

Minutes of Kingston Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 05 November 2018
in The Barn, Kingston

Present:-

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

The Chairman welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 19.30.
There were two members of the public present.

It was reported by the Chairman that Tony McCord had resigned his position as Parish Councillor with immediate effect.

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

766. Apologies and Approval of Absences

City Cllr Cook sent apologies due to a conflicting meeting.

767. Reports from County and City Council members

Owing to the fact County Cllr Northey was absent, no report was received.

City Cllr Cook sent a written report in which he confirmed that the City Council's budget for next year is expected to be put out to consultation next week. Despite further reductions to funding from Central Government, the Council has successfully balanced the budget without making cuts to frontline services.

It was acknowledged that enforcement (litter, parking and the like) remains an issue of supreme concern amongst villagers. City Cllr Cook has been working with officers to identify opportunities for further collaboration with the parish councils. There will be a presentation at the Rural Forum next Monday (12th). As always, thoughts and comments are welcome.

We were reminded that the end of the consultation period for the Highland Court proposal falls on the 12th November. Comments should be submitted as soon as possible.

768. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations by members of any pecuniary interest regarding items on the Agenda. However, Cllr Osborn declared a significant interest in the planning decision received in respect of **CA//18/00616/FUL - Land Adjoining the Old Forge**.

769. Public Forum

The Chair invited questions and comments from the public.

It was noted that salt levels are low in the bin located on The Street. It was also queried whether Canterbury Football Club players receive a salary.

770. Minutes of the Previous Meetings

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on the 01 October 2018 were agreed to be a true reflection of all that was discussed. Proposed by Cllr Stribbling and seconded by Cllr Wakefield, it was therefore **Resolved** to accept these as a correct record and they were duly signed.

Minutes of the Extra-ordinary Meeting held on the 15 October 2018 were agreed to be a true reflection of all that was discussed. Proposed by Cllr Osborn and seconded by Cllr Pearson, it was therefore **Resolved** to accept these as a correct record and they were duly signed.

771. Matters Arising

It was noted that announcements were placed on FaceBook and in the village magazine concerning the suspicious activity in country lanes previously reported.

It was noted that the Greenacre plot has now been tided resulting in a vast improvement to sight lines and access to drainage.

Cllr Osborn will continue to pursue the fixing and replacing of the village AONB sign which was recently damaged by a car and removed from site.

It was noted that Kent Highways has recently spread tarmac in the 'lay-bys' on Bonny Bush Hill. However, the quality of workmanship was felt to be disappointing and it was agreed that clarity regarding future policy towards these 'lay-bys' is urgently needed. It is hoped that County Cllr Northey will provide an official update in due course.

772. Planning Applications Considered

CA/18/01948 Highland Court

A summary of the statistics and qualitative data obtained from the Residents' Questionnaire was circulated for review, discussion and analysis by councillors. 103 responses have been received to date plus an additional 8 handed to the Chairman just prior to the meeting. This represents a 60% return rate (approx.). Certain trends were clearly identifiable and it was agreed that these were a fair reflection of village sentiment. Councillors agreed they could be confident that this data can be used to inform its official position – that Kingston Residents do not support the application.

Proposed by Cllr Pearson and seconded by Cllr Osborn, it was therefore **Resolved** to comprehensively reject the plans. A unanimous decision was taken to object. A letter will be drafted by the Chairman and circulated to all councillors for comment in advance of its submission before the deadline.

773. Planning Application Decisions

CA//18/01247 Jesses Hill Farm, Jesses Hill, Marley CT4 6JD Application to re-use existing agricultural barn for provision of two units of holiday accommodation.

REFUSED (It was noted that the wording in the decision notice is relevant to the Highland Court proposals)

CA//18/00616/FUL Proposed detached two-storey dwelling. Land adjoining The Old Forge, Church Lane, Kingston CT4 6HX

GRANTED (NB with conditions)

CA//18/01621/FUL Proposed two-storey garage. Pud's Meadow, Marley Lane, Kingston CT4 6JJ

REFUSED

774. Finance

One cheque (663) was approved on the basis of a full schedule of payments. Proposed by Cllr Stribbling and seconded by Cllr Osborne, it was therefore **Resolved** to sign the cheque.

Councillors discussed the Half Year Statement (April 2018-Sept 2019) in full. Amendments were made where necessary (expected Clerk's Salary revised to £2200.00; IT contracts and Web Hosting costs were predicted to be £100.00 each). The amendments were proposed by Cllr Pearson and seconded by Cllr Wakefield.

It was therefore **Resolved** to accept the forecast budget 2019/20 and request the Precept (£7500.00) in December 2018. This was proposed by Cllr Pearson and seconded by Cllr Osborn.

775. Notice of Motion re Standing Order 3(o) – Cllr McCord

Owing to the fact Tony McCord is no longer a Parish Councillor, this item was not discussed.

776. Appointment of replacement Clerk/Responsible Finance Offer

The Chairman reported that two applications have been received and that both applicants have relevant experience to offer. Interviews will be planned next month.

777. Correspondence Received (all via KALC):

- Home Office: Criminal Exploitation of Children and Vulnerable Adults
- Lower Thames Crossing
- More information about potential options for East Kent Hospitals and care (2)
- Kent Police – UK Protect Section Safety and Security Communication
- National Cross- Section Safety and Security Communication – Annual Review 2018
- KCC Budget Consultation 2019-20
- Kent PCC Sept Oct 2018 Newsletter
- KCC Community Transport Grant Scheme

778. Matters for Further Discussion

Cllr Pearson noted that there remains a tractor tyre abandoned on the edge of the carriageway in The Street. The Chairman will speak to the residents living closest and establish when it will be removed.

No councillors will attend the Advanced Planning for Local Councils workshop on this occasion. The session is held on a rolling basis.

It was noted that SERCO empty the village dog bins on Tuesday and Friday each week.

779. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 03 December 2018 at 19.30 in The Barn, Kingston

The meeting closed at 21.10.