



Minutes of Kingsclere Parish Council Ordinary Meeting OM 05/23
Held at 7.30pm on Monday 22nd May 2023 in the Village Club

OM 05/23 – Present:

Cllrs: Conquest; Gaines; Mussett; Peach N; Peach R;

Clerk – Ackrill;

B Cllr Rhatigan and 6 Members of the community

05/23.1 – Apologies:

RFO – Porton

05/23.2 – Declarations of Interest:

None

05/23.3 – Minutes:

The Minutes of Ordinary Meeting Monday 24th April 2023 were accepted and signed.

05/23.4 – Questions from the Public:

Strattons Farm consultation for Solar Farm causing divisions, as, whilst many are in favour of Solar Farms this site isn't the best location. Not close to a major road, its not a brownfield site, government promotes farmland as remaining farmland. Has due diligence in looking for alternative sites been carried out? Q is there a proactive solution; can the grid connections go underground? Q how do we as a village benefit from this site directly, we lose the countryside and, do we know that this will generate power for the grid to be used in our area. There, is the promise of £25k but this in no way will compensate for the impact on the wildlife, loss of countryside and disruption to traffic. How do we get beyond what we have been told, is 40 years temporary? Will it even be needed for 40 years? One member of the public raised the point that Kingsclere should be under no illusion that this is really a development which will in time join with the industrial units already on the A339 and will eventually join with the ongoing controversial Porch Farm development. Chairman thanked all for their comments and Cllrs will discuss under item 6 but we do not have an application to comment on officially at this time.

05/23.5 – Chairman's Remarks:

- Kingsclere has seen a change in borough Cllrs, and we welcome Cllr Mike Bound and we look forwards to working together.
- We welcomed the Mayor of Cormicy for the long weekend over the Coronation and congratulations to those on Kingsclere Twinning Association who worked hard to put together a programme for the visit. It was a great effort, Kingsclere has been invited back to Cormicy next year.
- Scenes of crimes units are working hard on the break ins we had over the coronation weekend – we thank them for their attention and efforts.
- Coronation – Huge thank you to the whole team who worked so hard on our celebrations, it was a brilliant weekend enjoyed by many.

05/23.6 – Strattons Farm Solar Farm Consultation: On this agenda to update on what we know about the process and talk through what considerations we need to think about to get a true picture of the proposal. It's not an application but many calls have been received. All planning proposals of this nature must go through a consultation process, once an application is submitted a Planning Officer will be appointed. The Planning Officer will have to follow procedures, guidelines and enforce policies. If this proposal progresses the issues may split the parish and views will range from support, to indifference, and to outrage. KPC is only a statutory consultee and our response counts as one view. B&DBC do not have to take our views into account but should uphold our Neighbourhood Plan (NP) policies which were adopted by B & D. KPC's comments will be factual from the NP document which contains the development views, path and processes the village approved in 2013. Our comments will be materially relevant and tight to our policies. Following discussion, the Cllrs felt it may be proactive to request a visit to the site to gain a better understanding of the possible forthcoming application and that there was merit in inviting Anglo Renewables to come and talk at a meeting. KPC also needs to gather the data from behind the brochure and ask about the biodiversity, the power generation figures, the maths behind the £25K. KPC may also produce an informal questionnaire to ask residents views at a later stage, once (if) an application is submitted.

Resolved – To contact Anglo Renewables / Applicant to gain further information as discussed and request site visit.

Action: CM

It was resolved to take item 10 - Borough Cllr Report, next

05/23.10 – Borough Councillor Report: Apologies received from BCllrs Bound and Morrow

Cllr Rhatigan reiterated it had been an awful month with 4 break ins in the area. Many £1000's taken with little disregard for the hugely distressing and disruptive aftermath. As a result, we do have a higher number of patrols throughout the night. Hoping the abandoned vehicles would be removed this coming week now weather improved. Great Coronation weekend and toilets were opened they will be opened again for a

wedding end of June. The Update of our NP is vital and Cllr Rhatigan happy to look over it before submission. Solar Farm - Cannot say too much at this point but issues seem to be size and scale. 40 years is a long time and technology may be overtaken, very keen to learn where the power will be used. Biodiversity and wildlife and issue too. We may be better with proper strategies shared across the Borough. Chairman thanked Cllr Rhatigan for opening the toilets over the Coronation weekend.

05/23.7 – Clerk’s Report:

Lengthsman 3rd June 7.5 hours Cllr Peach suggested railing painting – all in favour.

Email from B & D re Enforcement of Electric Car Charging Bays in Anchor Road – any issues? – none

Pillar in Churchyard – Church is going to make safe – all ok with this

Driving in Cemetery – complaints received re cars being drive to gravesides or close to, disrespectful and not necessary note to go in Tower and sign to go up. If continues to be a concern barrier may be discussed.

05/23.8 – Vacancy for Councillors: We have 4 Cllr Vacancies which were announced at the time of Election notices, anyone interested please contact the Clerk to the Council in the first instance.

05/23.9 – County Councillor: Not present no report.

05/23.10 –Borough Councillor: Moved to earlier in the agenda.

05/23.11 – Review Council Polices: Insurance for 2023/24 Clerk provided 3 quotes and following comparison and review it was resolved to stay with Current provided BHIB with a Long Term 3-year agreement of £1436.57 proposed by Cllr Gaines and seconded Cllr Conquest. All in favour

Resolved – 3 Year LTA with BHIB £1436.57

Action: Clerk and RFO

05/23.12 – Community Engagement and Media: Considering Apple Day in Orchard in the Autumn

05/23.13 – Health and Safety: No items raised.

05/23.14 – Planning Matters:

14.1 T/00150/23/TCA Lakes End Annex Foxs Lane: Support

14.2. T/00158/23/TCA 26 North Street: no comments or concerns

14.3 23/01163/TENO Fawconer Road Telecoms Mast: no comments

14.4 23/01189/AGPD Strattons Farm Agricultural Building: no comments

05/23.15 – Approval of Income and Expenditure: The accounts for the period 19th April 2023 to 17th May 2023 were agreed and signed off.

05/23.16. Matters for Future Consideration: Covered in item 23.6

05/23.17 – Date of Next Meeting:

Monday 26th June 2023 7:30pm in the Village Club.

05/23.18 Exempt Business – to propose and pass a resolution in accordance with the public bodies.

(Admission to meetings) Act 1960 to exclude the public and press for the discussion of the following matters where publicity might be prejudicial to the special nature of the business.

18.1 Bowls Club Lease: Cllr Peach reported as per last meeting the Solicitor was working on a letter regarding ownership detail, Surveyor is producing the valuation. These will not be available before the expiry of the current hold over lease therefore KPC will renew the holdover until September 30th, 2023, letter to be sent to Bowls Club.

Action: Cllr Peach

Meeting closed 20:39

Signed:.....Chairman

Date:.....

Signed:.....Clerk

Date:.....

Distribution: Cllrs: D Conquest; S Gaines; C Mussett; N Peach; and R Peach;
Website: www.kingsclere-pc.org.uk.