



Minutes of Kingsclere Parish Council Ordinary Meeting OM 03/17
held at 7.30pm on Monday 27th March 2017 in the Village Club

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| OM 03/17 | Present: Cllrs: Adams; Bowes; Farey; Mussett; Peach N; Peach R; Price; Sawyer F; Sawyer J. | ACTION |
| 03/17.1 | Apologies: Cllrs: C.Cllr Chapman; B.Cllr Sherlock. | |
| 03/17.2 | Declarations of Interest: Price: Parish Paths and Tennis Club | |
| 03/17.3 | Minutes: 3.1 Minutes of Ordinary Meeting 27 th February 2017 were accepted with one amendment to Neighbourhood Plan and signed. 3.2 Minutes of General Purposes Meeting 13 th March 2017 were accepted and signed. 3.3 Minutes of Finance and Establishment Meeting 20 th March were accepted and signed. | |
| 03/17.4 | Matters arising: None | |
| 03/17.5 | Chairman's Remarks: i) The hedge between the Churchyard and Malthouse Open Space has been removed. More work is required but we are now into the nesting season – this should give us time to reflect and consider the next stage. The pollarding of the Lime trees has also been completed. ii) There have been a couple of incidences of vandalism by a minute number of individuals. A resident is trying to engage with the young people to prevent further troubles. iii) Post Office – The new PO in Swan Street has had an unfortunate start. An official complaint was made after four days of closure which meant that the transfer from George Street was far from seamless. It is sad that the shop staff have been put in such an awkward position. A reply has been received from Post Office Customer Care and the fault was with the BT lines that run into the branch. Clearly proper and adequate testing was not performed prior to opening. iv) County Councillor Keith Chapman has written to the Parish Council expressing how much he has enjoyed working with us. Events have caught up with him though and it is unlikely we will see him again before the end of his term. v) Thanks were expressed to Cllr Nicki Peach for the beautiful floral display we have all enjoyed from the spring bulbs. The Chairman asked if there were any comments from Cllrs:- The Post Box outside the old PO is now sealed shut – is it moving or will it be removed? The density of the village is measured and the other, smaller Post Boxes are considered sufficient. Cllrs disagree and request an inquiry is raised – The larger Post Box is required, particularly at Christmas and is also a point of heritage to the village. | Clerk |
| 03/17.6 | Housing White Paper: The report is lengthy and there are a number of questions towards the end. There are too many questions to go through individually at tonight's meeting – Cllr Fiona Sawyer will review and circulate comments for Cllrs to consider at the next OM. Cllrs current comments on the paper: Basingstoke is quoted as one of the New Garden Towns; The paper recognises the importance of Neighbourhood Plans and would strengthen them, noting that Local Planning Authorities may need to set targets for smaller villages currently without a set number of houses to provide; The paper notes that Greenbelt should only be built on in very exceptional circumstances but does not mention AONB's, SSSI's, SINC's or Ancient Woodlands; 2 nd homes are mentioned in terms of houses that are empty for two or more years and possibly increasing council tax for these by an extra 50% but this would not deter large corporations or billionaires who purchase swathes of property in expensive areas for investment; houses for investment have increased in popularity due to low interest rates; The paper largely deals with houses for sale, not renting and suggests a meagre 10% affordable – our NP requests 40%; this is probably a result of house ownership being down by 7%. | FS |
| 03/17.7 | Whitchurch Neighbourhood Plan: The section on Infrastructure included Broadband in addition to the usual water, drainage, electricity and gas supplies. This is something that Kingsclere has also discussed to include. The council should not really comment as there is nothing in the plan that would affect Kingsclere but a well done and good luck letter should be sent. It was also commented that communities are struggling at times with critical mass - is there an opportunity to link up with other communities. | Clerk |
| 03/17.8 | Holding Field Hire Contracts for Circus and Fair: A copy of the current Licence Agreement and a proposed Events Policy and Guidance document were circulated prior to the meeting. Cllrs discussed and amendments noted to circulate for approval at the next OM | Clerk |



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- 03/17.9 Phone and Broadband Contract:** Papers were circulated prior to the meeting detailing the contracts offered by BT, TalkTalk and Plusnet. Discussed at some length due to concerns about the levels of cover and customer service but justification could not be established for rejecting the cheapest offer

Clerk

Resolved – Contract with TalkTalk to be accepted. (Votes: 5 for, 4 against)

- 03/17.10 Office IT Upgrade:** Papers circulated prior to the meeting detailed the specification for Hardware at £854.00 and Software £95.88/year. The details were discussed and it was agreed there may be some additional hardware including portable hard drives and some additional software including virus protection so a budget to be approved for the project.

