



Minutes of Kingsclere Parish Council Ordinary Meeting OM 02/23
Held at 7.30pm on Monday 27th February 2023 in the Village Club

OM 02/23 – Present:

Cllrs: Adams; Farey; Gaines; Mussett; Peach R.
RFO – Porton.

02/23.1 – Apologies:

Bowes; Conquest; Peach N; Sawyer.

02/23.2 – Declarations of Interest:

None

02/23.3 – Minutes:

3.1 Minutes of Ordinary Meeting 30th January 2023 were accepted and signed.

Questions from the Public: None

02/23.5 – Chairman's Remarks:

- i) Budget submitted to the Borough Council
- ii) A meeting is booked with the Twinning Association at The Crown to discuss the Coronation and a possible visit from the Mayor of Cormicy for the occasion.

02/23.6 – County Councillor:

Apologies received from Cllr Thacker, report attached – [Appendix 1](#).

02/23.7 – Borough Councillors:

Apologies from B Cllr Rhatigan

Verbal report from B Cllr Morrow – A planning appeal has been submitted for the Fawconer Road Care Home. The deadline for comments is 31-Mar-2023. A proposal is being considered for car parking charges in Kingsclere (Anchor Road).

Verbal report from B Cllr Frost – The council is preparing a response to Michael Gove's "Levelling up" proposal. A disappointing conversation was held with the Tree Officer regarding the trees cut down on A339. A company called Graywolf will be developing a themed water park and residential area which will attract circa 2000 people a day to Basingstoke. The aquadrome will also benefit from a full rejuvenation, paid for by the sale of Golf course (Pitch and Putt). A report is being prepared to recommend the sale of 24 Swan Street to the Community Interest Company with a substantial discount.

02/23.8 – Community Engagement and Media - DC:

Cllr Conquest has needed to submit apologies for this meeting so items will be deferred to the next meeting. An update was provided on the Transport Service by members present.

8.1. Transport Service – update: Neighbour care will work in this area but need volunteer drivers. Fuel will be reimbursed and volunteers do as little as 2 hours a week. The Welfare Charity (part of Kingsclere Charities) can pay fares for people. Kingsclere Charities are to consult with Headley and Ashford Hill Parish Council as their area covers this parish too.

8.2. Website Plans – update: deferred to next meeting.

8.3. Memorial Tree – update: deferred to next meeting.

8.4. Meet your Cllr / Feather Flag – update: deferred to next meeting.

8.5. Village Coronation Plans – update: deferred to next meeting.

02/23.9 – Health and Safety: A report has been received of Human Faeces left in the Holding Field Car Park that needs cleaning up.

02/23.10 – Policy Renewal :

10.1. Review and Approve Code of Conduct: Approved unanimously with no changes.

Resolved: Code of Conduct adopted for another year.

02/23.11 – Planning Applications:

11.1. [T/00040/23/TCA](#) Kenwood, North Street – no objections.

11.2. [23/00003/FUL](#) Land off Hook Road – object due to lack of parking and inappropriate access (single track bridal way).

02/23.12 – Clerk's Report: also see [Appendix 2](#)

12.1. Annual Parish Meeting 20th March 2023 7.30pm – update: so far 6 attending and 5 of those would like to speak.

12.2. Annual Spring Clean 1st April 2023 10am – update: Meet in the Churchyard, Ray will provide a gazebo. A poster has been drafted ready for publication. St Marys will be open for coffee. Clerk will prepare the risk assessment and Health & Safety sheet along with sacks and sanitiser. We have the litter wands already. First Aid cover has been requested but we've not received confirmation of attendance yet.

02/23.13 – Approval of Income and Expenditure:

The accounts for 27th January to 21st February were agreed and signed off.

02/23.14 – Matters for Future Consideration: None raised.

02/23.15 – Date of Next Meeting:

Monday 27th March 2023 7:30pm in the Village Club.

Meeting closed 20:20

Signed:.....Chairman

Date:.....

Signed:.....Clerk

Date:.....

