

Minutes of Kingston Parish Council Meeting held on
Monday 8th January 2018 in the Barn, Kingston.

Present:-

Cllr Martin - Chairman

Cllr Arter
Cllr McCord
Cllr Spencer
Cllr Wakefield
Valerie McWilliams, Clerk

There were two members of the public present.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting after which she asked for any comments from the public.

City Cllr Simon Cook attended the meeting and said there was little to report as the City Council was very quiet over Christmas. He had received complaints about some bins not being emptied on time and asked for any further complaints to be sent to him to be resolved.

The Clerk reported that the new City Council website was having teething problems. Cllr Cook said he would investigate.

He was asked how the Governance Review was progressing. He reported that there would be no boundary changes in urban areas and only a slight change in the rural area between Bridge and Bekesbourne. The Review should conclude by Easter.

Councillors reported to him the large number of signs left by Highways following recent repairs to local roads. He is happy to email Highways to get them removed.

County Cllr Northey did not attend the meeting but had nothing to report.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

County Cllr Michael Northey along with Cllr Osborn and Cllr Pearson sent their apologies for absence, as they were all unwell with the flu.

2. MEMBERS' INTERESTS

There was no notification by members given of any pecuniary or discretionary interest in items on the Agenda

3. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting on 4th December 2017 were accepted as an accurate record. Acceptance of the minutes; proposed by Cllr McCord & seconded by Cllr Spencer.

4. MATTERS ARISING

All action items had been executed.

5. FINANCE

Lloyds Bank £12,146.03 (21 December 2017)

Payments Due

Val McWilliams for 16 Hours worked in December at SCP2 per hour £10.50 = £168 + Office Maintenance £40.00. = £208.00

Davina Martin Map Railway Embankment (£35.20 +VAT £6.40) Total £41.60

TOTAL£249.60

These figures were accepted for payment; proposed by Cllr Spencer and seconded by Cllr Arter.

In response to a resident's enquiry about the future of the lawn mower currently stored in the Little Barn and no longer being used, it was agreed that the Clerk would try to identify its current value before accepting any offer.

Cllr Martin reported that she had researched the availability of large-scale, customized maps of the parish, which could serve several purposes. Maps on an electronic file, once purchased, would be relatively cheap to reproduce.

6. PLANNING

Appeal under section 174. Land north side of Marley Lane (adjacent Marley Wood Bungalow) Marley Lane, Kingston, CT4 6JJ **Appeal hearing on 25th January 2018 in The Guild Hall, Canterbury**

17/02533 Proposed detached two-storey dwelling with associated vehicular access following demolition of garage. Land adjacent to 60 The Street, Kingston, CT4 6JE. Awaiting decision.

17/02576 Single-storey porch, replacement windows & solar panels to the front roof elevation. The Old Forge, Church Lane, Kingston CT4 6HX. Awaiting decision

17/02703 Proposed single-storey rear extension following demolition of existing garage. 2 Nailbourne Close, Kingston CT4 6JA. Awaiting decision

DECISIONS

17/02434 Proposed single-storey side extension following demolition of conservatory and open fronted store. Broadfield Cove Lane, Kingston, CT4 6HJ
GRANTED.

17/02411 Retrospective Application for proposed two-storey detached dwelling and two-storey detached garage with games rooms over following demolition of existing dwelling and garage. The Purlins, Black Robin Lane, Kingston CT4 6HR
GRANTED

7. TREES

The work thus far on the Embankment Project was reviewed. Following extensive clearance in 2016-17 with the help of volunteer working parties, the section of the Embankment leading from the Recreation Ground is now ready for re-planting. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact Alun Griffiths from Kent Men of the Trees to ask if he would come and inspect the area again to advise us on the most suitable trees and shrubs to purchase. A number of residents have previously expressed a wish to help in the purchase of trees and shrubs either in kind or by cash donations. It was agreed to put a notice in the village magazine to explore any further interest. Once a list of suitable trees and shrubs has been compiled, it will be distributed to any interested parties.

The Clerk reported that grant monies received for the work to date amounted to £19,813 and currently £10,510 has been spent. However, there will be further expense to clear the two trees that fell recently on the Embankment. It was felt that no more than a further £6,000 should be spent on the Embankment until more funding has been obtained.

It was suggested that The Fifth Trust could be approached for future help in planting bulbs such as snowdrops and bluebells.

8. HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS

i) Marley Lane: The Clerk had recently met the Highways Team who reported that there was nothing they could do to provide a pull in passing place in Marley Lane due to a lack of money, and they do not own the land. They did agree that the lane was in desperate need of having the verges cut back and cleared which would be expensive. They quoted £8,000 - £9,000, which Highways currently cannot afford. However, they will consider to doing it in two stages, half this year and the other half, next year.

ii) The Clerk reported that she had not yet reported the overgrown hedge beyond Jesses Hill, owned by Little Duskin Farm. She will do it and report at the next meeting.

iii) The Street: Highways are investigating getting the hedge at the top of The Street cut back. They are in touch with the owner.

A resident reported that a drain part way up The Street was blocked. It has been reported.

9. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

Clerks & Council Direct - January 2018

Emails to All

RAMP Meeting Monday 22nd January 2018 The Guild Hall
The Provisional 2018-19 Local Government Finance Settlement
Consultation Paper
Community Policing Volunteer
Kent County Council Mineral Site Plan

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr Osborn asked if the proposed reduction of evening bus services in rural areas, including the No 17 route, could be an agenda item at the next meeting.

The appointment of a Data Protection Officer to comply with the new legislation coming into force in May 2018, will also be on the next agenda.

Cllr Wakefield asked if she could put Community Policing Volunteer on to Face book

Cllr Pearson had previously asked about putting extra signs to indicate two-way traffic up on the slip road coming off the A2. Highways felt that there was sufficient signage there already. The slip road is in Bishopsbourne parish not Kingston.

There was no further business. The meeting closed at 9.20pm.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Will take place on Monday 5 February 2018 at 7.30pm in The Barn.