



Kingston Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council

Monday 3rd March at 19.30

Present: Cllr Paul Chatley (Chair); Cllr Davina Martin (Vice-Chair); Cllr Jerry Cook; Cllr Val McWilliams; Cllr Steve Reeves; Cllr Laura Spencer; Cllr Richard Story; Emily Arnold (Clerk); 6 members of the public.

1. Chairman opening remarks, apologies and approval of absences: Cllr Chatley welcomed everyone present and thanked them for attending the meeting. Cllr Chatley introduced the new clerk and welcomed her to the team. No apologies were received.

2. Minutes of the previous meetings: The minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 3rd February 2025 were approved as a true record, proposed Cllr Reeves, seconded Cllr Cook, they were signed by the chairman as true record. Noted a spelling mistake style not stile.

3. Declarations of interest: None were received.

4. Public Forum: A resident spoke about a planning application (CA/25/00123) that had already been discussed at a previous meeting, they explained that the footpath that ran along side the property would have no bearing on the application that had gone into CCC. They suggested that the footpath would be moved towards the road and would be access friendly with no stiles. They explained in more depth about the planning application and asked the councillors to contact them if they had any questions. Cllr Reeves was very positive towards the application.

5. Reports from Kent Police, County, and City Council members: Cllr Soles monthly report has been circulated to all councillors, it has been posted on our website and on Facebook.

Cllr Cook contacted Kent police on 8th February and as yet no reply. Cllr Cook had been accepted to join the Independent Advisory Group and had attended his first meeting he had nothing to report back.

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

Road closures; Covert Lane 16/4/25 (1 day) Pheasant's Hall Road 17/4/25 (1 day)

7. Finance:

a) Payments and Receipts: Bank Balance (as of 27th February) £20,500.36 (including grants and reserves) £19965.75 in the savings account (of which £11,000 is reserves) and £534.61 in the current account.

Payments:

Stephanie Woods – Clerk Salary (February)

Stephanie Woods – Salary Underpayment PAYE incorrect

Unity Trust Bank – Monthly Account Fee - £6

b) Clerk to ask Stephanie Woods to transfer £2000 from savings account to current account due to the time delay on clerk being able to access the bank accounts (14 days)

Proposed Cllr Reeves Seconded Cllr McWilliams All agreed

Once the new clerk has full access to the bank a proposal for Cllr Cook will be put forward to be added as a signatory

8. Planning: New applications CA/25/00305 – 12 The Street, Kingston – Single-storey rear extension – **SUPPORT**

9. Miscellaneous Parish Council Matters:

a) Emergency Plan: Ongoing

b) Annual Village Meeting – Speaker: Clerk to contact Andy Linklater

c) Kingston Brooch: Ongoing – a check of the brooch needs to be made, waiting for the weather to improve.

d) Documentation: Update clerks details

e) VE Day: Cllr Martin and Cllr Spencer to liaise with the village society about events/tea party

10. Highways, Footpaths and trees:

a) Highways: Clerk to follow up again on Marley Lane signs

b) Embankment: To adopt Woodland Management Plan Cllr Spencer to change from draft to live. Cllr Reeves to check that Hart Lee can do the works and to inform them its not solid chalk.

c) Embankment: Tree removal and sectioning Tree Works: Waiting for quotes (will now be in next financial year)

d) Tree work quotation: Cllr Chatley has given Hart Lee the information required (will now be in next financial year)

e) Faggs Alley: It has been cleared, Cllr McWilliams very happy with the work done. Planting to be undertaken. Finger post not replaced

f) St Giles Church: Finger post replaced by Andrew Page

g) Bushes – Black Robin PH: Cllr McWilliams has spoken to the landlord of the pub who will not help financially. Cllr McWilliams to get quotes to remove the whole lot.

h) Footpaths within Kingston: From Little Marley Farm to Boundary Cottage hasn't been cleared and Prow are going to clear this when weather is better.

i) Barham to Kingston Footpath: Clerk to contact Barham, to be clear on the route and find out support in Barham. After the road closure Covet Lane 16th April to check area to see accessibility to far side of bridge, slope to bridge and any clearing that maybe required. May need to contact PROW team.

11. Matters for future discussions: None

12. Date of next meeting: 12th May 2025 (Annual Parish Meeting) at 7.30pm in The barn, Kingston

Meeting closed at 20.25

Signed..... (Chairman)

Date

Please note these Minutes remain as draft Minutes until they are approved by the Parish Council at their next Parish Council meeting on 7th April 2025.

Future meeting dates:

12/05/2025 (Annual Parish Meeting), 21/05/2025 (Annual Village Meeting), 02/06/2025, 07/07/2025, 01/09/2025, 06/10/2025, 03/11/2025 and 01/12/2025