

Minutes of Kingston Parish Council Meeting held on
Monday 7th March 2016 in The Barn, Kingston.

Present:

Cllr Martin - Chairman
Cllr Arter
Cllr McCord
Cllr Pearson
Cllr Walsh
Cllr Spencer
Valerie McWilliams, Clerk

There was one member of the public present.

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

COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

City Cllr Simon Cook attended the meeting and reported that arrangements were being made to have a massive clean up of the litter along the A2 in May. It will involve closing the road.

He had received complaints about the fly tipping on the open piece of ground by the A2 slip road which is a chipping store for KCC Highways. They are currently making arrangements for their property team to get the waste removed.

The City Council is in contact with Ashford & Shepway Council regarding the serious problem with lorry parking in lay-bys and side roads all over Kent to try and work out a solution to prevent it.

Discussions are still taking place with regard to car parking in Canterbury.

1. APOLOGIES

City Cllr Michael Northey sent his apologies for being unable to attend the meeting as he was unwell. PCSO Williams sent her apologies as she was unable to attend the meeting.

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting on 15th March 2016 were accepted as an accurate record. Acceptance of the minutes; proposed by Cllr Arter and seconded by Cllr McCord.

3. MEMBERS' INTERESTS

There was no notification by members given of any pecuniary or discretionary interest in items on the Agenda.

4. MATTERS ARISING

The application to hold the proposed MIND Festival due to take place at Quilters Farm in June has been withdrawn. The Organisers are looking for a new site in Dover.

5. FINANCE

Lloyds Bank £ £6,675.39

Monies In

£602.58 Government Grant

Payments Due

Val McWilliams for 16 Hours worked in February SCP2 per hour £10.50 = £168+
Government Grant Extra Funding £42.00 Total £210.00 Office maintenance £40
Stationary (£45.89 + VAT £9.18) £55.07

Total £305.07

ACRK Subscription £50.00

Chairman's Expenses £10.00

TOTAL £365.07

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

The Clerk had previously presented the Updated Financial Regulations to the Council and it was unanimously agreed to accept them.

A Government grant of £602.58 has been received which will provide a lap top and printer for the Council along with an allowance for extra hours for the Clerk following the work involved with regard to the Transparency Code.

The Sector Led Body External Audit was discussed as financially active Parish Councils are caught by the audit requirement to appoint an external auditor and will therefore need to decide whether to opt-out of the SAAA by 31 March or appoint their own. It was unanimously agreed that it was better to stay with the SAAA. The Clerk will make the necessary arrangements.

There were no additional finance questions to the Clerk from Councillors.

6. COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS PROTOCOL UPDATE

Cllr Martin reported that she had now added a holding clause to Item (3)e as requested by Cllr Osborn. Agreement to accept this was proposed by Cllr Walsh and seconded by Cllr Spencer and all were in favour.

7. VILLAGE SURVEY

Cllr Martin presented an update on the final responses. While many comments expressed satisfaction, other key issues mentioned were Speeding traffic in The Street and Covet Lane, Parking, including making more use of the Barn car park, Dog Fouling on footpaths, and Outdoor Gym Equipment.

The results will be presented and discussed at the Annual Parish Meeting in May.

Cllr McCord congratulated Cllr Martin on doing such an excellent job in producing the survey. All were in agreement.

8. PLANNING/TREES

CA/16/00336/FUL. Loft conversion. 19 The Street, Kingston, CT4 6JB
There were no objections to the application.

CA/16/00346/FUL Single-storey side/rear extension and alterations in roof to provide first floor living accommodation and conversion of detached garage to provide office and gym. 18 The Street, Kingston, CT4 6J. There were no objections in principle to the application but some concern was expressed about the large area of rear elevation covered with new dormer windows reaching up to the top of the rear roof elevation. This extension could encroach on to the Bridleway next door.

The Clerk will write to the Development Team at CCC regarding the two above applications

CA/16/00305/FUL, CA/16/00312/LB Oak Framed Link extension, 45 The Street, Kingston, CT4 6JQ. Awaiting decision.

CA/16/0059/FUL Proposed single-storey rear extension and loft conversion with front and rear dormer window 31 The Street, Kingston, Canterbury CT4 6JE
Awaiting decision.

The following applications will be discussed at an Extra Ordinary Meeting on
Wednesday 16TH March 2016 at 7.00pm

CA/00449/FUL Kingston Water Treatment Works, Covet Lane, Kingston, CT4 6JX

CA/16/00425/LB Replacement of single glazed windows with double glazed windows. Whitelocks Barn, The Street, Kingston CT4 6JQ

CA/16/00442/FUL Proposed extension to kitchen and infill the small recess between the toilets. The Barn, The Street, Kingston, CT4 6JB.

TREES

The Clerk had heard from Highways who reported that the two Beech trees opposite No 80, The Street were not their responsibility but that of whoever owned The Stud Farm. The new owners had been living in France but it is proving difficult to contact them. The Clerk will contact the Land Registry to try and establish who the new owners are. Highways did state that although the trees would benefit from being cut back they were not dangerous.

9. HIGHWAYS & FOOTPATHS

Michael Northey had contacted Chris Maw at Kent County Council with regard to the recent work done to replace two rotten electricity poles and underground cabling and wiring between Nos 14 & 15 The Street by the Freedom Group when there had been less than 24 hours' notice sent to residents stating that the road would be closed for 3 days, apparently without applying for a license. We have had no response so far from KCC.

There are one or two small potholes around the village, but in view of the recent bad weather it was felt that it would be better to wait until the weather improved and the Clerk would then drive round the parish and check the roads.

Cllr Arter reported that the steps on Footpath CB 275 leading down towards Bishopsbourne had rotted. The Clerk will report it to PROW.

10. DRAFT POLICY ON FREEDOM of INFORMATION AND PUBLICATION SCHEME

This was discussed and will be considered further at the next meeting. The Clerk will include it as an Agenda item.

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

It is hoped to hold a tea party for the Queen's Birthday on 12th June. Discussions are in hand with other village organisations many of whom are in favour and have offered to help. It is hoped to set up a working party and this will be discussed further at the next meeting.

It is hoped to arrange a 'Clean up Britain for the Queen' litter party before the

event concentrating on Covet Lane, Westwood and Marley Lane.

12. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

Clerks & Councils Direct
Kent Men of Trees

Emails – sent to all

Updated Financial; Regulations
Smaller Authorities Audi Appointment Ltd
Your Parish Council Needs Your Vote
UK Power Networks – Partnership Working with Parishes
Intelligence Alert from the National Intelligence Bureau

All correspondence has been circulated amongst Councillors

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

It was agreed to provide light refreshments for AVM to be held on Wednesday 18th May. The Clerk will also speak to the Kent Men of Trees to see if they would come and talk about "Tree Care & Maintenance" as a guest speaker at the meeting.

There was no further business.

The meeting closed at 10.00pm

14. DATE of NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will take place on **Monday 4th April** 2016 at 7.30pm in The Barn