

Minutes of the Meeting held by Kingham Parish Council

– held on Wednesday 20th April 2016, 7.30pm

Present :- Cllrs K. Hartley, B.Hughes, J.Harvey, J.Dewar, R.Sale, M.Drinkwater and J.Warne

Clerk :- N.Marina

Two members of the public

1. Apologies – M.Dare

2. Minutes – the Minutes from the last Meeting were signed and approved.

3. Matters Arising –

3.1 Graveyard Mowing – two people came forward to take on the Church yard mowing. It was greed with one person to take up the offer. 10-12 cuts per year were agreed, with the rate of £110 per cut. (The PC would cover £90, with the Church contributing £20 per cut). The mowing had started, with the first one being 25th March 2016. It was mentioned that one piece of equipment seemed to need repairing.

3.2 Trees on The Green – It was agreed to go ahead with the 1mth and 3mth work schedule that was provided by Tree Tech. Cllr Sale offered to attend to the one tree, which needed works located on the Little Green opposite The Plough to help to hopefully make a small saving.

4. Councillors Forum

4.1 Footpath next to the Football field – the works are now underway to widen the footpath. The stone wall is acceptable and runs quite deep, it did not need any further support.

4.2. Villager Bus funding – the Clerk was asked to write to the Villager Bus service to seek further information as to whether the final costing to keep the bus running had been made known. The PC, in principle, would like to help the bus with funds to keep running but until a final figure is known it is difficult to make a full commitment.

4.3 X8 Bus – no further information had been given. OCC were still talking with bus operators and District Councils to seek funding.

4.4 Millenium Wood – Some works had been done by volunteer Cllrs to cut back the brambles. More work needed to be done, hopefully with the help of more Volunteers. It was felt that 6-8 people were needed. A date would be chosen, hopefully in May, agreeable to all that can Volunteer. It was felt that after clearing, weed killer would need to be put on the returning new sprouts. A suggestion of hiring a brush cutter was given and agreed.

4.5 Big Festival, pre event meeting – was held at the British Legion and attended by Cllr Harvey. The Festival organisers seemed to be working hard to address the issue's raised last year, these being the contractors driving routes before and after the event and the mobile phone coverage over the weekend. The live music will finish at 11pm on Friday and Saturday and 10pm on the Sunday. Lyneham residents had expressed concerns over the deterioration of Lyneham road and it was said that OCC had no funds to repair it. The Big Festival was asked to consider providing funds for this.

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Another suggestion was given that local charities could be offered some assistance even though it was acknowledged that Jamie Oliver was already giving funds to his own charity causes. There will be another pre-event meeting on the 19th July at the British Legion as well as a post event meeting on the 2nd November 2016.

4.6 Inconsiderate and dangerous parking at Football field- Cllr Hughes advised that this was still happening. It was particularly bad last weekend. The Clerk was asked to write again to the Chairman of the Football Club to again raise this issue. The Clerk advised that she had done so not long ago and was advised that this issue had been ongoing for at least 65 years. The Club were going to contact the Police to see if cones could be used for game days. The 'keep clear' markings were still on the waiting list with OCC Highways. A suggestion was offered to include in the correspondence to the Football Club Chairman – perhaps they could use stewards to direct game players onto the field for parking.

4.7 Church toilet facilities – one Cllr had been approached with regards to providing funding for toilets at the Church. It was thought that this project would be extremely expensive (it had been investigated some years ago, at which time the estimated cost was approx £35,000) mostly due to having to provide the water and also sewerage disposal. The PC could only consider the possibility of a donation if there was a genuine possibility of the project going ahead.

4.8 Telephone box – was again mentioned by a resident. The current situation is that the door is being fixed by BT. It had been advised that this would take some 6-8 months. Once this had been completed the PC would be in a position to adopt the box and then consider having a defibrillator installed there. Other uses were also being considered.

4.9 Events Committee – The committee had provided some further information as to what the funds from the PC would be contributed to. The events committee are to hold an information evening on 26th April at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. It was thought that a representative from the PC should attend to ask any further questions. Cllr Harvey and Dewar advised they would attend.

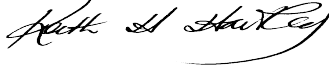
5. Planning –

5.1. Garden House, Church Street – recommendations had been received from WODC. These had been received from OCC Highways. They included reducing the height of the enclosure and visibility splays. It was thought that these conditions could not be met as the soil was currently higher than the recommended condition. The recommendations do not overcome the objection. It was proposed that a Highways officer meet with someone from the PC to explain how these conditions could be met. The Clerk to write a letter asking the above.

