi; Mrs. Y. Sheldon; Mrs. J. Bamber; P. Till.
County and Dist. Cllr R. Cox. Dist. Cllr. T. Marshall.

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

Public Session: Seven members of the public were present.
The chairman informed those present that this evenings meeting was being recorded electronically.

Public Forum. No one spoke at this time. The chairman informed the meeting of the passing of former chair Charles Cole. A one minute silence was observed in his memory. Clerk to arrange flowers for his wife and family.

Action: Clerk.

1. **Apologies and approval of absence.**
None.
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 November 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.
4. **Clerks Report.**
 - a) **To consider correspondence received (some of the below had been circulated previously to all Councillors)**
 1. Email – quote Goulds – tree work - £250 plus vat. Cllr. Till proposed and Cllr. Crawley seconded that this quote is accepted. Clerk to contact Goulds.
Action: Clerk.
 2. Email – KB Parish News – subscription now £8.00. Clerk to arrange payment.
Action: Clerk.
 3. Email from Cllr. Crawley regarding standing down. The clerk read out the email and was then instructed to commence the process to find another councillor. Cllr. Crawley to remain in position until such time another councillor is appointed. He added that he would be prepared to be involved in any group that is discussing the planning applications at Pyford Brook.
Action: Clerk.

4. Email from PCC regarding police and fire precept survey. Chair said he would reply on Monday and asked that councillors let him know their thoughts by then.

Action: All.

b) Finance.

- i) Financial Statement. Current a/c £8,963.77. Reserve a/c £8,306.59 (Ring fenced £4,613.11).
- ii) Payments Received. Bank interest £128.15. BKV – two prizes of £500. Cheque from last year not cashed of £165.00 (re issued)
- iii) To authorise payments.
 1. Clerks net salary, income tax, expenses and postage costs - £899.27 inc back pay.
 2. KBVH – room hire - £180.00
 3. KB Village News subscription - £8.00

All were in favour of paying the above invoices.

c) Other matters.

- i) Meeting dates for 2025 and Cllr. Responsibilities. The clerk said that the usual dates would prevail – ie second Thursday of each month, however, he may ask that the September meeting is put back by one week. It was decided to defer the item on allocation of responsibilities until the next meeting.
- ii) To consider registering the War Memorial site with HM Land Registry – item 13 ii

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

Cllr. Marshall reported. He was saddened to hear of the passing of Charles Cole. He commented on the lovely Christmas tree in the village and thanked Cllr. Burkinshaw. The new leisure centre project will go ahead. There will be a new greenway for walking and cycling between Lichfield and Chasewater along to old railway line. Volunteers will help in its construction. A motion was tabled that week by him and Cllr. Cox in support of British farmers and farming.

Cllr. Cox reported. He expects the feasibility study on possible improvement to the A515 in the village to be ready early in the New Year. All the options are expensive. He will continue to lobby. A dial a bus service is to operate in areas that do not currently have a bus service.

The chair thanked the councillors for their reports.

6. To report on input to the LDC Local Plan.

The chair suggested that all councillors respond as individuals.

Action: All

7. To consider the precept bid capital projects for 2025/6.

The chair asked all councillors to consider this before the January meeting as a reply and bid needs to be with LDC by 22nd January. Suggested projects include – War Memorial refurbishment where a further £2,000 may be required. Purchase of more SIDs. Purchase of six village entrance 'gateways' at a cost of around £8,000. Finger post in village centre directing to local groups (Bowling and cricket club for example) - estimated at around £2,000 to £2,500. Cllr. Cox said he may be able to help with some funding next year. The clerk mentioned that the wet pour needs replacing – cost estimate around £3,000. Also a website upgrade at around £1,000.

Cllr. Sheldon said that the Show Society may consider requests for funding.

