



Minutes of Kingsclere Parish Council General Purposes Meeting GP 04/21
Held at 7.30pm on Monday 12th April 2021
Using Zoom Online Meeting Software

Before the meeting commenced, the Council held a minute's silence as a mark of respect to
HRH Prince Philip the Duke of Edinburgh.

GP 04/21 – Present:

Cllrs: Adams; Bowes; Farey; Mussett; Price; Sawyer J. Clerk – Ackrill; Admin Assistant – Read.

04/21.1 – Apologies:

Cllr N Peach – Work commitments.

Resolved: Apologies were accepted for Cllr N Peach.

04/21.2 – Declarations of Interest:

None.

04/21.3 – Matters Arising:

3.1. 09/20.8 – Bike Hoops:

CM removed the sixteen bike hoops that were stored in the Village Club and currently has them at his home. A request has been sent to HCC asking for permission to install four bike hoops on Crown Green, this request is being chased and it was noted the licensees of The Crown pub has been consulted regarding location. It was agreed to ask BDBC for permission to install four bike hoops at the Fieldgate Centre. Installing some at the Holding Field car park was suggested however it was agreed to keep some in storage until the detailed development plan for the Holding Field had been approved. The village square was also considered as a possible location, however, to allow this the area would need to be reconfigured to increase the communal space in front of the current flower bed, including moving the parking bays towards the road so they are in line with the parking bays in front of the public toilets. Approval to remove the tree in the square some time ago and implementation of the removal would also increase the space available for bike hoops.

04/21.4 – Request from Resident to Plant Tree in Cemetery:

KPC received a request from a resident to plant a memorial tree in the Cemetery. Memorial trees have previously been planted without Council consultation and while KPC does not have an issue with the memorial trees planted to date, it was agreed that there is only a finite amount of space in the Cemetery for trees. It was agreed that designated areas for memorial trees should be identified, to ensure the Cemetery burial area is not reduced, and once these areas are planted, no further memorial tree planting will be allowed. It was also agreed that in future, a one-off fee would be charged when a memorial tree is planted to cover the cost of the maintenance of the tree over its lifetime. The council were happy with the proposed species of tree, a flowering cherry tree, however not the proposed location as it was not appropriate for tree planting. An alternative location of by the lych gate on the Ecchinswell side was proposed and agreed as suitable. It was noted that the tree should be at least 2.5 metres tall so that it is clear of the hedge. It was agreed not to charge a fee for this request but to ask for a donation instead. CM to make a list of suitable locations for future memorial trees. Clerk to contact the resident.

Resolved: Memorial tree permission granted, to be planted in specified location.

Action: CM, Clerk.

04/21.5 – Bicycles on the Recreation Ground:

The Clerk received a query from a resident regarding if bicycles are permitted on the Recreation Ground. After investigation KPC could not find any documented rules or byelaws regarding unmotorised bicycle use on the Recreation Ground. The Recreation Ground rules that were agreed by KPC last year do not state that unmotorised bicycles are not permitted and KPC has no intention to ban them. It was noted that this issue is kept under review, and if in future there is a problem with unmotorised bicycles being a nuisance then KPC would address it at the time. Clerk to reply to the resident.

04/21.6 – 24 Swan Street:

Cllrs have read the reply KPC received from Jonathan Gregory at BDBC regarding KPC's concerns over the proposals at 24 Swan Street and concluded that many of KPC's points were not answered. It seems BDBC has decided sell 24 Swan Street ignoring issues affecting the community and local business, disregarding some of the council's stated objectives and not looking at all the consequences or investigating other options. It was noted that KPC expect BDBC to comply with its Local Code of Corporate Governance, specifically principles two and three. Questions of whether there is a business plan in place for this building, as well as why BDBC is proposing to sell an asset considering it is KPC's understanding that 32% of BDBC's income is generated through its assets were raised. It was noted the planning application submitted for the old Catholic Church and the residential property now built behind it specify the parking allocation for these properties as being located at 24 Swan Street. BDBC justified its decision to grant permission for the old Catholic Church application based on this fact and this proposal for 24 Swan Street is now proposing to withdraw the car parking at 24 Swan Street for this mentioned use. It was decided to focus on the issues of

the exacerbation of the current village parking problem and the local businesses that will be affected. At the March OM Cllr Rhatigan offered to attend a meeting with Jonathan Grimsby and KPC to discuss this issue. It was agreed to invite them, as well as officers from BDBC's Planning Department, Department for Strategic Development, and Conservation Department, and the tenants of 24 Swan Street to a dedicated meeting. JS to reply to BDBC.

Action: JS.

04/21.7 – Project Plan:

Document referred back to GP and circulated prior to meeting. The purpose of this document is to detail projects the council would like to undertake and to act as a decision making tool to aid prioritisation and funding allocation when agreeing the budget and forecasting longer term budgets. It was agreed that the current format needs updating to be more useful as a day-to-day document for the Council. Cllrs to bring ideas for the new format to next GP. As the Project Plan is not intended to cover issues or organisational matters it was agreed that, to ensure all matters were being acted upon, the Action List should be updated and used again to monitor progress of all actions agreed at meetings.

Action: All Cllrs, Clerk, May GP.

04/21.8 – Great British Spring Clean:

The GBSC is due to be held on 12th June 2021. The event will be advertised on social media, the website, in the Tower and on notice boards. Litter picking equipment to be checked and requested from BDBC if required. As KPC has run this event for two years now, GP committee were content that the Admin Assistant work alongside the Clerk and Chairman to organise the event, without it being discussed at a future GP.

Action: Admin, Clerk, JS.

04/21.9 – Date of May GP:

May 2021 GP is due to be held on 10th May, however the legislation permitting Parish Councils to hold virtual meetings expires on 7th May and the Village Club does not intend to open until 17th May. It was agreed to hold the May GP earlier on Wednesday 5th May at 7:30pm using Zoom.

Resolved: May GP to be held on 5th May 2021

04/21.10 – Community Carbon Calculator:

KPC received an email from BDBC's Climate Emergency Project Manager which included a link to a carbon calculator tool which is more detailed showing the amount of CO₂e (carbon dioxide equivalent) that is emitted at a Parish level. It was agreed KPC was not in a position to use this tool at the current time however it contained useful information that should be shared with the community using KPC's social media.

Action: Admin.

04/21.11 – Request from Resident to Use Parish Outdoor Space for Fitness Group:

The Clerk received a request from a resident to use a KPC managed outdoor space to run a fitness group during term time. The resident reported that they are a qualified fitness instructor with first aid training and public liability insurance, that they have run outdoor fitness groups in the past, that risk assessments would be completed, and that all Covid-19 safety precautions would be taken. The Holding Field was suggested as a suitable location as it is flat and is near to a car park. It was agreed to permit the fitness group to run until the summer holidays with a review in July to assess the situation. Clerk to contact resident.

Action: Clerk. July GP.

04/21.12 – Planning Applications:

None

04/21.13 – Date of next meeting:

Wednesday 5th May 2021 7:30pm using Zoom Virtual Meeting Software unless government restrictions in place for Covid-19 are lifted, in which case normal meeting procedures will resume in the Village Club.

Meeting closed 21:05

Signed:.....Chairman

Date:.....

Signed:.....Clerk

Date:.....

Distribution: Cllrs: S Adams; I Bowes; M Farey; C Mussett; N Peach; R Peach; A Price; F Sawyer and J Sawyer.
Noticeboard; Website: www.kingsclere-pc.org.uk.