

**Minutes of Kingston Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 04 February 2019
in The Barn, Kingston**

Present:-

Cllr Martin (Chairman)
Cllr Osborn (Vice-Chair)
Cllr Spencer (Acting Clerk)
Cllr Pearson
Cllr Stribbling
Cllr Chatley

The meeting was opened at 19.30 and the Chairman welcomed everyone, in particular County Cllr Northey who returns after a period of ill health. City Cllr Simon Cook was also in attendance. There were no members of the public present.

811. It was **Resolved** that Cllr Spencer would be Acting Clerk for the duration of this meeting. This was proposed by Cllr Stribbling and seconded by Cllr Pearson. There were no objections.

812. Apologies and Approval of Absences

Cllr Wakefield sent apologies owing to the fact she has recently given birth! Congratulations were offered by all and a card was signed.

813. Co-option of Member

Mr Paul Chatley has agreed to be formally co-opted onto the Council. He signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and was presented with copies of the Council's Standing Orders, Code of Conduct, Financial Regulations and the Council's policies and procedures.

814. Reports from County and City Council Members

County Cllr Northey reported that Canterbury has had the third highest number of pot holes repaired in the County (66 to date). Work is ongoing.

Residents are reminded to make use of the recently established bus feedback portal so that KCC can monitor user experience.

More engineers have been recruited to assist with drain inspections. County Cllr Northey to recommend good liaison with the fire service when and where appropriate.

Cllr Martin reported that there is potentially a 30mph sign missing in Covet Lane and that the one in situ is partially obscured by vegetation. Cllr Osborn will log this on the Highways portal and it will be followed up by email to County Cllr Northey.

City Cllr Cook explained the following points in relation to Conservation Areas:

- The general principle is that they are designed to protect the look of the existing environment
- It can be more complicated to seek planning permission when living within one
- There are different permitted development rights when living within one
- Planning permission must be sought when undertaking work on trees
- There are restriction regarding the facing of walls

City Cllr Cook, along with his transport and operations colleague, will be meeting representatives from Gomez tomorrow. *(Tuesday 5th February)*

The Planning Committee Meeting arranged to discuss the Highland Court Development is scheduled to take place tomorrow. *(Tuesday 5th February)*

There is still some money available to be bid for in the Rural Forum Opportunities Fund. Final allocations will be made in March; the money must be distributed by year-end.

It was noted that there are currently three planning enforcements being considered in Kingston.

An inspection of Covet Lane Railway Bridge by Historical Railways Estates will take place this week. *(Friday 8th February)* It was noted that the results of this inspection would be of interest to KPC.

Residents are reminded to check household rubbish collection dates online. The electronic calendar is very user-friendly and can be easily downloaded.

815. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest regarding items on the Agenda.

816. Public Forum

There were no questions from the public.

817. Minutes of the Previous Meetings

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on the 07 January 2019 were agreed to be a true reflection of all that was discussed. Proposed by Cllr Osborn and seconded by Cllr Stribbling it was therefore **Resolved** to accept these as a correct record and they were duly signed.

818. Matters Arising

It was agreed that further consultation is needed before any decisions can be made regarding the extension of the Conservation Area. The views of residents should be sought after the elections.

819. Planning Applications

None to consider.

820. Planning Application Decisions

There were none to report.

821. Finance

There were no bills to pay.

Cllr Martin reported that bank signatories have been amended as previously discussed. The annual internal audit will be due at the end of the financial year. Proposed by Cllr Pearson and seconded by Cllr Osborn, it was decided to invite Joy Rule to act as auditor and to offer a fee of £100.00 as before.

822. Highways and Footpaths

The issue of the Covet Lane 30 mph sign was discussed earlier.

The Council expressed thanks to Gerald Crease who had repaired one of the embankment steps using timber and pegs stocked in the Little Barn. There is evidence that people on motor bikes and horses have been using the embankment. The need for suitable 'chicanes' is noted to help act as a deterrent. Further research and costings will take place.

Cllr Martin has received a request for a salt bin from a resident of Ileden Lane. Ileden Lane is a private lane and so KCC will not fund this despite the fact the Lane feeds directly onto the A2. Councillors discussed the possibility of purchasing one on the understanding it is managed by the residents of Ileden Lane. Cllr Stribbling agreed to investigate costs and sources of salt. Cllr Martin will continue dialogue with residents.

823. Re-advertisement of Clerk/Responsible Finance Offer

It was reported that there is one application in hand. The closing date for applications is the 15th February.

824. Emails received:

7 Jan: NALC Chief Executive's Bulletin
8 Jan: NATIONAL CSSC Green Message
8 Jan: Rebecca Williams Oast to Coast Magazine
10 Jan: KALC Planning Conference
11 Jan: 2018 KALC AGM Draft Minutes
12 Jan: CPRE Campaigns – Help us reclaim our dark skies
18 Jan: NALC Sends an Open letter
21 Jan: NALC Chief Executive's Bulletin
26 Jan: CPRE Campaigns – Star Count 2019
28 Jan: NALC Chief Executive's Bulletin
31 Jan: KCC Kent Bus Feedback Portal

825. Matters for Further Discussion

Cllr Martin circulated some text from Democratic Services providing some background to the nomination process for the Parish Council elections on Thursday 2nd May 2019.

Cllr Spencer gave an update on the Great British Spring Clean. It was decided to schedule the Kingston Litter Pick for Saturday 06 April (09.00 – meet in the Black Robin carpark). Cllr Spencer will coordinate advertising, Health and Safety paperwork and liaise with the City Council.

Cllr Osborn suggested we investigate how familiar residents are with the Internet and that people should be given the opportunity to 'opt in' to a courtesy call from KPC in times of emergency (such as extreme weather).

826. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 04 March 2019 at 19.30 in The Barn, Kingston

The meeting closed at 21.08.

Signed

Date