8. **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) Cllr. Bamber said that bookings were on the increase (ii) Cllr. Crawley will chase a possible surveyor.
Action: Cllr. Crawley
 (iii) Cllr. Burkinshaw said that the VHC will pay £145.78 to match a contribution from the council to have panels fitted to the ceiling. This was proposed by him and seconded by Cllr. Till. All in favour. He will arrange fitting.
Action: Cllr. Burkinshaw
 (iv) Discussion took place over EVC points and their worth. It was suggested that villagers are consulted to see if there is a likely demand. It was agreed to look into making a charge for parking at the hall.
9. **To consider the latest HS2 information including Cemex / Tarmac quarry.**
 No further contact has been made since Liz Davis left HS2. Cllr. Cox said there is a funding gap that may prevent the Wood End Lane widening project from moving forward.
10. **To consider the Cemex / Tarmac amended applications – SCC/24/0128/VOC and SCC/24/0115/CON/PWA – discussion.**
 The chair outlined the issues around these two applications and intimated his general feelings that the process was designed to confuse. Cllr. Cox said that although he is a member of the SCC Planning Committee he can only advise that any questions or complaints about the process are directed to the Chief Executive at SCC or Planning Officers in charge. The chair suggested that a working group is formed comprising members from Alrewas PC including Mr. S. Thelfall, Steve Browne (resident of Kings Bromley), himself and Cllrs. Till and Burkinshaw. This was agreed. They will draft a reply and submit it to the clerk to submit to SCC. Clerk to seek extension to the deadline.
Action: Clerk.
 Mr. Browne said he wished to see a general restriction imposed such that all lorries leaving the site must turn right towards the A38. He said that he thought that a weight restriction should be sought from the quarry entrance to the A515. Comment was made that this would be expensive and a very long winded process. The issue may resolve if Wood End Lane is upgraded to an A class road. Various enforcement options were also suggested.
11. **To receive reports on current highway issues – (i) update on SID Installation (ii) parking on War Memorial area.**
 (i) Cllr. Till reported. Many comments received that vehicles are now slowing down. He will download the data from the SIDs and make a report. He will also inform the speedwatch team about how the SIDs work and what they are capable of. The heads could be rotated periodically to measure traffic as it leaves the village. A question was asked by a member of the public as to why there are such long traffic queues entering the village from the A38. This would seem to be because Wood End Lane is closed.
 (ii) Nothing further to report.
12. **To receive reports and updates on current footpath issues.**
 Cllr. Davies said that the dog waste bin at the top of Crawley Lane had disappeared. Clerk is in contact with LDC about a replacement.
13. **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 said the draft is done and he now awaits comments from councillors. LDC now has a draft local plan so the neighbourhood plan needs to align with their draft. He will send this to LDC for comments and then consult with parishioners in the New Year. There will be costs involved with printing etc.

(ii) Draft tender distributed and no comments received. Clerk to send out to three contractors.

Action: Clerk.

iii) Chair said the old website needs to be upgraded and moved to a .gov.uk domain along with dedicated emails for each councillor. He has attended a course run by SPCA and also Parish Online. He suggested that a tender should go out for the website reconstruction.. Administrators will be required.

14. 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) No progress (b) No progress (c) Cllr. Burkinshaw has a draft document which he will circulate. Support and grants are available to set something up. Chair has spoken to the resident about the maintenance of the wildflower area in Lanes Close. Feeling is that the contractor is not maintaining the area as per the schedule. It was suggested that he, the resident and contractor meet on site in February next year to discuss. Clerk to arrange meeting.

Action: Clerk.

(d) A reply has been made to the resident who made the suggestion. He has not responded yet but is known to be unwell. Cllr. Cox requested a copy of the email sent.

Action: Clerk.

15. Review of standing order – working group update.

Cllrs. Till and Sheldon are looking into this and will report at the January meeting.

Action: Cllrs. Till and Sheldon.

16. To consider Councillor reports – for information only.

Cllr. Burkinshaw thanked the District and County Cllrs. for funding received by the Art and Craft Collective who meet weekly.

The meeting closed at 9.42pm.

Signed (Chair) Date: 9th January 2025.