

Minutes of Kingston Parish Council Meeting held on
Monday 4th July 2016 in The Barn, Kingston.

Present:

Cllr Martin - Chairman

Cllr Osborn – Vice- Chair

Cllr Arter

Cllr McCord

Cllr Pearson

Cllr Spencer

Valerie McWilliams, Clerk

There were 3 members of the public present.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting after which she asked for any comments from the public.

County Cllr Michael Northey attended the meeting and said that there was very little to report except that finances were likely to be very tight possibly for some time until the country and Government had sorted out the many issues that they were facing following the Brexit result. Certain monies for Health and Education had been ring-fenced.

Cllr Martin thanked Cllr Northey for his generous donation towards the Queen's birthday celebration, without which the party would not have been the success that it was.

City Cllr Cook sent his apologies for being unable to attend the meeting. He wrote thanking the Council very much for inviting him to Kingston's celebrations of the Queen's 90th birthday. He and his family had a great time – He was only sorry not to have pulled harder in the tug of war! It was a real triumph and shows the community spirit of the village.

He reported that there was not much to report from the City Council this month. We continue to have issues with fly tipping and they have now taken up new powers from the government to issue fixed penalty notices to fly tippers which should be a lot easier to do than taking offenders through the courts. It is hoped that this will help reduce the problem.

1. APOLOGIES

City Cllr Cook sent his apologies for absence due to a previous engagement.
Cllr Walsh sent his apologies for absence due to work commitments

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the Meeting on 6th June 2016 were accepted as an accurate record. Acceptance of the minutes; proposed by Cllr McCord and seconded by Cllr Pearson.

3. MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Cllr Osborn declared a discretionary interest in the planning application CA/16/01246/FUL. Cllr McCord declared he may have a Discretionary Interest in the Concurrent Functions Funding 4 year Forecast. There was no other notification given by members of any pecuniary or discretionary interest in items on the Agenda.

4. MATTERS ARISING

Cllr McCord stated that the May & June minutes were not on the website. Cllr Osborn replied that he was experiencing trouble with the website and was in the process of sorting out some technical difficulties.

Cllr Pearson said that Faggs Alley had been cut back and cleared up and wondered who had done it. The Clerk said it had been done by a local resident. She was asked to write and thank him.

5. FINANCE

Lloyds Bank £10,422.34

Monies In

VAT Return £127.70

Payments Due

Val McWilliams for 16 Hours worked in June SCP2 per hour £10.50 = £168
+ £40 Office maintenance, Stationary (£8.07 +VAT £1.61) Total £9.68

Total £217.68

Val McWilliams Party Expenses

Table Hire (Net £314.00 +VAT £ 62.80) Total £376.80

Food Marks & Spencer £148.00

Tableware (Net £38.79 +VAT £6.18) Total £44.96

Total £569.76

Davina Martin Party Expenses

Flags (Net £25.00 +VAT £6.16 Delivery £36.95) Total £36.95

Food Waitrose £104.57

Iceland £10.00

Total £151.52

Tom Arter Party Refreshment Expenses £23.40

Total party expenses amounted to £744.68 but there will be a VAT remittance of £62.80. The grants received amounted to £633.39. There was an overspend of £48.49

Andrew Sage Grass cutting £45.49

Total Overall Expenditure £1,007.36

These figures were accepted for payment; proposed by Cllr Pearson and seconded by Cllr Spencer.

There were no additional finance questions to the Clerk from Councillors

The Clerk reported that she had received the papers for the CCF 4 year budget but they have since been revised. She will bring the papers to the September meeting.

The Clerk had received a formal request for an inspection of the 2015/2016 accounts by a local elector. An appointment had been arranged but was then withdrawn.

Notice of Motion

Cllr McCord proposed a Notice of Motion. The Chairman pointed out to him that no motion can proceed without a seconder unless Standing Orders are suspended for a particular item (Ref SO 25a). This should only happen in exceptional circumstances.

There were no objections to suspending Standing Orders on this occasion.

