



Minutes of Kingsclere Parish Council Ordinary Meeting OM 02/22 Held at 7.30pm on Monday 28th February 2022 in the Village Club

Prior to the commencement of the meeting, a minute's silence was held to reflect on the current situation in Ukraine. The Chairman asked all present to stand and reflect on the fortunate position we find ourselves in compared to Ukrainian citizens who are currently suffering at the hands of Russian aggression.

OM 02/22 – Present:

Cllrs: Adams; Bowes; Conquest; Farey; Jones; Mussett; Peach N; Peach R; Sawyer.

Clerk – Ackrill; Assistant Clerk – Read. One member of the Public, one member of the press (NWN).

Not Present:

BCllr Frost. CCllr Thacker.

02/22.1 – To Receive Apologies:

BCllrs: Poland; Rhatigan.

02/22.2 – Councillors Declarations of Interest:

None.

Questions from the Public:

Standing Orders were suspended at 19:34:

A resident introduced themselves as a Tadley Town Cllr and one of this year's Borough Councillor Candidates for the Liberal Democrats. They were interested in what KPC is currently doing.

Standing Orders were resumed at 19:36:

02/22.3 – Minutes:

3.1 Minutes of Ordinary Meeting 31st January 2022 were accepted and signed.

3.2 Minutes of General Purposes Meeting 14th February 2022 were accepted and signed.

02/22.4 – Chairman's Remarks:

- i) JS, SA, and IB attended the Jubilee Events Liaison Meeting at the Fieldgate Centre on 16th February. The meeting discussed events such as lighting a beacon on the Thursday as part of the national beacon scheme for the Jubilee, an event that The Crown is planning to hold on the Friday, possible road closures to allow for a parade from the Holding Field to the Fieldgate Centre on the Saturday, and a special Church service at St Mary's Church followed by a village picnic and street parties on the Sunday. The next meeting is at 7:30pm on 2nd March at the Fieldgate Centre. All are welcome to attend. NP is also investigating options for repairing the Jubilee Lamp in The Square.
- ii) Thanks to NP for planting all the spring bulbs that are now starting to bloom around the village.
- iii) Research to undertake repairs to the War Memorial have now commenced again, after stopping due to Covid. On 10th February JS met with members of the Royal British Legion (RBL) who support KPC's endeavours to repair the memorial. A suggestion to organise a working party to oversee the organisation of repairs was proposed to KPC. It was also noted that it was the opinion of one of the RBL members, who is a civil engineer, that the damage could be more extensive than KPC think. This will be discussed at next GP.
- iv) The annual Spring Clean will be held on 9th April 10am - 1pm. A gazebo station will be set up in the Churchyard for residents to collect litter picking equipment. There is no need to book a collection slot this year. JS is investigating if KPC can offer refreshments to volunteers too, working with St Mary's Church.
- v) Two new benches have been purchased using S106 funds and are now installed in the Community Orchard. Thanks to NP for organising this.
- vi) On 1st March there is a meeting of the Basingstoke and Deane Association of Town and Parish Councils which JS is attending. There will be the opportunity to ask the new leader of BDBC Cllr Simon Bound questions.

02/22.5 – Campaign to Protect Rural England:

KPC received a request from CPRE for an annual donation. KPC is a member of the charity and usually gives a donation annually. It was clarified that this expenditure is budgeted for. After discussion to was agreed to give £50 donation to CPRE.

Resolved: £50 to CPRE approved. Proposed by NP, seconded by MF.

02/22.6 – Annual Parish Meeting:

The Annual Parish meeting will be held on 23rd May 2022. The CEO of the Greenham Trust Chris Bolton has been confirmed as the special guest speaker. It was agreed to invite village organisations to attend and give them the opportunity to give a short report on what they have been doing in the last year. It was suggested to offer refreshments, as it was felt this was well received last time. It was agreed to advertise the guest speaker on the notice for the meeting to encourage people to attend.

Action: Clerk, Assistant Clerk.

02/22.7 – Review of Code of Conduct:

The Code of Conduct was last reviewed in April 2019 when it was originally adopted. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic its annual review was missed in 2020 and 2021. It was noted that KPC should ensure the Dispensation Policy currently being drafted should be in conjunction with the Code of Conduct. It was unanimously agreed to readopt the Code of Conduct with no amendments.

Resolved: Unanimously agreed to readopt Code of Conduct with no amendments.

