



MINUTES OF THE KINGSDON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 10th September 2020 IN THE VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30pm

Parishioner comment time:

None

Present:

Mr David Beswick (Chairman), Mr B. Paine (Vice-Chairman), Mr I Dibben, Mr A. Anderson, Mrs S Mackay, Mr G. Osborne and Mr P. Waters (Parish Councillors); Mr K. Tridgel (RFO); Mrs Kate Hatt (Parish Clerk); plus 2 parishioners.

1. Apologies:

Mr D. Ruddle (County Councillor); Charlie Hull (District Councillor) and T. Capozzoli (District councillor).

2. Declarations of Interest:

None other than those already declared. Two councillors not to vote on allotments.

3. Minutes:

The minutes the monthly Parish Council meeting held on the 12th March 2020, which had been previously circulated, were proposed by B.Paine and seconded by I.Dibben, and unanimously approved and signed.

4. Matters arising not covered by agenda items

None from the last minutes

5. Chairman's Report

Future meetings may need a booking system depending on popularity of agenda items.

Regarding the Kingsdon planning application, we have had feedback from Greenslade Taylor Hunt on the Kingsdon Estate development proposal to say that after 5 months, the planning officer has finally responded and will hope to address the couple of outstanding queries within the next 10 days.

B.Paine has been in touch with Greenslade Taylor Hunt and found only that the planning officer has not been there full time, and working from home, which is what was causing delay, they are also really short-handed.

6. Correspondence

SSDC tree warden – We have had an email from the SSDC Tree Warden to say that the owner of 2 Lime Tree Close wants to lop 40ft off the lime tree in his garden. I am not happy with this as this is one of the few trees that were retained as part of the development approval and there is nothing wrong with it – not diseased or damaged. I strongly object to people moving into the village and immediately starting major works that have a significant affect on the environment.

The reasons for the proposal are not clear.

P.Waters – perhaps we could compromise and reduce it a little, which could benefit the tree which could avoid more serious work in the future. If it's a light issue, it could just be lifted up.

Independent assessment – not just from the tree warden. Is Phil Paulton coming to look at it?
 What was the name of the person who looked at the poplars?
 B.Paine – there needs to be clear evidence of disease or damage.

Action – D.Beswick to write to Phil Paulton. K.Hatt to find the name of the independent assessor.

PCSO – emailed crime information for our area, nothing significant to report.

Community Transport – looking for a donation. We do not know of people in the village who use it. **Action – K.Hatt to find out if we are aware of any**

7.1 and 7.2 Finance- report and cheque signing.

KPC Account	Opening balance as at 01.08.2020	£16,779.72
	Net Cheque /Standing Order Balance	£291.40
	Payments/Transfer In	£0.00
	Transfer Out	£0.00
	Closing Balance as at 31.08.2020	£16,488.32
	Uncleared Items-	£0.00
	True Balance as at 31.08.2020	£16,488.32

Savings Account	Opening balance as at 01.08.2020	£24,310.61
	Net Cheque Balance	£0.00
	Interest -	£0.00
	Transfer In	£0.00
	Transfer Out -	£0.00
	Closing Balance as at 31.08.2020	£24,310.61

Asset Savings Account	Opening balance as at 01.08.2020	£17,553.98
	Transfer In -	£0.00
	Interest	£0.00
	Transfer Out	£0.00
	Closing Balance as at 31.08.2020	£17,553.98

Clerk Services Standing Order (will be adjusted for PAYE at year end) of £100pm June 2019 until further notice and RFO Services Payroll as from 04.2020		KPCM 11/4/19(Clerk)
Kate Hatt - Clerk services	£100.00	Standing order
K Tridgell - RFO Services	£120.00	Chq 100628
SALC Annual Fee 20/21	£95.11	Chq 100625

The Play Inspection Co. - Play Eqpt Insp. 20/21	£66.00	Chq 100626
G.Osborne Mower Fuel for play field	£22.34	Chq 100627

TOTAL ANTICIPATED EXPENDITURE - Up to 04.09.2020

£403.45

Amount approval (less S.O. pre approved clerk)

£303.45

We are now registered with HMRC, for clerk and RFO.
Letter from Barclays bank to set up a standing order for paying the RFO.

