

## KINGSTON PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 23rd November 2020 at 7.00 pm (via Zoom)

Present: Cllr Chatley (minutes), Cllr Martin, Cllr McWilliams, Cllr Pearson (Chair), Cllr Reeves Cllr Spencer, Cllr Stribbling.

Six members of the public were also in attendance.

1. **Apologies:** None. Cllr McWilliams added that if there is an absence from a CCC or KCC representative then the reason for their absence needs to be noted.

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

City Cllr Soles report had already been circulated.

3. **Declarations of interest:**

None.

4. **Public Forum:**

Nothing raised.

5. **Minutes of previous meetings:**

October 2020 – minutes approved. Proposed by Cllr McWilliams and Seconded by Cllr Spencer.

6. **Matters arising:**

**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. No response yet from CCC – Ongoing CCC visited and removed the offending Graffiti – Discharged.**

**AP 011020 : Cllr Chatley & Stribbling to fix faulty step. Step replaced – Discharged.**

**AP 021020 : Cllr Spencer to check with PROW that the faulty step on CB275 is on their database. It is on their database – Discharged.**

**AP 031020 : Cllr Chatley to amend minutes before uploading to website. Amended and uploaded – Discharged.**

**AP 041020 : Cllr Pearson to draft a formal reply to CCC planning department. Response circulated to Councillors and sent to CCC – Discharged.**

**AP 051020 : Cllr Pearson to confirm with Steve Reeves that the two field maples do need removing before work starts. Steve confirmed at the meeting that the two field maples need removing. Work delayed as UK Power networks have not given a date for turning off the power – Discharged.**

**AP 061020 : Cllr Chatley to update and load onto website. Uploaded onto website – Discharged.**

**AP 071020 : Cllr Pearson to purchase two signs for the footpath. Signs Purchased – Discharged.**

**AP 081020 : Cllr Pearson to obtain costings of a Chicane. Two quotes obtained – Discharged.**

**AP 091020 : Cllr Spencer to contact PROW to discuss proposed Chicane on the footpath. Not done as Council had not decided on a chicane. See item 14 – Discharged.**

**AP 101020 : Cllr Pearson to contact Lizzy Hophrow. *Lizzy was contacted but was in isolation – Discharged.***

**AP 111020 : Cllr Chatley to upload poster onto Parish website. *Uploaded on to website – Discharged.***

The situation of not having a Clerk was discussed. An all-out effort to recruit one was agreed.

**AP 011120: Cllr Martin to contact previous applicant.**

**AP 021120: Cllr McWilliams to put together a flyer and circulate to fellow councillors before publication.**

**AP 031120: Cllr Martin to put some words together for the Parish magazine.**

#### **7. Planning Applications:**

No more news on No 18 as yet.

#### **8. Planning Decisions:**

None.

#### **9. Finance:**

November payments scheduled distributed. Cash book and half yearly statement explained by Cllr Martin. A review of the Essential and Discretionary expenditure took place. There was a lengthy discussion on what the precept for next year with figures ranging from £10000 to £12500+. Cllr Chatley said he felt comfortable with £11000, after some more discussion a vote took place and £11000 was agreed by 5 votes to 2.

#### **10. Highways and Footpaths:**

Firstly the road condition of Church Lane on the bend was discussed. It was thought that the problems related to work the Water company carried out previously. Also the overgrown Ivy coming over the wall was also a concern.

**AP 041120: Cllr Martin to contact Michelle Weston regarding the road problem.**

**AP 051120: Cllr Martin to contact the Morgan's re the Ivy.**

Secondly to report on the proposal of a cycle route through the village. This item was discussed at length and it was agreed to carry this forward to a future meeting. Hilary Scott said that the Government had just released funds for cycle paths. Cllr Spencer suggested that perhaps the speed limit from the Black Robin to Out Elmstead Lane could be changed to 30mph. It was agreed to discuss the proposal at a later meeting.

A resident from Ileden had contacted the council with regards to the difficulties in entering and exiting the A2. The resident had made contact with Highways England who are responsible for the road. They also had concerns that post Brexit the A2 may become a car park and that Ileden lane is their only route to get to their properties. The resident had asked if anyone knew who the landowner was as tracks are locked but could provide an alternative, no one knew.

### **11. Broadband Fibre Project:**

Cllr Chatley reported that the addresses had been submitted to Openreach for an initial costing, he awaits their reply. Since the last meeting he has found out some more information especially after talking to someone in Barham who has been through the same scheme. Anybody who already receives a broadband speed of 30Mb or more is ineligible to take part. This would include Black Robin Lane, Dover Road, Waterworks Cottages, Church Lane and The Street up to around No 72. Also if you opt to apply for the voucher scheme you have committed yourself to have a fibre connection. Cllr Chatley had contacted BT for some costs, £10-£20 connection fee, 50Mb speed £29pm or 78Mb speed £40pm but he was told there are offers on all the time.

**AP 061120: Cllr Chatley to arrange for an update to go in the Parish magazine.**

### **12. Playground Project:**

Cllr Stribbling spoke about how the trust could save the VAT on the purchase of the equipment. The Barn committee wondered if the Council could buy the equipment and gift it back to the Barn but after discussion it was decided that we would need legal guidance on this. Cllr McWilliams asked Peter Sopp to share his experiences with Barham Pre-School project which he was involved in. He said that they got a Charitable VAT Exemption and did not pay any VAT.

**AP 071120 : Cllr Stribbling to investigate further.**

### **13. Provisional meeting dates for 2021:**

Dates circulated.

### **14. Matters for future discussion:**

The matter of the Chicane was discussed as it got missed out earlier on. A short discussion took place and it was felt that with 2 gates in the form of a Chicane plus 3 sets of steps this was as much deterrent as was need. Cllr Reeves also stated a Chicane could impinge on him getting his machinery up onto the embankment. The idea was rejected but the signs already purchased can be put up. It was thought the money would be better spent on an Arborist report, to be added to next meeting agenda.

**AP081120: Cllr Chatley to look into purchasing two posts to fit signs onto.**

Zoom license to be discussed at next meeting.

**Date of Next Meeting: Monday 4th January (via Zoom)**

**The meeting closed at 20:47**

### **List of Novembers Action points**

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**AP 021120: Cllr McWilliams to put together a flyer and circulate to fellow councillors.**

**AP 031120: Cllr Martin to put some words together for the Parish magazine.**

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