

KINGS BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

**DRAFT Minutes of the General Meeting held on
Thursday 9th January 2025 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. Davies (chair); J. Burkinshaw; Mrs. B. Panayi; Mrs. Y. Sheldon; P. Till;
N. Crawley.
County and Dist. Cllr. R. Cox. Dist. Cllr. T. Marshall.

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

Public Session: Eight 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, however Cllr. Till gave a presentation of the results from the initial 10 days of output from the recently installed speed indicator devices. A copy will be made available on the website or from the clerk by request. Thanks were expressed to a resident who had 'number crunched' the data and presented it in a clear and understandable format.

1. **Apologies and approval of absence.**
Cllr. Mrs. J. Bamber. County and Dist Cllr. R. Cox. Dist. Cllr. T. Marshall.
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 12th December 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 from resident regarding creating a wildlife sanctuary. This was noted.
 2. Email from SCC re extension of time to respond to Cemex application. An extension to 15th January has been approved.
 3. Email quote from LDC to supply and fit new dog waste bin. A price of £400 plus vat was given. Clerk to determine if insurance covers this loss. After discussion it was decided not replace this bin at this time as there are two other bins on Crawley Lane. Comment was made that one of these bins is now badly corroded and may need to be replaced soon. Cllr. Burkinshaw said he heard that the missing bin was to be replaced this month.
Action: Clerk.

4. Email regarding Councillor vacancy. It was decided to wait to see if there are other applicants.

5. Email from SPCA regarding SID collaboration. This was noted. Clerk to email back to offer advice.

Action: Clerk.

6. Email with Best Kept Village judges comments and Allan Howard's response. Discussion took place around future entries. Chair to meet with Allan.

Action: Cllr. Davies.

7. Email from LDC regarding Community Gardens. It was suggested that this email is forwarded to Denis O'Dea.

Action: Clerk.

b) Finance.

i) Financial Statement. Current a/c £7,546.71. Reserve a/c £8,306.59 (Ring fenced £4,613.11).

ii) Payments Received. None.

iii) To authorise payments.

1. Clerks net salary, income tax, expenses and postage costs - £698.92.

2. Ian Colclough – flowers (C. Cole funeral) - £27.80

3. Forvis Mazars – external audit fee - £210 plus vat

4. Ian Colclough – 2no. pen drives - £8.99

All were in favour of paying the above invoices.

c) Other matters.

i) End of quarter 3 accounts. These had been distributed. No questions or comments were forthcoming.

ii) To determine the precept for 2025/6 and signing of the LDC precept bid form. Discussion took place around funding for possible future projects. Impacts of the various percentage increases had been distributed. The chair proposed an increase of 10%, this was seconded by Cllr. Till. A seconded proposal was tabled by Cllr. Burkinshaw of 4% this was seconded by Cllr. Sheldon. A vote was taken with 3 in favour of both the options. The chair used his casting vote and the proposal to increase the precept by 10% was carried. He then signed the LDC return. Clerk to send to LDC.

Action: Clerk.

The chair added that grants are available and that he thought this was something the council should seriously look at in the coming months.

iii) To finalise Councillor Responsibilities for 2025. The clerk went over the various vacancies and these were duly filled where appropriate. Debate took place over the necessity to have someone on the Yoxall Health Centre Liaison. After a vote 2 were in favour of not participating and 4 leaving.

Further discussion took place around the numbers of councillors who sit on the Planning Committee and whether the parish chair is able to be a member. The clerk said that when he was appointed there was an unwritten rule that the committee did not include the chair of the council. Cllr. Till, when asked, said that he did not see anything in the standing orders that prevented this. Cllr. Burkinshaw said he thought there could be a conflict. Cllr. Davies was of the opinion that the chair of the council should not be chair of the planning committee but could be a member. It was suggested that the current vacancy is filled by Cllr. Panayi. This was agreed. Comment was made that Cllr. Bamber was signed up as a planning committee member at the last meeting. Clerk to check.

Action: Clerk.

