

Kingston Parish Council



Minutes of the Meeting of the Council

Monday 7th April at 19.30

Present: Cllr Paul Chatley (Chair); Cllr Davina Martin (Vice-Chair); Cllr Val McWilliams; Cllr Steve Reeves; Cllr Laura Spencer; Cllr Richard Story; Emily Arnold (Clerk); 4 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. Apologies were received from Cllr Jerry Cook

2. Minutes of the previous meetings: The minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 7th April 2025 were approved as a true record, proposed Cllr Spencer, seconded Cllr Reeves they were signed by the chairman as true record. Noted a spelling mistake on item 6 Covert Lane should have read Covet Lane.

3. Declarations of interest: None were received.

4. Public Forum: A resident spoke about the notice board not being used as items were getting weather damaged. Residents had taken to putting notices directly into the bus shelter. The council was asked if the notice board could be moved into the bus shelter. Also, the word '**SLOW**' on the road outside 6 The Street had worn away could the clerk contact KCC to get it re-painted. Cllr Spencer stated that there were words missing/worn on Bonny Bush Hill and asked if these could be done at the same time, Cllr Spencer would send more information to the Clerk.

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.

6. Matters arising: (if not already on the agenda) A charity clothing bin had been installed in the car park. The Queens Tree had died and needed to be removed and replaced. A lorry had hit the Millennium Bridge and had knocked out some bricks. Clerk to check and report to the owner of the bridge.

7. Finance:

a) Payments and Receipts: Bank Balance (1st April 2025) £20142.74 this included £123.72 interest receipt and the £6 monthly account fee to Unity Trust Bank. No other

payments were made due to no access to the bank account for the clerk. (Clerk gained access to the account on 7th April) Cllr Chatley explained the access issues.

b) Approved: KVHT £68.25 Barn Hire, KALC Subscription £298.18, Envisage Groundcare Ltd £294 these were proposed Cllr Reeves, seconded Cllr Spencer, all in favour.

C) Cllr Cook to be added as a signatory proposed Cllr Reeves, seconded Cllr Spencer, all in favour.

8. Planning: None

9. Miscellaneous Parish Council Matters:

a) Annual Village Meeting: Clerk had spoken with Andy Linklater and could confirm his attendance. Clerk/Cllr Chatley to contact all groups within Kingston parish and ask them to do reports for the meeting.

b) Brooch: waiting for the weather to improve

c) VE Day – This will be organised by the Village Society, afternoon tea 1-4pm on 5th May (subject to The Barn being available)

d) Clerk to find out about holding the Village Society funds

e) Emergency Plan: ongoing

10. Highways, Footpaths and Trees:

a) Woodland management plan – This was agreed at the last meeting so needs to be uploaded as a word document.

b) Marley Lane Signs - still ongoing

c) Embankment- the councillors discussed the three quotes and decided to go with Hart Lee. Proposed Cllr Reeves, Seconded Cllr McWilliams. All in favour.

d) Tree work - Nailbourne Close, Bonny Bush Hill and CB275 Cllr Chatley had sent over some required information and these works will now take place on 28th and 29th April.

e) Black Robin bushes - The Clerk to send over the contact details of Stonegate to Cllr McWilliams, Cllr McWilliams will try to get some funds for the removal of the bushes and fence.

f) Barham to Kingston footpath – waiting to hear from Barham PC. Cllr Chatley had asked about safety of footpath next to main road and was informed that another fence would be required.

g) PROW/CC/C446 – Not sure at the moment if the bridge would be opened up, council would have to do the bridge to Embankment but if the other side wasn't done would it be a worthwhile cost. To keep a close eye on it.

11. Matters for future discussion: None

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

Meeting closed 20:15

Signed

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(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 12th May 2025.

Future Meeting Dates

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