5.2 College Farm House – alteration – no objections

5.3 1 Boulters Close, The Green – no objections

5.4 16 dwellings Church Street – notification given of intended changes to Unit 6 within the already approved proposal – no objection

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6. Public Forum

6.1 Allotments – Rat population. Two Cllr's had been approached to raise this matter. During the conversation it was mentioned that it was thought that the population of rats had not increased and that we live in a rural environment where these animals will exist. As there are chickens on the allotment, it was agreed that the feed for chickens will encourage rats, but it was also mentioned that compost used by people on the allotment will also encourage rats. The chicken owners were noted to have already in use, feed storage containers that are rat proof. Suggestions of traps and shooting the rats were raised. The use of poison could not be used as dog walkers pass through the allotments and there are many other native animals that can be effected by such use. It was decided to write a letter to all allotment holders advising that the Trustee's would monitor the situation. Suggestions, through the Newsletter, were asked from the Allotment holders.

6.2 Flooding by British Legion – in the road outside the British Legion, an ongoing problem every time there is heavy rain. The clerk to write to Thames Water. It was suggested the drain is blocked at the bottom of Hay Lane that runs next to the British Legion.

6.3 Stone wall opposite the British Legion – the wall under the pathway, opposite the British Legion has falling stones, falling out of it onto the road way. The Clerk to write to the landowner to advise the issue and see if it can be repaired.

7. Health and Safety

7.1 Playground Inspections – Cllr Harvey reported that dangerous objects had been found at the playground. A large piece of wood with rusty nails was left lying under the climbing frame. Cllr Harvey suggested some advertising to make people aware that these types of items were not to be brought into the playgrounds. Cllr Harvey to organise.

7.2 Rospa Yearly inspection – it was now time to have this done - the Clerk to organise.

7.3 Playground flooring - It was also suggested that the bark should be again topped up or rubberised flooring. The Clerk to seek quote for flooring kept on file from last year for discussion.

8. Finance

8.1. Audit – Governance Statement – the statement (Section 1 of the Audit report) was read out, agreed by the PC. The form was filled in and signed/dated by the Chairman and Clerk. The internal audit will be completed and prepared for the next meeting in May, where it will be signed for sending to the external auditor.

8.2. Cheques were signed (below)

| | | | | | | |
|----------|--------|-----|----------------|------------------------------------|--|--------|
| 20.04.16 | 100462 | Apr | Alan Harding | 100 Club 1st prize | | 50.00 |
| 20.04.16 | 100463 | Apr | Emily Lampson | 100 Club 2nd prize | | 20.00 |
| 20.04.16 | 100464 | Apr | Heidi Miller | 100 3rd prize | | 10.00 |
| 20.04.16 | 100465 | Apr | Nicole Marina | wages | | 512.30 |
| 20.04.16 | 100466 | Apr | Nicole Marina | expenses | | 5.43 |
| 20.04.16 | 100467 | Apr | Oxord Diocesan | Football field rental | | 84.00 |
| 20.04.16 | 100468 | Apr | A.J Pilkington | Church Yard Mowing | | 220.00 |
| 20.04.16 | 100469 | | Richard Sale | reimburse for replacement trees VH | | 87.00 |

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9. Correspondence

9.1. Heydens field – a letter had been received asking when the tender notice for the field would go ahead. It was mentioned that the field would be sprayed for Ragwort before this notice would be given. Cllr Sale offered to contact a person able to do the spraying, once this had been done, Cllr Sale would advise the Clerk so the tender could be organised.

9.2. WODC Grass cutting – The PC had been advised that there would be a 1% increase to the charges for Kingham Grass cutting for 2016. It was agreed to go ahead.


9.3. Kingham Events – a letter had been received from Kingham events asking for a donation of £500 towards the costs of the event to be held on 12th June in West Street (to celebrate the Queens B'day). Items were listed of what the money would go towards but some further questions were asked. What was the overall budget the Events had in mind for the event? What % of funds were they expecting from the PC. The Events Committee were holding an information evening on 26th April, 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Two Cllrs volunteered to attend so that they could ask the above questions and obtain more information. In Principle the funds were agreed.

9.4. PC Insurance – two quotes had been received. Renewal is due on 1st June. The Chairman would read over and advise at the next Meeting in May.

9.5. Kingham Future group – the questionnaires had now been handed out to residents within the village. Approx 350. The due date for return is 25th April. Residents were encouraged to participate.

10. AOB – no other business.

Meeting Closed at 9pm

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