

The Kingsdon Parish Council bi-monthly Meeting held on September 12th 2013 in the Village Hall, Kingsdon, at 7.00pm.

At the start of the meeting the Chairman reminded parishioners of the protocol of **Parishioner's comment time** – 3 minutes per parishioner who would like to speak, the chance to raise any issues and comment on any matters of interest to them. The Council were asked to consider, for the next agenda, giving support to Langport Town Council who are trying to have a railway station re-opened, Council agreed to this request. The Chairman informed those present that he would allow comments at each agenda item. 18 parishioners attended.

1. **Apologies** – to receive and approve any apologies for non-attendance:- A Colton, Mel Clode and Clerk K.Hatt
2. **Declarations** – to receive any declarations of interest - none
3. **Minutes of previous meeting 11 July 2013** – having been previously circulated were approved and signed by the Chairman
4. **Kingsdon Community Centre and Sports Field** –
 - 4.1 Temporary village shop -report, E. Owen. Council were informed the planning permission has been applied for change of use of the building. Approval is awaited together with the license. Insurance cover had been arranged and would come into force when the building is to be used .As this cover had been arranged via the Council's insurers Councillor Owen was asked if the group's assurance could be given, should a claim be made on the school then the group would cover the excess, no assurance given. When asked about a business plan for the project Councillor Owen stated that for the six month lease no business plan is required.
 - 4.2 Kingsdon Centre (update on long term plan for former primary school, E. Owen). Various grants have been applied for the cover the outings leading o the acquisition of the property. These could only be used as stated in the applications for them. If no grants are received then there would be a need to fund raise and some of the plans for the school may have to be modified
 - 4.3 Former primary school field Councillor Morris felt that the school sports field was being left behind in the negotiations for the school. The field was not being given the same amount of attention as the main school building but is of equal importance. The County see the sports field, school and its environs as one package. The chances of achieving all is virtually nil. He remarked that there is much village concern over the possible loss of the green space for recreation and allotment use, with the feeling that the field should take precedence over the school building. A short discussion took place on allotments and use of field for sporting activity
5. **Maintenance**
 - 5.1 Grass verge cutting – to receive an update - no report from Councillor Colton
 - 5.2 Telephone box – Council were brought up to date by John Yates. Due to the excellent support for the conversion of the phone box to a "library" there will not be an expense to the Council. The area around the box is to be tidied shortly. After the hard work of the working group BT had come along and painted it – not as good a job resulting in the need for repainting. The area around the box is to be tidied and the group have identified that a new litter bin is required and the bench is not 'very pretty' and could do with being replaced. John Yates was asked if the estimated value of the box of £4000 is on the high side for insurance purposes. He felt that this sum is about right! A grand opening is planned for 28th Sept. 2pm by a mystery 'celebrity'
 - 5.3 Environmental Warden, requested by M Clode. Dog owners to be reminded about leaving dogs shut in cars, internal temperatures can soon reach 100F and dogs can quickly die at this temperature. A new dog bin is on order for positioning by the Primary School by SSDC environmental dept
6. **Highways**
 - 6.1 Speed limit for village – Councilor Colton had not received any response from residents to his article in the Chronicle. Councilors have been kept up to date with the progress. A Colton.
7. **Children's play area/equipment** – the Chairman gave a synopsis of the letters he had received letters both for and against the proposed new equipment, size and perceived need for such equipment Mike Brown then gave an excellent presentation with slides on ideas for the new equipment indicating the various heights in comparison with the existing play equipment. A long discussion took place that involved parishioners and Councilors. The amount of play equipment will depend on the amount of money available for it. Mr. Brown was thanked for the presentation and the amount of time and effort given to trying obtain more for the youngsters of the village. Councilors were positive that there is to be a good variety of items, toddler swings, monkey bars and slide were among the ideas. proposed materials and the overall size and noting views of parishioners present. When the total amount of money is known, it is proposed to seek the input from parents and children as to what they would like .
8. **Village website** – Councilor Owen reported that those responsible for the web site do the up dates; the ongoing costs per year would be £120.
9. **Grants**
 - 9.1 £700 available to us from the health and wellbeing fund Tony Masters would write an article for the Chronicle asking for ideas as to how the money could be used within a strict criteria as laid down by SCC.. Ideas to be submitted to the Parish Council before November meeting.

9.2 Invest and Save Scheme (formally community enablement fund). Clerk would be asked to obtain clarification on this fund.

10. Cheque signing and financial report

10.1 Financial report- Councillor Saunders reported that the audit had been completed and advertised as per legal requirements on the Parish noticeboard. She reminded Councillors that cheques would not be issued without supplying either an invoice or receipt for the audit trail. Councillors had all been e mailed with a breakdown of 2012/2013 income and expenditure and the financial details in readiness for this meeting.

Bank Balances:- current a/c £2449.07; Business saver £112,177.84 Children's Fund £4122.84

Included in the business saver is £750 grant from SSDC for the pop up shop of which £192.50 had been used for the planning application for the shop.

10.2 Cheque signing –

Cheques signed out of Council since the last meeting:- Arnold Baker book- £60; Dog bin £122.40;

SSDC planning application £192.50; K. Hatt 2x £50 (July & August)

Proposed D. Morris 2nd E. Owen and agreed to the signing of the following cheques:-

Village Hall rent-£75.80; Grant Thornton Audit fee £78; GHT (field rent) £215;

Andy Crossman part payment wall repairs £600; K. Hatt 2x £50 (Sept & Oct.)

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.47 pm.