

Minutes of Kingston Parish Council Meeting held on
Monday 8th May 2017 in the Barn, Kingston.

Present:-

Cllr Martin - Chairman
Cllr Osborn – Vice- Chair
Cllr Arter
Cllr Spencer
Cllr Pearson
Valerie McWilliams, Clerk

There were two members of the public present.

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

Simon Cook could not attend the meeting but reported that CCC had now appointed 11 new enforcement officers.. Five of them will be aimed at environmental enforcement including fly tipping which should further improve our work here. CCC have already issued the most fixed penalty notices for fly tipping in Kent and cameras are proving very useful at gathering evidence. There will be a suggestion at the next RAMP meeting that a portion of the opportunities fund is used to buy more cameras (following an idea by the Herne Bay Area Member Panel) as they are particularly useful in rural areas.

CCC are working to do better at supporting community litter picking - you'll know we have a particular difficulty in villages as our health and safety guidance is not to pick on roads without pavements. This is something officers are urgently trying to find a solution too.

Finally, the community governance review will start in the summer. This will include looking at parish councils and whether they wish to alter their boundaries or merge with neighbours – CCC will look forward to hearing your views on this.

County Cllr Michael Northey was unwell and did not attend the meeting.

1. APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS

The Clerk asked for nominations for the election of a Chairman. Cllr Osborn proposed Cllr Martin,; seconded by Cllr Spencer there were no other nominations. Cllr Martin accepted the nomination and all duly elected her as Chairman.

Cllr Martin proposed Cllr Osborn as Vice Chairman seconded by Cllr Pearson. Cllr Osborn accepted the nomination and was duly elected as Vice Chairman all were in agreement.

2. APOLOGIES

City Cllr Simon Cook sent his apologies as he had a prior engagement County Cllr Michael Northey was unable to attend as he was unwell. Cllr McCord sent his apologies due to the pressure of work

2. MEMBERS' INTERESTS

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

3. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting on 3rd April 2017, were accepted as an accurate record. Acceptance of the minutes; proposed by Cllr Arter & seconded by Cllr Pearson

4. MATTERS ARISING

All action items had been executed.

5. FINANCE

Lloyds Bank £9,343.01 (15th April 2017)

Monies In

KCC Grant (Embankment) £2,713.00
Concurrent Funding £4,148.28
Precept & Grant £5,700.95
Groundwork £2,000.00

Payments Due

For 16 Hours worked in April at SCP2 per hour £10.50 +£168 + Office Maintenance £40.00.Total £208.00.
McCabe Ford Williams, Pay Roll, £170.00 + VAT £34.0 Total £204.00
KVHT Barn Hire £59.95
KVHT CFF £3,868.28
Dean & Chapter Archives £25.00
ACRK Subscription £50.00
Joy Rule Audit £80.00
Total 4,495.23

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

The Clerk presented the accounts to the Council, which had been audited by the Internal Auditor. The Annual Governance Statement Audit form was duly approved and signed by the Chair and Clerk. Acceptance of the forms was proposed; by Cllr Arter, seconded by Cllr Spencer. The Clerk will now forward the forms on to the P K Littlejohn, for acceptance by the External Auditor.

All records of the annual finances will be put on the website and notice board. Anyone is permitted to view the accounts should they wish by contacting the clerk.

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

The Clerk was congratulated and thanked for the amount of money she had raised for the Railway Embankment project.

6. PLANNING

NEW

CA/17/00829. Proposed erection of detached two-storey dwelling with associated landscaping parking and refuse store. Hoods Place, 64 The Street, Kingston, CT4 6JQ

Councillors considered the above application during the meeting and felt that a site visit should be carried out. Following the report back from the visit by two representatives of the Council, It was felt that the proposed site was narrower than the site occupied by Hood's Place, which would make things quite tight for the width of the proposed dwelling. It was felt that the amount of car parking space would be wholly inadequate for a house of this size, especially as there is no provision for a garage. The height of the building would feel imposing, not just in terms of overlooking the field and public footpath to the rear, but also to the houses opposite in The Street. The finished building could overlook the frontage of those houses more than anticipated.

Overall, Councillors did not object in principle to a building on the plot but felt that these particular plans were unusually large and out of character with the rest of The Street.

