

KINGSTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 14th September 2020 at 7.00 pm (via Zoom)

Present: Cllr Martin (Chair), Cllr Chatley, Cllr McWilliams, Cllr Pearson, Cllr Spencer (Minutes), Cllr Stribbling, City Cllr Sole.

Two members of the public were also in attendance.

1. **Apologies:** Cllr Reeve

2. **Reports from County and City Council members:**

City Cllr Sole to attend a meeting specifically designed to discuss the future of CFF.

AP 010920 : Cllr Martin to email a statement reflecting the views of KPC in advance of this.

3. **Declarations of interest:**

None.

4. **Public Forum:**

One query was raised regarding the Embankment (KCC Reference PROW/CC/C446). It was noted that this was an agenda item for discussion.

5. **Minutes of previous meetings:**

March 2020 – minutes approved. Proposed by Cllr Martin and Seconded by Cllr Spencer.

NB – no meetings took place in April – July

6. **Matters arising:**

None.

7. **Planning Applications:**

CA/20/0148 - Proposed detached two-storey dwelling and detached single-storey garage, White Gates, Marley Lane, Kingston, CT4 6JH (*Awaiting decision*)

CA/20/01163 - Proposal for aerial mast, Clippgate Farm, Marley Lane, Kingston, CT4 6JL (*Awaiting decision*)

8. **Planning Decisions:**

CA/2001228 Dormer windows to rear roof slope, 14, The Street, Kingston CT4 6JB (*Granted*)

9. **Finance:**

a) It was noted that the Certificate of Exemption, Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) was displayed as required

b) Payments schedule: distributed and noted

c) Concurrent Functions Funding (CCF): update received from City Cllr Sole as before.

AP 020920: A cheque made payable to the Village Hall Trust has been prepared and will be delivered by Cllr Stribbling at the forthcoming VHT AGM.

10. Local Plan Consultation:

Cllr Spencer participated in an online workshop hosted by the City Council to explore issues facing the district. Conversation is at an early stage. Much of the debate surrounds the proposed new settlements and associated concerns such as transport, congestion, loss of valuable open countryside and local employment. Cllrs were reminded that the New Local Plan (2040) consultation is due to close (online) on the 30 September 2020.

AP 030920: Cllr Spencer to remain in contact with the Planning Committee regarding future online workshops and participate in/share details of sessions as appropriate.

Cllrs were reminded that online consultations can be accessed very easily, and that all members of the public should be encouraged to share their views on the future development of the district should they so wish.

AP 040920: Cllr Spencer to write a general reminder for the Parish magazine.

11. Embankment/Footpath update (PROW/CC/446):

There is a publicly displayed Schedule 8 Notice of an Application made on 5 June 2020 by a Kingston resident to Kent County Council. This is for a Modification Order under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 to amend the KCC Definitive Map and Statement for public rights of way – to add the railway bridge section of (currently) unregistered footpath from CB542 to CB230. Following a discussion, it was noted that KPC's support of the footpath application was consistent with that of Barham PC's. Cllr Spencer has been in contact with the Historical Railways Estate. It was noted that their position is potentially more nuanced (due to health and safety matters) and that this needs to be considered in full, at a later date.

AP 050920: Cllr Spencer to prepare a Parish magazine notice advising residents that they can submit witness statements/comment on the application.

AP 060920: Cllr Martin to prepare a formal response for KCC on behalf of KPC.

12. Closed Churchyard:

Cllr Martin reported that the PCC withdrew its application for the Closed Churchyard, and that as such, it remains the responsibility of the PCC.

13. Environmental Matters:

Cllrs Spencer and Stribbling reported that they, along with Mrs Stribbling, had collected in excess of 60 sacks of litter from local roads since the start of lockdown (the big one being Bonny Bush Hill). It was noted that other villagers also do lots to help keep the village free of rubbish and KPC extends its sincere thanks to all.

Cllrs Spencer and Stribbling suggested a Parish magazine notice inviting people to get in touch should they wish to be part of an informal group (mindful of social distancing rules etc.) and to allow the sharing of equipment as and when needed.

AP 070920: Cllr Spencer to prepare a notice.

Cllr Spencer reported that she is now in good contact with those responsible for the Covet Lane bridge and that permission (via an indemnity form) has been granted for KPC to help clean the graffiti which appeared during lockdown. We have until 31 December to do so and appropriate cleaning equipment will need to be purchased.

AP 080920: Cllr Spencer to contact the City Council in the hope that they may have some advice/products can be purchased via their suppliers.

Cllr Pearson expressed concerns regarding bikers using the Embankment and asked to resurrect previous discussions regarding gates/posts. Cllr Spencer suggested we also move forward with the signage previously discussed (to be funded via the WI grant).

Cllr Spencer reported that there had been several incidents of trail bikes riding in Covert Woods (in convoy and without number plates) during lockdown. These were reported to the Police who in turn have undertaken surveillance of the area as and when appropriate. It was noted that the Kent Police online Live Chat function is incredibly user-friendly for 'non-emergency' cases.

AP 090920: Cllr Pearson to investigate options and quotes for future discussion.

14. Highways:

It was noted that there are no further updates regarding proposed disabled parking outside The Barn. We await news from the City Council.

It was agreed to return to the topic of Quiet Lanes and 20mph limits around the village.

15. Matters for future discussion

It was noted that resident concerns regarding an 'illegal pub' in the village had been resolved and that apologies had been extended.

Date of Next Meeting: Monday 12th October (via Zoom)

The meeting closed at 20.15