Distribution: Cllrs: S Adams; I Bowes; D Conquest; M Farey; S Gaines; C Mussett; N Peach; R Peach; and J Sawyer.
Website: www.kingsclere-pc.org.uk.

Appendix 1 - County Councillor Tom Thacker Update March 2023

Budget and Council Tax

At the meeting of the full County Council, budget plans for the upcoming financial year were agreed. Leader of the County Council, Councillor Rob Humby, said: "Each year, the County Council is tested to the limits in continuing to deliver a balanced budget, which is required by law. Planning for this upcoming financial year has been no different, and we have had to navigate further intense pressures resulting from the cost-of-living crisis, inflation and workforce pressures and growing demand in key areas such as social care for the most vulnerable children and adults in our communities – which far outweighs available Government funding.

"We are also acutely aware of the very difficult decisions Hampshire residents face in their own household budgets to make ends meet, but reluctantly, in order to help deliver a balanced budget for 2023/24, we have no other choice but to increase the council tax precept. This is a decision we have not taken lightly. But even after this increase, we are still left with a £50.8 million shortfall in our revenue budget which we will have to fill using our reserves – built to buffer this and next year's anticipated budget shortfalls."

Hampshire County Council's council tax precept for the financial year beginning 1 April 2023, will increase by a total of 4.99%, of which 2% will go specifically towards adults' social care, in line with Government policy. This equates to an annual charge of £1,460.25 for a Band D property – an increase of £69.45 per year or approximately £1.34 a week.

The increase still means that Hampshire has one of the lowest council tax precepts of any county in England.

Alongside revenue budget plans, the County Council has approved new capital spending of £645.3 million over the next three years. This provision for Hampshire's infrastructure brings the County Council's four-year total investment in the fabric of Hampshire, to £927.3 million.

It is worth noting that all opposition parties did not put forward any alternative budget, yet some still voted against setting a budget that we are legally bound to do.

Coronation

My 2023/2024 member grants stream opens in early May this year. I am advised that any applications for helping with events to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III can be submitted earlier. Any organization that wishes to apply for such a grant should write to me directly at tom.thacker@hants.gov.uk

Kingsclere

Last week, I met with residents of the Dell and discussed the road's surface and looked at some potholes and the drain at the junction with Basingstoke Road. I raised various issues and I can update that jetting of the drain is now on the contractor's worksheet – although I do not know when this will be carried out. I am following up on individual tickets advised to me by the residents.

Appendix 2 – Clerks Report

Making a Difference Awards - 15th June – 2 Nominees to date.

Orchard – A sewage Leak in the Orchard was reported last week.

Lengthsman Scheme - We have re-entered the Hampshire CC funded Lengthsman Scheme we will have an anticipated 33 hours for 2023/4. Depending on how many parishes re-enter the scheme (14 in total last year) it equates to about £1000 of work for each parish.

New Exclusive Rights Cross Markers – Huge thank you to Howe and Sons for donating 10 Crosses for use on Exclusive Right reserved plots.

Lime Trees in Churchyard – due to be pollarded this coming financial year, one resident has offered to pay for six tress – permission has been requested from Basingstoke and Deane we are awaiting response – these six may be done this spring the remainder possibly in Autumn. The rule regarding bird nests only applies to hedges and the contractor will check for nest before carrying out the work.

A339 Strategy Meeting dates are –

22nd March 3-4pm

23rd March 11-12

28th After 12

So far Mick Sue and David attending findings will be made available at the meeting.

Opus Energy – We have been overcharged for energy use and are in conversation with them. The Direct Debit has been cancelled but they have now agreed we are in credit by approximately £250.00.

Insurance Claim for Water usage during water leak at allotments – claim unsuccessful.

Fete 28th August - Do we wish a table and who can attend? – Sue has been approached to find out.

The Dell - Clerk understands that C.Cllr. Tom Thacker has been out to the Dell to look at the awful road surface – a resident has made the Clerk aware.

Cemetery Tap – reported missing on Friday, Ray has ensured the water is turned off all the way and may have a replacement tap.