Details of the finance was handed to the councillors for information.

These payments and the bank reconciliations were proposed by G.Osborne, seconded by S.Mackay, all in favour.

8. Footpaths and the environment

Sheeting and proximity to the footpath – I.Dibben will need to seek further advice.
Meeting with Symonds and samsons next week – trying to work with them on footpaths – adoption of Mill Lane (possible illegal opening onto a field and ripped hedge row), plus general open line of communication. Blackberries etc have just been annihilated.
I.Dibben is carrying out a survey of glow worms. Discussed with previous game keeper where previous areas of glow worms are. What is there approach to protecting the environment? What can we do to protect each section of the environment?

G.Osborne – Visibility for Kingsdon Hill on the right hand side. Could I.Dibben also discuss this?

9. Request for tree planting ideas 2020

P.Waters - Still looking at planting to screen from new A303.
Planting ideas – please contact P.Waters via email with ideas for planting in the village. Any native trees, there are lot of grants available.
B.Paine – could something be put in the chronicle? **Action – B.Paine and P.Waters to organise.**

Survey of trees in the village of the important ones to us, with possibility of putting a Tree Protection Order on them. Looking for a handful of people to produce a survey. Ask in article for people to submit the trees that are important to them as there may be several in people’s gardens. A TPO protects it, it doesn’t take away their ownership of it.

I.Dibben will also bring it up with the estate managers when he meets them next week (Symonds and Samsons). The trees should be plotted on our parish map. Also take into account the trees in Kingsdon Wood.

10. Unitary Authority

D.Beswick – there have been various reports about the way forward for the reorganisation of Somerset. The County want one unitary authority but the Districts want two, split East and West. We have not been formerly asked our views or even to whom we should express them. Does anyone have any particular view or suggestion?

B.Paine – some of the information out there can be very misleading, doesn't make savings, it will be redistributed. One unitary authority seems to make more sense to him.

Councillors to keep an eye on this situation.

11. Allotments

D.Beswick - confirmed that Debbie and Mike Wallbridge are now managing the allotments on his behalf. Their contact details are tel: 01935 849340 - email: . mikewallb@outlook.com There is a request for the council to purchase one table/bench for the newly developed communal area, priced at about £150. Also a further request to consider allowing the erection of polycarbonate greenhouses on the plots with a maximum size of 8' by 6'. The Estate would not object but suggests all allotment holders should be allowed to express their views and that the Parish Council can decide. Debbie and Mike have started to carry out a survey.

I.Dibben proposed that we give them £200 for the bench, seconded S.Mackay, all in favour.

P.Waters – will the people who overlook the allotments be asked about the polycarbonate greenhouses? . D.Beswick agreed to make sure this is carried out.

I.Dibben – is there a way we can make sure that the allotments are left in a clean and tidy state.

D.Beswick – the agreement does cover this. 1st season free if someone takes on a 'messy' one.

P.Waters – could a deposit be asked for to cover work to tidy it up?

12. Hedge Cutting

Simon Atwell has been asked for a quotation to cut the field and allotment hedges and the areas between the tress on Mowbarton Road, they have previously been significantly cheaper. Mervin has also been asked but he has declined to quote. We are accepting The Atwell quote of £425 plus VAT.

There will need to be notices on cars parked by the triangle – to leave car somewhere else.

G.Osborne to act as a contact for this.

Parishioner – how late can we leave hedge cutting? Are the parish looking at farming in the wider community?

I.Dibben said that these kind of things will be discussed at his meeting on Monday.

B.Paine proposed £425 + VAT for the hedge cutting, P.Waters seconded, all in favour.

13. Date of next meeting

8th October 2020.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.27pm