Cllr McCord introduced his Notice of Motion under paragraph 9(a) of Standing Orders, relating to the performance of the Council's statutory functions, powers and obligations. He concluded that the Parish Council's accounting practice is at variance with statutory requirements.

The Council did not support his motion and the vote taken was a 5/1 result against carrying the motion forward. Therefore the Motion was not carried.

Cllr McCord stated that with the exception of the Annual Governance Statement no other sections of the Annual Return had been placed on the Notice Board. The clerk explained that they had been put up but as they had scanned in so badly it was difficult to read them so they were taken down. They will be replaced.

6. PLANNING/TREES

CA/16/01413/FUL Single-storey extension and alterations to the roof to provide first floor living accommodation and conversion of detached garage to provide office and gym. (Revised scheme) 18 The Street, Kingston, CT4 6JB.

Councillors considered the plans and had some difficulty in identifying any difference to the revised plans from the original ones. They felt that the plans presented an attempt to turn a modest bungalow into a five bedroom house. The line of the bridleway is cut by the projected side of the property. Raising the roof and putting windows into the wall created is definitely a house not an extended bungalow. Overall Councillors were not comfortable with approving the plans. The Clerk will write to the Development Control at CCC informing them.

CA/16/ 01246/FUL Proposed detached two-storey dwelling Land adjacent to The Old Forge, Church Lane, Kingston CT4 6HX. There were no objections raised to the proposed plans. The Clerk will let the Development Control at CCC know

CA/16/01315/FUL Proposed dormer windows to front elevation. 1 The Street, Kingston CT4 6HZ. There were no objections raised to the proposed plans. The Clerk will write to the Development control at CCC.

CA/16/01007/FUL Erection of two-storey side extension with dormer windows to front. Tremaine, 1 Greenacre, Kingston CT4 6JF. This has been granted

TREES

The Clerk had heard from The Kent Men of the Trees who confirmed that they would be carrying out a survey shortly to enable a grant application to be put forward.

The Tree Surgeon had looked at the over hanging branch overhanging 29 The Street, and stated that there was no danger of it falling. The particular tree will be considered in the survey

The Clerk reported that the Oak tree by the bus shelter at the bottom of The Street was in need of attention. It was agreed that she would approach Highways to assess it and if considered necessary get it cut back.

The Railway Embankment.

The Chairman felt we should prepare a group email list of volunteers to help with improving the Embankment so that they could easily be notified of future plans to the area. The Clerk will prepare a group list. Cllr Osborn will also add it on to the website. Cllr Pearson stated that we would need to implement the Risk Assessment before any volunteer work took place. All were in agreement.

The Chairman reported that the area surrounding the steps of the playing field is very overgrown. The risers on the steps are sound but the steps themselves are becoming hollow and in need of some sort of infill.

7. HIGHWAYS & FOOTPATHS

Footpath 274 and Bridleway 276a have now been cut back.
Cllr Arter asked if the steps on Footpath CB 275 leading down towards Bishopsbourne had been repaired. The Clerk will contact PROW to enquire.

8. QUEEN'S 90th BIRTHDAY & CLEAN UP BRITAIN

The Queen's Birthday party was considered a great success. The weather was kind and everyone enjoyed it. The singing by Steve Pert was really appreciated and the Council was very grateful to him for giving his services voluntarily. It certainly added to the success of the party. The Council has received numerous letter and emails thanking them for the event.

Cllr Spencer organised a very successful "Clean Up" for the village before the party. The help from local residents was much appreciated. It is planned to do it again later in the year.

9. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

Clerks & N Councils Direct July 2016
Kent Trust for Youth Sport

Emails sent to all

Ash Die Back News
KSCP A Year in View 2015 - 2016
NALC Bulletin
Southern Water
Rural News

All correspondence has been circulated amongst Councillors

10 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

It was agreed the Councillors Responsibilities would be considered at the September meeting.

It was agreed that in future the Notice Board would only be available for Parish Council notices due to the increasing number of items that now have to be displayed.

The meeting closed at 9.35pm

11. DATE of NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will take place on **Monday September 5th 2016** at 7.30pm
in The Barn.