

Minutes of Kingston Parish Council Meeting held on
Monday 6th November 2017 in the Barn, Kingston.

Present:-
Cllr Martin - Chairman
Cllr Osborn - Vice-Chair
Cllr Arter
Cllr Pearson
Cllr McCord
Cllr Spencer
Cllr Wakefield
Valerie McWilliams, Clerk

There were four 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 reported that KCC were holding a Budget Consultation enabling anyone to have his or her say. The consultation closes on 3 December. Please visit www.kent.gov.uk/budget to have your say on the proposals to fix the 2018/19 budget gap and tell them your priorities

KCC along with Ashford Borough have become the first council in the UK to clamp down on illegally parked HGV's lorries parked over night in some areas of Kent. More areas will be considered.

City Cllr Simon Cook was unable to attend the meeting but sent a report stating that the City Council will be putting next year's budget out for consultation next week – they have again managed to keep it balanced, whilst preserving frontline services. He had had a meeting with Chief Inspector Weller (the District Commander) last week and he has agreed to keep a close eye on the illegal lorry parking on the Coldharbour Lane / A2 slip road. Finally, the City Council web page for reporting fly tipping has been improved and can now be used to upload photos and the location can be pinpointed from a map or a phone location, rather than having to be described; everyone is urged to use it if they see any fly tipped rubbish.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

City Cllr Simon Cook sent his apologies for being unable to attend the meeting as he had a prior engagement.

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 2nd October 2017 were accepted as an accurate record. Acceptance of the minutes; proposed by Cllr McCord & seconded by Cllr Arter.

4. MATTERS ARISING

Following receipt of the proposals submitted by Parish Councils on boundary changes the suggestion from Adisham, proposing to change the boundary from Kingston Parish Council to Adisham did not meet with the approval of Kingston. Councillors objected fervently and did not want the change at all. The Council's response needed to be registered with CCC by 12 November. It was agreed to inform as many residents as possible of the proposed change using email contacts. The Clerk would write to CCC setting out the Council's reasons for objection.

All action items had been executed.

5. FINANCE

Lloyds Bank £12,766.54

Payments Due

Val McWilliams for 16 Hours worked in October at SCP2 per hour £10.50 = £168
+ Office Maintenance £40.00. = £208.00

NB the Clerk was over paid in July/August by £72.00 so £72.00 was deducted from the October invoice making a total salary of £96.00 plus £40.00 for Office Maintenance = Total £136.00.

KALC Audit workshop (£30.00 + VAT £6.00) Total £36.00

TOTAL £172.00

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

The half- yearly expenditure accounts were approved & accepted by the Council; proposed by Cllr Wakefield & seconded by Cllr Arter.

The forecast Budget was discussed and the Clerk will present it for final approval at the December meeting, prior to the setting of the precept for 2018-19. It was noted that the Clerk would not be taking a salary increase in the next financial year.

5. PLANNING

17/02434 Proposed single-storey side extension following demolition of conservatory and open fronted store. Broadfield Covet Lane, Kingston, CT4 6HJ
The Council added no further comments to the plans.

17/02411 Retrospective Application for proposed two-storey detached dwelling and two-storey detached garage with games rooms over following demolition of existing dwelling and garage.. The Purlins, Black Robin Lane, Kingston CT4 6HR
There were no objections to the proposal

17/022271 T.P.O. No 6 1968 T1- fell sycamore located in rear garden
50 The Street, Kingston CT4 6JE. There were no objections raised to the proposals.

The Clerk will write to the Development Team at CCC informing them of the council's decisions.

Appeal under section 174. Land north side of Marley Lane (adjacent Marley Wood Bungalow) Marley Lane, Kingston, CT4 6JJ **Appeal still to be heard.**

7. TREES

A review of the progress so far on the Embankment will be considered at the January meeting to include original aims, finances and plans. It is hoped to have the part of the Embankment near the Playing Field ready for planting early next year. Alun Griffiths, the Chair of Kent Men of the Trees has agreed to meet with the Council to discuss help and offer advice on suitable trees to be planted.

We did not win the Men of the Trees competition but they have very kindly donated £25.00 towards a new tree to be planted on the Railway Embankment.

8. POLICIES & REGULATIONS UPDATE

The revised Planning Application procedure was approved by all; proposed by Cllr Spencer & seconded by Cllr Pearson. The Transparency Code, Asset Register and Risk Register policies were accepted; proposed by Cllr Pearson & seconded by Cllr Osborn

9. WELCOME PACK

This is currently being updated. Members of the working party have re-typed the text so that it will now be permanently on disc. The Footpath cards are also being reviewed and updated with help from volunteers. A re-launch of the revised pack is planned for presentation at the Annual Village Meeting in May 2018.

10. HIGHWAYS & FOOTPATHS

A questionnaire has been distributed to all residents in Marley Lane asking for their views on the problems they face at being unable to pass oncoming cars in some parts of the Lane. In the light of responses, it is hoped to consider a viable passing place. The Rowlands have kindly allowed the use of their mailbox to collect replies, which should be returned by 30th November 2017.

11. FACEBOOK

Cllr Wakefield reported on the advantages of joining Facebook. It was unanimously agreed it was worthwhile giving it a trial. Cllr Wakefield will set it up and instruct councillors how to use it.

12. HIGHLAND COURT DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS

The Clerk had attended the meeting in Bridge Village Hall where the Chairs and Clerks of neighbouring parishes were invited to consider the proposal. As no formal plans have been put forward, yet it was agreed that there is little value in asking residents for their views until the final plans had been released. Bekesbourne is the only parish that will directly receive the plans as the development is proposed on their patch, but they will let parishes know once they have received them. All parishes agreed to unite and support one another to oppose the plans if that was what their residents wanted. All present agreed that they would be happy to back Bekesbourne. There will be a further meeting in November.

13. KENT COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH

Barham have started using the scheme and have kindly offered to loan Kingston their equipment if needed, but we would be responsible for our own insurance. The Clerk will contact Barham to find out more details of costs. Alan Watson, the County Co-ordinator, has also offered to help in setting the scheme up in Kingston, if the Council decides to participate in the scheme

14. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

KALC AGM 18th November 2017

Clerks & Councils Direct

Emails sent to all

Report Kent Men of Trees

Rural England

Came & Company

Parish News

Boundary Changes

Kent downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)

Inside Track

PCSO Report

NALC News Release

Planning for the right homes in the right places

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no further business. The meeting closed at 10.00pm.

Cllr Wakefield reported that two of the wooden bollards outside the Black Robin pub were rotten and needed replacing. In addition, that Arrow sign on the wall did not reflect. The Clerk will report it.

16. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Will take place on Monday 4th December 2017 at 7.30pm in The Barn.