

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE KINGSDON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
THURSDAY 13th JULY 2017 IN THE VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30pm**

Parishioner comment time:

A parishioner wanted to discuss the status of planting around the play area. Some of the tree planting had not been successful.

P. Waters had made contact with the woodland trust who have some whips they can supply free of charge. The estate will also support more planting. He will produce a plan and table as an agenda item for Councillors at the September meeting. Approximately 10% of new planting will always fail. New planting will not be able to take place until the late autumn. The tree nearest the play equipment is dying off and is going to be removed.

We require for sponsors for more mature trees or shrubs for the play area. We could look at providing sturdier protection for them. The trees planted on Mowbarton Road were good quality at a good price, so this company would be worth using again. There is a modest amount of money in this year's parish council budget for trees so the funding from sponsors could be subsidized.

Action -P.Waters to look at a plan for September. I.Dibben to talk to his metal supplier about tree protection.

Present:

Mr D Beswick (Chairman), Mr W Elliott, Mr I Dibben, Mr P Waters, Mr B Paine(Parish Councillors); Mr D Ruddle (County Councillor); Mrs L Moore (RFO) and Mrs K Hatt (Parish Clerk) plus 5 parishioners.

1. Apologies:

Mr D Norris (District Councillor), Mrs S MacKay and Mr G Osborne.

2. Declarations of Interest:

As already declared; no changes.

3. Minutes:

The minutes of the monthly parish council meeting held on the 15th June 2017, which had been previously circulated, were proposed by I.Dibben, seconded by W.Elliott, unanimously approved and signed.

4. Matters arising not covered by agenda items

K.Hatt- first aid training, it is booked for the August fete day, we have a booking form to fill in, so can we agree the exact time and if we want a specific group trained as well as any parishioners on the day. W.Elliott will circulate an email to ask who is interested, to see if there is a named group to be the main ones trained, but we will also then encourage many parishioners. W.Elliott will liaise with the festival planning team on the best time.

A parishioner asked about the purpose of the training which Councillors clarified.

D.Beswick had talked to Rob Parr about Section 106 money and has identified a number of areas where it can be spent, e.g. worn swings, increased matting under the zip wire, gate for safety, seating, water fountain, we can use the money to put facilities on the former school field, but not recoup the funds already that we have already spent on the acquisition. The way forward is to form our ideas and price them, then discuss further in a meeting with Rob Parr.

Disabled access gates into both fields were also discussed, and also parents getting access with buggies.

Action – Councillors to form a wish list and cost them – feedback before the September meeting.

Dean Ruddle reminded the Parish Council that the money from the Section 106 (builders) is our money. Councillors should not have to beg for the money from SSDC against certain criteria. They should respect the Councillors will make wise decisions and not have to justify themselves. There will be a 14 page document to complete. He has currently put in a complaint to the District Council regarding the difficulty in getting the money. It was suggested the Parish Council Could write to people to make a complaint.

P.Waters- Confirmed a note about tree damage went in the recent Kingsdon Chronicle
W.Elliott – Stated that also a note about a community allotment was likewise included.

5. Chairman’s Report

Nothing to report.

6. Correspondence

Clerk received a letter to say that the Lottery grant is going through that will support the creation of a village plan.

7.1 and 7.2 Finance- report and cheque signing.

Councillors have received the quarterly accounts.
Savings should not say £38,000, should be £28,000, just a typo, the actual calculations are correct.
L.Moore clarified some different amounts.
No movement on the savings account.
It looks like there has been an overspend on the trees but there hasn’t with the donations.
The audit is going through after a series of phone calls.
L.Moore will now stop reporting on the former school field in the quarterly report.

L.Moore has now set up electronic banking. She is going to transfer two pounds from the savings account to check it is all up and running correctly.