5. **To receive oral / written reports from County and District Councillors.**
No councillors present.
6. **To complete the precept bid for 2024/5.**
Covered in 4 c ii above.
7. **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) Nothing to report.
 - (ii) Damp is again showing on the inner wall in the far left corner downstairs. Chair will find someone who can take a look and advise.
Action: Cllr. Davies.
Item can be removed from future agenda.
Action: Clerk.
 - (iii) Discussion took place around payment for the materials. Clerk was issued with a cheque for £699.74 to enable him to make the purchase of the panels. All in favour of this action.
 - (iv) No update as company that was in touch have not been back in contact.
8. **To consider the latest HS2 information.**
Nothing further to report.
9. **To consider the Cemex / Tarmac amended applications – updates on SCC/24/0128/VOC and SCC/24/0115/CON/PWA – discussion.**

The chair said that the council is now only dealing with Cemex applications. Steve Cox, a member of the public, then gave a report. The chair added that it appears that Cemex will not be responsible for site restoration. The concern is that this would allow Tarmac, once they finish, to do the same. Alrewas PC will be sending in a detailed response and the chair suggested that this should form the basis of this councils reply but with additional information regarding the prevention of lorries from turning through the village. He will draft this response and send to the clerk to submit to SCC before the deadline on 15th January.

Action: Cllr. Davies.

Comment was made that SCC had said that no further applications to the west of the A38 would be considered until other quarries, including Manor Park, are restored, part of which was compulsorily purchased by HS2. Dave Robinson MP, may be able to help with getting Manor Park quarry restored. Chair and other interested parties may meet to discuss.
10. **To receive reports on current highway issues – (i) update on SID Installation (ii) anything else.**
 - (i) This was covered in the public forum above.
 - (ii) Cllr. Burkinshaw commented that he thought the Co Op car park, although privately owned, was looking untidy with two damaged signs and two lights not working. Clerk to write to ask if they would remedy these issues prior to this years best kept village judging.
Action: Clerk
11. **To receive reports and updates on current footpath issues.**

Cllr. Davies is still waiting on SCC regarding meeting with the volunteers, so no progress yet.

12. 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) Cllrs. Davies and Till met at length yesterday but did not finish, however, the Plan is close to being ready. The LDC Local Plan, which is being re written, will include the necessity for even more housing, some of which will be in the parish. The Neighbourhood Plan needs to recognise this. In-fill and brownfield development may meet this requirement. The Neighbourhood Plan will be against large scale development. The requirement could be up to 100 houses over 18 years. He then mentioned the flooding issues affecting the A515 and the fact there are no ditches to take the water off the fields and away. Clerk to contact SCC highways to encourage them to undertake ditching work and to copy in Cllr. Cox and the local MP.

Action: Clerk.

(ii) The clerk said that a tender has gone out and that so far three contractors have indicated their interest. There will be no chains connecting the posts. Once the successful tenderer is appointed the council needs to agree payment terms with them.

(iii) No further progress, however the community got together with many of the village organisations to support the carol service in church – there were around 250 present.

13. To hear an update on progress on deferred items a) Village risk assessment b) Cricket Ground as an ACV c) Maintenance policy for parish owned areas.

(a) No progress (b) Committee meeting cancelled due to illnesses. Clerk reported that he has chased LDC regarding the application to have the Royal Oak registered as an asset.

(c) Cllr. Burkinshaw is awaiting feedback from the draft document he sent out last month. He went on to explain that his proposal is to set up local groups that will take ownership and responsibility for the up keep and maintenance of specific parish owned land areas. Concern was expressed as to how this would be managed and if there was a conflict with other maintenance. The current grass maintenance process would remain in place. The idea would be to set up a working group to look after each green space. Interest could be gauged via a notice in the parish news. The chair asked all to respond to the document within the next two weeks.

Action: All.

14. Review of standing order – (i) working group (ii) Financial Regulations – clerk.

(i) Cllr. Till reported that he and Cllr. Sheldon had met at length to look at the standing orders. A draft document was produced but, after further consideration, it was decided to download the latest NALC model document (2022) and base the new document on that, taking into account items that NALC deem to be legally required. Items that are not can then be omitted or left in with a comment if they do not apply. A draft will be circulated before the next meeting and hopefully finalised by the February meeting.

Action: All.

(ii) The chair said this now rests with him and that he hopes to have the new document ready for the March Meeting.

Action: Cllr. Davies.

16. To consider Councillor reports – for information only.

None.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm.

Signed (Chair) Date: 13th February 2025.