

**MINUTES OF THE KINGSDON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON  
THURSDAY 8<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2018 IN THE VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30pm**

**Parishioner comment time:**

A parishioner has concerns about an avenue of trees being planted on the village field as they would lose the open area, and space for car parking and larger marquees for festivals. B.Paine responded that these concerns would be kept in mind when discussing the agenda item.

**Present:**

Mr B. Paine (Vice-Chairman), Mr W Elliott, Mr G. Osborne, Mrs S Mackay, Mr P. Waters (Parish Councillors); Mr D Ruddle (County Councillor) and Mrs K Hatt (Parish Clerk) plus 5 parishioners.

**1. Apologies:**

Mr D Beswick, Mr I Dibben, Mr D Norris (District Councillor); Mrs J Land (RFO).

**2. Declarations of Interest:**

As already declared; no changes.

**3. Minutes:**

The minutes of the monthly parish council meeting held on the 11<sup>th</sup> January 2018, which had been previously circulated, were proposed by W.Elliott, seconded by S.Mackay, unanimously approved and signed.

**4. Matters arising not covered by agenda items**

B.Paine circulated a draft letter about policing in Somerset, which has also been sent. He has just received a reply from David Warburton MP. A copy of the letter will be distributed to councillors with the draft minutes. **Action – K.Hatt to circulate a copy to councillors.**

B.Paine had a meeting with J.Land, she now has a job description and has received a formal letter of employment. There is a course occurring in June which has been agreed in principle that she can attend.

B.Paine has looked at a photocopy of the village hall title deeds to try to establish exact ownership; he thought it wise to get a formal interpretation from our solicitor on these documents. B.Paine handed out a copy of his response and the response from our solicitor to the councillors. In essence the land and hall are owned by the parish council but the operation and maintenance is the responsibility of the village hall committee. We need to find the original documents for the deeds and convenance. This will then be discussed further both with councillors and village hall committee.

G.Osborne reminded us that there is still an outstanding bill to surveyors that needs to be paid. It was suggested it is split halfway between the parish council and village hall committee. It was asked if 106 money could be used to pay for this? This has been looked into this and it is not believed that it can.

J.Land has set up new account for the asset replacement reserve and transferred the requested money.

We still need the full report of the village plan survey to be published on the website. **Action – Sue Mackay to send a full copy to Tim Taylor.**

**Action – K.Hatt to send agendas and minutes to Tim Taylor.**

## 5. Chairman's Report

B.Paine reported that there is further consultation on the A303 On-going; B.Paine is attending one and W.Elliott has already attended a consultation meeting; they informed him that they hope to start in 2021.

There was also an article in the press about a garden city over towards Yeovilton, the company that is proposing it has directors and owners far and wide, it seems unlikely for a long time.

## 6. Correspondence

We have received an email about owls nesting in the house next to the nursery where there is proposed building development. It was agreed that K.Hatt will contact the relevant people regarding this and thank the parishioner for the information. **Action – K.Hatt to contact both.**

We also have information that Somerton library is at risk of closure, there is an important SCC consultation happening. It was agreed that we will write as a Parish Council stating our wish to retain the library and inform parishioners about the consultation in the chronicle. **Action – K.Hatt and B.Paine to write the letter and W.Elliott to put information in the chronicle.**

### 7.1 and 7.2 Finance- report and cheque signing.

B.Paine reported on finance in J.Land's absence.

A copy of accounts and cheques to be paid was handed out to councillors for viewing. The savings account amount will change next month as the £7000 has been transferred to the asset replacement reserve account.