KPC Account	Opening Balance 01.06.2017	£4,628.63
	Net Cheque Balance	£0.00
	Transfer In	£3,275.00
	Transfer Out	£90.00
	Closing Balance 30.06.2017	£7,813.63

Savings Account	Opening Balance 01.04.2017	£33,304.18
	Net Cheque Balance	£0.00
	Interest	£0.00
	Transfer In	£0.00
	Transfer Out	£5,000.00
	Closing Balance 30.06.2017	£28,304.18

Clerk Services - May 2017 - March 2018 £90.00 paid out on 18th of each Month	£90.00	APPROVED MAY 2017
---	--------	-------------------

A cheque for the minute book was approved last month; K.Hatt has received a refund for this, so the cheque won’t be cashed.

8. Website

B.Paine had looked at the website and identified that several things were not up to date. He is concerned that if people looked at the website it would give a poor impression of the village and reflect badly on the Parish Council. He is concerned we have a passive management arrangement rather than a pro-active one. It requires someone, on a weekly basis, to monitor the website and contact the people who do not have their pages up to date. If we can't keep it up to date, we should scrap it.

I.Dibben has responsibility and would like to do more personally but time constraints are limiting his involvement. We do need to look into having more people involved to supply documents which he can just upload. We need to keep the website going for the Parish Council's legal requirements. There is a lot more we can do with it but we do need more support.

D.Beswick clarified that we need a website project manager to chase. Previously it was intended to have one person to do sports, church, shop etc but we did not have the sufficient volunteers. If we did it would be easier to maintain. We don't see all the behind the scenes updates that I.Dibben has done.

I.Dibben said we ideally need a person to chase the different pages. We need to identify the input people and a person to chase.

W.Elliott said he does get all the information anyway and would like to be shown how to update as he feels he could add a lot on.

I.Dibben said we need somebody to volunteer to help take on the regular website updating.

Action - A note will go in the chronicle to ask for someone to assist, I.Dibben and W.Elliott.

9. Village Plan

B.Paine explained why this is now so important it needs to be a standing agenda item. This is particularly so in the current planning climate that is biased towards developers.

D.Beswick updated us on behalf of S. Mackay and G.Osbourne; they have met with Matt Day from the Community Council for Somerset to discuss the plan. Guy had been successful in obtaining a grant that will cover the cost of CCS's professional advice and involvement in producing our plan, the starting point from which will be a village survey. The Community Council for Somerset (CCS) is a Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee, No. 3541219 and a Registered Charity No.1069260, established in 1926. CCS is part of the Action with Communities in Rural England (ACRE) Network. ACRE is the national body and there are 38 county based Rural Community Councils in the Network. S.Mackay and G.Osborne have a meeting next Wednesday with a cross section of various people in the village to look at a draft survey. There will need to be a questionnaire put together. The aim is for the survey to go out in September. It has to be in hard copy, with an incentive so those who return it can be entered for a prize.

10. Village field and play equipment maintenance

W.Elliott explained that last August we had an inspection on the play equipment which identified nine items that needed attention. He has been through the list, some items

have been done, and others are in hand, whereas others we still need to do something about.

The five aside football posts need to be secured to the ground, he is looking into getting steel pegs which can be hammered in through the rock, but these are quite expensive, at about £25 each, but we do have money from Section 106. He is pursuing a final cost.

I.Dibben said he will ask his metal fabrication contact for a quote. A parishioner commented that we need to ensure that there are not sharp edges and not a trip hazard.

Action – I.Dibben and W.Elliott to organise getting the pegs.

The zip wire has been tightened again.

The nuts and bolts securing the tunnel had about 20-30 missing caps. New caps have been glued on however the caps are still coming off as they are used as footholds when the tunnel is climbed on. It will be a never-ending problem.

Wood on the chain steps is wearing, this will need replacing.

Matting under the cradle is wearing; again we could use Section 106 money.

We could contact the people who put up the ship to see what quotation they could give.

Apparently when the people put in cradle matting in it was never done correctly.

Action - W.Elliott to approach the company to investigate why there was a problem under the cradle swing and costs to sort it out.

11. Date of next meetings

Monthly meeting – Thursday 14th September 2017

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.15pm