

KINGSTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council via Zoom Monday 1st March 2021 at 7.00 pm.

Present:

- Cllr Martin (Chair)
- Cllr Chatley (Minutes – proposed by Cllr Martin; seconded by Cllr Pearson)
- Cllr Spencer
- Cllr Stribbling
- Cllr Pearson
- Cllr McWilliams
- Cllr Reeves
- City Cllr Sole

3 Kingston residents

1. **Apologies and approval of absences:** County Cllr Northey (Physically at another meeting) and Chloe McCleish (PCSO) sent apologies.
2. **Reports from County and City Council members:** A reports from City Cllr Sole was circulated in advance of the meeting giving a general update.
3. **Declarations of interest:** None
4. **Public Forum:**

A member of the public from Marley Lane asked when Marley Lane will reopen. Cllr Martin said the last update she had was that the work would last 6 weeks but because of the snow the date had now probably slipped. update. City Cllr Mike Sole read out an email he had received some two weeks ago which clarified that a second lot of works needed to be done near Marley Farm but as it was using a different contractor to the one used currently, both jobs could not be done at the same time. City Cllr Mike Sole said he would find out when Marley Lane is scheduled to reopen. It was noted that Jesses Hill and the far end of Marley Lane was experiencing more traffic and that the already poor road conditions were deteriorating even more.

Another member raised a point about bracken near the Black Robin was mentioned at the last meeting and appeared in the Parish magazine but didn't appear in the minutes.

5. **Minutes of previous meeting:** 1st February 2021

Cllr Chatley said that the minutes needed to record why County Cllr Northey was absent. He also said that the numbering of headings needed to be changed to mirror the agenda. All agreed to changes before publishing.

These were approved as correct (proposed by Cllr Pearson; seconded by Cllr Spencer)

6. Matters arising (if not on the agenda):

Cllr Chatley said that the outstanding AP's from January's meeting that were not covered last month needed to be addressed.

AP 031120: Cllr Martin to produce an item re the Clerk's vacancy for the Parish magazine. – Completed.

AP 041120: Cllr Martin to contact Michelle Weston regarding the road surface problem in Church Lane. See item 11 in February minutes. – Completed.

AP 010121: Val McWilliams to contact Hazel Waters at KCC Highways re signage in passing place by Millennium bridge – Now part of the Highway Improvement Plan. – Completed

AP 020121: Cllr Chatley to arrange for an update to go in the Parish magazine. – Completed

AP 030121: Cllr Spencer to prepare and circulate bullet points for discussion at the February meeting on Neighbourhood Planning. See item 14 below. – Completed

AP 040121: Cllr Chatley to obtain Facebook details from Alice. – Completed

7. Planning Applications:

No new applications received to date. To receive feedback on Councillors' site visit to Mount Pleasant, Marley Lane. Cllrs Spencer, Stribbling & Reeves attended the site and were impressed by the owner's approach. The fear of extra traffic was not a problem. The owner had been told that the Parish Council objected to his application, but no decision had been made at that time. The recommendation was to support the application.

8. Planning Decisions:

CA/20/0162 Retrospective application for storage container. 18 The Street, Kingston CT4 6JB GRANTED

CA/20/0245: Replacement of children's playground equipment including wheelchair user friendly roundabout, new fencing and safety surfacing similar to existing. 25 The Street, Kingston CT4 6JB GRANTED

CA/20/02873: Single-storey rear extension. 3, Greenacre, Kingston, CT4 6JF GRANTED

9. Finance

No payments this month.

10. Clerk Appointment:

As of today we had received three applications, two of which were the two applicants interviewed for the position last time. Cllr Martin didn't know if the person recruited for the Barham post was open to clerk for us as well. Cllr McWilliams asked if the paperwork could be circulated to all councillors prior to shortlisting.

AP 010321 Cllr Martin to circulate Clerks applicant's paperwork after the closing date.

11. Highways and Footpaths:

Highway Improvement Plan. A short discussion took place about the paper Cllr Martin had sent out. She asked if there was anything else that should go in it. The location of a salt bin in Church Lane was discussed. In due course Cllr Martin thought that one of the KCC contacts could come out to discuss the items in our plan.

The hedge by the Black Robin was raised as a possible addition to the plan.

12. Proposed Cycle route from Canterbury to Barham:

The recent update submission was discussed with some Councillors having reservations including financial implications for the Parish. It was agreed that the Project is still at an early stage and was being driven by an individual so we will wait to see how things progress.

13. Broadband

Cllr Chatley said that things hadn't really changed from last month. Our costings are still stuck in Openreach's system because of the 4 properties on Westwood that were mentioned earlier. Cllr Chatley had been in touch with one of those concerned who had completed a form and been told they are not in another plan. Cllr Chatley had chased up two contacts he had in Openreach but had not had a response in time for the meeting.

14. Neighbourhood Planning.

Cllr Spencer had met with Karen Britton (Planning CCC). A neighbourhood plan would need full community involvement. It was felt this was not required and that a Village Design Statement was the way forward for Kingston and that the Village Society might be best placed to do this project.

AP 020321 Cllr Spencer to email the village society re Village Design Statement.

15. Matters for further discussion.

Remote meetings after 6th May: Govt regulations currently end on that day for holding Parish meetings remotely. Cllr Chatley said that breached the Govt's roadmap on meeting 6 people outdoors. It was agreed to wait for further update from KALC/NALC.

Cllr Martin said she and Cllr McWilliams had talked about planting daffodils on the bank by Nailbourne Close. Cllr Reeves has still got to finish cutting the trees down on the bank but also offered to clear all the debris to enable bulb planting.

Cllr Stribbling asked all Councillors to become active in litter picking. He had the bags and the pickers are available from B&M for £3 which could be reimbursed by the Council.

Date of the Next Meeting: Monday 12th April 2021

The meeting closed at 20.34

List of March Action points

AP 010321 Cllr Martin to circulate Clerks applicant's paperwork after the closing date.

AP 020321 Cllr Spencer to email the village society re Village Design Statement.