<b>KPC Account</b>	Opening Balance 01.01.2018	£3,928.01
	Net Cheque /Standing Order Balance	£7,268.85
	Transfer In	£5,695.00
	Transfer Out	£0.00
	Closing Balance 30.12.2017	<b>£2,354.16</b>

<b>Savings Account</b>	Opening Balance 01.01.2018	£28,304.18
	Net Cheque Balance	£0.00
	Interest	£0.00
	Transfer In	£0.00
	Transfer Out	£5,000.00
	Closing Balance 31.03.2018	<b>£23,304.18</b>

Clerk Services - May 2017 - March 2018 £90.00 paid out on 18th of each Month	£90.00
Direct tec Group Limited Payment of Printer for Kingsdon Chronicle net payment received of £695 cheque no. 100530	£834.00
Chubb Bulleid - payment for report on Village Hall	£480.00
Somerset Association of Local Councils	£92.31
Mr Tim Taylor (reimbursement for invoices paid to 123-reg UK Ltd (amount tbc by Ian)	

W.Elliott proposed that we accept these payments, seconded by G.Osborne, all in favour.

J.Land is asking approval to transfer another £1000 from savings so we do not go overdrawn.  
G.Osborne proposed that we transfer the £1000, seconded by W.Elliott, all in favour.

Online banking has now been set up.

The Parish Council had money given to us from the transparency fund to put the accounts onto the website, which means smaller councils no longer need an external auditor. There is now new legislation and we have been told that if we have any income or expenditure going over £25000 we still have to have an external auditor, who will be allocated to us, and we will be charged £300 for it. This is likely to be the case this year with grants and loans for the field etc.

The system for recording the income and expenditure is quite complicated, a software package has been recommended to J.Land which will make it much simpler. It will cost a total of around £432. B.Paine proposed that we purchase this software, seconded by G.Osborne, all in favour.

### **8. Village Plan**

S.Mackay reported we are now at a stage of putting out an executive summary to present to the village. A draft of this will be proposed to the councillors first.

This will then contribute to the village plan.

When to hold the meeting was discussed.

### **9. Tree Planting**

P.Waters handed out a plan which shows possible planting places, which focuses on planting in the gaps, he talked through the plan. The trees have all been selected for wildlife and colour.

None of the trees will get any bigger than the ones that are currently planted. Various trees have been donated which can be put into the wildlife area.

W.Elliott reminded P.Waters to contact B.Conway as they were interested in sponsoring a tree in memory of Mick Conway.

The trees being bought will be quite established.

Is there a long term plan for the pine trees – this was discussed.

Looking at the wider parish will happen next year.

W.Elliott would like to be involved at the time of planting so that he can be sure he can still fit the mower through. P.Waters agreed to hold a site meeting with him on this matter.

S.Mackay proposed that we spend £550 +vat on these trees, seconded by B.Paine, all in favour.

**Action – P.Waters to complete planting by the end of March.**

### **11. The Former School Playing Field**

B.Paine commented that we have now owned the school playing field for at least 6 months; this has avoided building on this area. We now need to make a decision on how to use it, we need a plan, budget and timetable. Can this be included and highlighted in the village plan presentation? It was agreed that it would.

### **10 and 12. The Play Equipment and Village Field**

W.Elliott explained that we had an inspection last August, the goalposts have been sorted. The rest was more technical work so he has gathered a quotation.

A weekly inspection is happening by a new helper who has found one seat is going rotten and splintering.

W.Elliott has prepared a summary of works to be done with costs and distributed to councillors. There is a need to look at 106 money and optimise this.

B.Paine clarified that we need to sort out the funding before we take on this work.

A parishioner said they could fix the bench if the council bought the slats. **Action – W.Elliott and parishioner will liaise on fixing the bench.**

It was agreed by councillors that this work needs to be done, but we have to look at 106 funding before we go ahead. **Action – D.Beswick will continue to liaise about 106 money to clarify issues.**

B.Paine said there is a lot of vegetation growing out of the wall on the village field; we need to sort this out before we need repairs which cost a lot of money. A site meeting of councillors is needed.

**Action – B.Paine to organise a site meeting.**

### **13. Date of next meeting**

Monthly meeting – Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2018

**The Vice-Chairman closed the meeting at 8.40pm**