CA/17/00845 Erection and display of three non-illuminated fascia signs, one externally illuminated hanging sign and one timber post sign. Black Robin Inn Covet Lane, Kingston CT4 6HS. Councillors felt that they could not see any changes to the previous application and raised no objections to the plans.

CA/17/00959 Proposed single-storey rear extension following emollition of existing extension with 2 no. roof lights to front elevation. Birch Lodge, Church Lane, Kingston CT4 6HX. There were no objections raised to the application. The clerk will report to the Development Control at CCC

DECISIONS

CA/17/00453 Proposed two-storey rear extension, loft conversion and remodeling of existing building to include 3 dormers to front elevation, Juliette balcony to rear and roof lights. GRANTED

CA/17/00236 Application for listed building consent for signage to external elevations, The Black Robin Inn, Covet Lane, Kingston, CT4 6HS REFUSED

CA/17/00324 Proposed single-storey rear extension with single side porch following the demolition of existing conservatory. Owls Hatch, 1 Rectory Orchard, Church Lane, Kingston CT4 6HY GRANTED

CA/17/00325 Single- storey side extension following demolition of existing conservatory and open fronted store. Broadfield, Covet Lane, Kingston CT4 6HU GRANTED

CA/17/00538 Retrospective application for ancillary accommodation over garage together with alterations to roof and dormer windows AWAITING DECISION

7. TREES

Cllr Martin expressed praise and thanks to the two working parties that had taken place on the Embankment. It is hoped to organise four more such working parties during May & June, Suggested dates are:

Saturday 27th May 10am, Wednesday 31st May 10am.

Saturday 10th June, Thursday 22nd June 10am.

Volunteers will be welcome.

It was agreed that the Tree Surgeon would be asked to brush cut some of the ivy, which would make clearing it much easier. In addition,

ask him to spray the nettles by the steps leading form the Recreation Ground

Cllr Martin with the help of a resident has repaired the broken riser on the steps leading from the playing field.

The Clerk is looking into getting a water butt to go onto the Embankment as it is going to be necessary for the Oak trees and any future trees that we plant later in the year.

8. HIGHWAYS & FOOTPATHS

Cllr Spencer and The Clerk intend to do a sweep of the village looking for potholes during the next two weeks. Noting further to report.

9 KALC

Cllr Pearson attended the last KALC meeting and gave a grief report back KALC had met the devolution committee. They will set up Town Councils. All councils will need to set their precepts closely in future in order to cover parish costs in order to be ready for 2002 There is talk of a push for 20mph speed limits on some rural roads. Racing bikes are also included in excessive speeding complaints. It was felt that there was no point in monitoring speed limits if no action would be taken by the police.

The Parish Charter was gone through, paragraph by paragraph. Suggestions were made on amendments and agreed by all at the meeting. A new document will be drawn up including the alterations and sent to all parish councils.

10. KPC APPOINTED TRUSTEE TO KVHT

Cllr Martin put her name forward to become the Parish Council's Appointed Trustee to the Kingston Village Hall Trust. Cllr Osborn proposed to accept the offer it was seconded by Cllr Pearson. All were in agreement. The Clerk will write to the Trust informing them.

11. COUNCILLOR VACANCY

The Council is still looking for a councillor to be co-opted onto the Council. It is hoped we might get someone will to take up the vacancy at the Annual Village Meeting.

12 FACE BOOK UPDATE

Cllr Osborn is still working on Facebook.

13. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

Field Work

Kent Voice

Emails sent to all

Good Councillors Guide

NALC Putting Communities in Control

Southern Eastern Rail Franchise Consultation

Canterbury South Urban Extension Development

Emails sent to all

All correspondence has been circulated amongst Councillors.

14. ANNUAL VILLAGE MEETING

Arrangements are well in hand. Councillors who have agreed to help will meet in the Barn at 3.0pm on Wednesday 17th May 2017. The meeting will commence at 7.00pm.

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr Martin reported that the Notice Board outside the Barn was growing Fungi she offered to go and clean the board up. Councillors were very grateful for the offer.

There was no further business. The meeting closed 9.55pm

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Will be on Monday 5th June 2017 at 7.30pm in The Barn.