Resolved – Budget of £1200.00 for Hardware and £200 Software

- 03/17.11 Tennis Club request support for Funding Application:** The Expression of Interest for BDBC funding was circulated prior to the meeting.

Clerk

Resolved – Council to confirm support for the application.

- 03/17.12 Parish Paths – Equipment Funding Request:** The group has requested some additional hand tools at an approximate cost of £75.

Clerk

Resolved – Additional tools to be purchased up to the value of £75.00

Recess proposed at 8:28pm:

JB – Why was the photograph of the new Police Constable of the back of his head? Clerk explained that a photo had not been available of the new PC so a stock image had been used for the article on the website.

AG – Overgrown hedges along Basingstoke road, first reported a year ago, are still causing problems. Clerk has written to all residents that back onto the road.

The Post Office has been in chaos, the preparation work required for the delivery staff had not been completed the other day. Additionally the cashier tills for the shop were offline which was causing delays at the counter adding to the busyness of the front of the store.

Back to Standing Orders 8:33PM.

- 03/17.13 Christmas Lights:** Cllr Bowes attended a seminar organised by HCC – 30-40 people were in attendance. The concept of the meeting was planning ahead. HCC will no longer allow us to take supply from the lamp post for tree lights. The solution would be to connect either from the Church or to have a post installed by SSE – Andy Bates and Nick Selsey have both been consulted. Both these options would save us from needing a licence from HCC – even hanging baskets require a licence now. If the Church option was agreed then the supply could also be used for fete's.

IB

- 03/17.14 Update on the Neighbourhood Plan:** The group have held their first meeting since the Public Consultation period ended. The group divided up to look at the responses for the required Consultation Statement and decide on any amendments. AECOM have looked and suggest any changes required would not be too onerous. A meeting is booked with BDBC on 6th April. The Yew Tree Farm letter has been sent to BDBC who suggest the group assess the site against the criteria set. Cllr Adams has recently made a presentation to Ashford Hill and Headley Parish Council on the NP as they are considering whether or not to start one.

- 03/17.15 County Councillor Report:** Apologies sent – no report

- 03/17.16 Borough Councillors Reports:** KR – Tennis Club have sought the support of the B.Cllrs which has been given, the application will be considered in the next round in September. A meeting on Housing focusing on Prosperity/Homelessness was attended and we are urged to highlight anyone we are aware of in need to KR as officers are willing to come out to the village for interviews to help resolve the issue. Park House Stables have had more incidents with traffic and KR is working with HCC to help move things forward. The stables are prepared to help fund traffic calming measures – line re-painting is currently underway. A meeting on CIL was attended and KR is working to ensure that monies are directed to the villages that will be affected by developments (particularly Manydown). The planning application for Handycross will be brought to committee at BDBC – the officer has recommended rejecting. The Post Office in Headley has noticed a substantive increase in traffic from Kingsclere – reasons cited are personal service and car parking is easier.

Parish Council comments/questions: A site visit is planned for Handycross on 31st March – KPC objected to the application because it did not conform to the Local Plan. The application had cited the Neighbourhood Plan but the Neighbourhood Plan had not been



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written. Cllrs are able to attend the site meeting but are unable to comment. Cllrs can also attend the Committee Meeting at BDBC.

03/17.17

Rolling List:

- WWI – Nothing to add
- Emergency Plan – Cllr Mussett to meet with Clerk to review document.
- The Square – New tree grille has been fitted.
- New Play Equipment – Delivered – work now starting on the refurbishment.

03/17.18

Planning Applications: None

03/17.19

Clerks Report:

19.1. Bowls Club Grant Request - £200 requested towards £300.00 repair to boards around the green

Resolved – £200 granted.

19.2. SLCC Membership Renewal

Resolved – Renew membership at £139

19.3 CiLCA Portfolio Registration – Clerk had not registered yet as the training budget had been spent. There is money left in the general fund that could be used if council agree.

Resolved – Clerk to register at £250.00

03/17.20

Approval of Income and Expenditure: The accounts for March were agreed and signed off.

03/17.21

Date of next meeting: Monday 24th April 2017 7:30pm in the Village Club.

Public section of the meeting closed at 8:55 pm

03/17.22

Exempt Business: It was resolved the public be excluded from the meeting for the Litter Warden Gratuity to be discussed – Confidential Minute refer.

Signed:.....Chairman

Date:.....

Signed:.....Parish Clerk

Date:.....