02/22.8 – Village Plan:

KPC received an email from BDBC, asking if the Village Plan is still active, or if KPC wish for it to be removed from BDBC's website. The Village Plan is now nearly 20 years old and outlines the desires of residents regarding the future development of the village. However unlike the Kingsclere Neighbourhood Plan (KNP), it has no statutory authority. It was noted that some items within the plan have been completed, and some items are still relevant, however many items and aims are unachievable. It was also commented that Village Plan is very dated and reflects the views of residents of the time. SA asked if KPC wished to update the Village Plan or ask BDBC to remove it from its website. After a lengthy discussion it was agreed that the Village Plan should be archived and removed from BDBC's website, however, remain on KPC's website as an archived document.

Resolved: Agreed to ask BDBC to remove the Village Plan from its website, and to archive the Village Plan on KPC's website.

02/22.9 – Allotment Water Leak:

The RFO asked KPC to approve the expenditure for repairing the water leak in the Allotments. The full cost of the repair, at £1337.50 excluding £250 excess, was covered by insurance and KPC has since been reimbursed £1087.50. However the initial expenditure was not approved. It was unanimously agreed to approve the £1337.50 expenditure to repair the Allotment water leak, with £1087.50 recovered through insurance.

Resolved: £1337.50 expenditure approved for the Allotment water leak repair.

02/22.10 – Storm Damage to the Crown Green Noticeboard:

During Storm Eunice, the Crown Green Noticeboard was blown over. NP has investigated options for replacement noticeboards which were circulated prior to the meeting. It was agreed that a replacement noticeboard should be installed, and it was agreed to not replace with a wooden one, as these do not last. It was noted there is money in the budget for replacing the noticeboards, and possible S106 money that may be able to be used for this purpose. After discussion it was agreed NP and CM would source quotes for artificial wood noticeboards and bring a proposal to GP. It was agreed RP would remove and dispose of the old noticeboard.

Action: CM, NP, RP.

02/22.11 – County Councillor:

No report.

02/22.12 – Borough Councillor:

No report.

02/22.13 – Year End Annual Audit:

The RFO requested that the Council decide if it wishes for the Internal Audit to be conducted remotely, or in person. If the council wished for an in-person audit to take place, the additional expenditure of £25 per visit would need to be approved. It was noted both the RFO, and Auditor were happy for a remote audit to take place. After a short discussion it was decided to have a remote Internal Audit.

Resolved: Agreed to have a remote Internal Audit.

02/22.14 – Health and Safety:

There were no health and safety issues to report.

02/21.15 – Action List:

The Action List was reviewed. A Cllr asked if a "Completed Actions" tab could be added to the Action List spreadsheet to keep track of what actions have been completed within the year.

02/22.16 – Planning Applications:

16.1. 22/00208/HSE & 22/00209/LBC – 32 Swan Street: No objection.

16.2. 21/00869/LBC & 21/00722/ROC – Priors Mill, North Street:

This is an appeal to which KPC has no objection. KPC supported the original planning applications and continue to do so. KPC has concerns that if the owners are not permitted to go ahead with works, the building will fall into disrepair. The owners have spent considerable time and funds attempting to repair the building, and it is their intention to turn the building into a family home, while maintaining the building's heritage. It was noted that there have been similar applications on similar buildings which have not been held to the level of scrutiny that this building and associated applications have. KPC, and Kingsclere's BCllrs, has always been in favour of these works and can see no reason why this allocation should not be approved.

16.3. 22/00241/FUL & 22/00242/LBC – 2A George Street: No objection.

16.4. T/00069/22/TPO: No objection.

- Always keep the chimney clean and with its proper protection, this way you will avoid that the chips generate a fire in your home.
- Hair and clothes irons consume a lot of energy and can overload your home's electrical system. That is why we recommend that you keep them unplugged when not in use.
- A universal rule, do not smoke in enclosed spaces. Avoid the accumulation of smoke having a window or door.
- When you are in the kitchen, pay close attention to everything. This part of the house is one of the main causes of fire in your home, check that the oven is not left on for a long time after having used it, avoid leaving pots and pans near the burners, be careful with oils, and also be very preventive with gas leaks.
- If you will be away from home for a long period, the best thing to do is to turn off the gas tap to avoid fire damage in your home.

And as a last tip, install a smoke detector, it's ideal to have one in every room of the house, more than an investment will help you prevent major fire damage in your home.

There has been a couple thefts of lead in Kingsclere and a suspicious person seen in the vicinity near the Burghclere church, however nothing had been stolen. If you see any suspicious persons / vehicles in the area, make sure you report them, if it is a crime taking place dial 999 and if you see a vehicle try to get the make, model and vehicle registration plate as this is beneficial to investigations.

The police are aware of two anti-social behaviour matters one regarding the underpass located in the orchard where there has been arson set on multiple occasion. Both PCSO Revett and CSPO Espirit continually to patrol the area to try to find the culprits. The other is the continuous smoking of cannabis behind the attentive barbers; police are aware of this and monitor this situation by patrolling the area and deal with any offenders in the appropriate manner.