

KINGSTON ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, KINGSTON ST MARY, ON MONDAY 16 APRIL 2007 AT 7.30 PM

1 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

Councillors

J W Fitton (Chairman)	J M Aldrich
K J Taylor	D S Bradley
C Miles	S B Harris
W R I Barrie	J L Clarke

The Clerk - Mrs T J Canavan; and 3 members of the public attended the meeting.

Apologies were received from Cllr D Leach

2 APPROVAL OF MINUTES of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 12th March 2007.

Resolved

The Minutes were approved and signed as a true record.

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST in any Agenda item – Cllr Barrie declared an interest in item 5.1 Footpath opposite the Swan to the Post Office. Reason given is that his property adjoins the footpath.

4 MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC -The Chairman will allow questions from members of the public – nil.

5 HIGHWAYS/FOOTPATHS

5.1 Footpath opposite the Swan to the Post Office

It was reported that the footpath was now nearing completion. The Clerk advised that she had been informed by Dan Martin, Somerset County Council, that the existing phone box is to be removed and replaced with a new style phone box at the location of the new retaining wall. This land is owned by TDBC and so BT are negotiating an agreement to allow them access to maintain this facility on the Council's land.

The white lining along the highway is also to be re-done.

Resolved

The Chairman is to speak to Dan Martin regarding the issue of listing the current red phone box.

5.2 Pinch Point at Mill Cross

Cllr Bradley arrived at 7.40 pm.

The Chairman read out the correspondence received from Neil Pincombe

(previously circulated to Councillors) in response to the queries/concerns raised at the February meeting.

The correspondence was also forwarded to Harry Masterton-Smith.

The Parish Council discussed the matters raised, namely: survey discrepancies; low-level lighting – it was confirmed that the street lights present have been erected to the minimum height specifications; and, light intrusion. The Street Lighting Department has confirmed that internal louvers can be installed to remove light intrusion from neighbouring properties. However, they can only be fitted on those lights affecting the properties. Somerset County Council has said it would be helpful if the offending street lights could be identified by residents.

The Clerk also advised that PC Andy Davies had carried out a speed check the preceding week and no-one had been caught speeding. It was noted that the check had been carried out during the School's Easter Holidays. She also confirmed that he will be attending the May Meeting to discuss Speed Watch.

Resolved

The Clerk is to contact Neil Pincombe and request that the County Council Engineer contact residents direct regarding the street lighting.

The Clerk is to ask PC Davies to carry out another speed check during term time.

5.3 Parish/ Town Council Questionnaire – Highway Related Services – Year ending 31 March 2007

Resolved

The Chairman will complete and return the form on the Council's behalf.

5.4 Refurbished finger post opposite the Swan Pub. The Clerk advised she had contacted the County Council regarding the post rusting as identified at the last meeting. The Council will inspect the post and then carry out any remedial works. This will be at nil cost to the Parish Council.

6 SITE FOR SHOP/ POST OFFICE/ VILLAGE HALL – The Chairman informed the Parish Council that he had been approached by the owner of the housing development at Hill Farm regarding the amenity land to the west of the site.

The owner is prepared to build a shop/ post office/ village hall there and then let them out at a peppercorn rent to the Parish.

He has already discussed the proposal with the planning authority.

A discussion followed.

Resolved

The Chairman is to reply to the land owner verbally saying that it is an interesting idea and that it is worth pursuing.

The scheme would fit in with the remit of the Parish Plan and residents should be consulted through that process as to whether or not they support the proposal.

The Chairman will speak to the Village Hall Committee regarding the proposal.

- 7 PARISH PLAN** – Harry Masterton-Smith gave an update on progress to date.
The Parish Plan Committee is currently preparing a questionnaire that will be sent out to all residents at the end of May/ beginning of June. The results will then be analysed and the Committee will then report back to the Parish Council at its September or October Meeting.
The Plan Committee is also approaching the PCC; the planning authority and Highways.
It was reported that the feedback after the Annual Parish Meeting was positive.
Mr Masterton-Smith sought assurances that the future Parish Council will support the Plan.
The Chairman thanked Mr Masterton-Smith.

- 8 SOMERSET COUNTY COUNCIL'S UNITARY PROPOSALS.** The Clerk advised that the County Council had sent an invitation to attend meetings to discuss the proposals in more detail.

Resolved

Cllr Barrie and Miles are to attend the meeting on 21 May. The Clerk is to contact the County Council to reserve the places.

9 CONSULTATION

9.1 Somerset County Council – Review of Tendered Bus Services in Taunton Deane – the proposed changes to the bus service in Kingston were discussed. It was noted that there will be an hourly service on each week day.

Resolved

The Clerk is to write back to the County Council saying that the Parish Council is very happy with the proposed new service.

10 CORRESPONDENCE

- 10.1 TDBC-bulletin - Cllr Barrie
- 10.2 Department of Constitutional Affairs – letter regarding memorial safety (copy attached for members)
- 10.3 Citizens Advice Bureau, Age Concern and Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Trust – letters of thanks.
- 10.4 Somerset County Council: Statement of Community Involvement; Home Composting – reduced price bins available to Somerset residents; Information sheet on Environmental Maintenance
- 10.5 Somerset Wildlife Trust - Waterlinks – Community woodland opportunity in the floodplain of the Tone and its tributaries (copy attached for members)
- 10.6 LaMIS – Parish mapping on CD ROM
- 10.7 TDBC – Corporate Equality Scheme 2007 -2010 - Summary
- 10.8 Water Courses at Tainfield – members to consider correspondence from D & A Barnes dated 08/03/07 (copy attached for members).
- 10.9 Parking outside village hall – members to consider correspondence from N Graham dated 09/04/07 (copy attached for members)

Matters arising from correspondence:

10.1 Cllr Barrie advised that TDBC have introduced a scheme offering council tax discounts for those properties with solar panels. Details are to be placed in Link Up.

Cllr Taylor left the meeting at 8.20pm after having informed the Chairman at the start of the meeting that he would need to leave early.

10.2 Forward to the PCC

10.4 Details are to be placed in Link Up

10.5 That the Clerk responds saying that the Parish Council would be interested in having an area of woodland created or an existing one extended in part of the floodplain for the use of parishioners; that it would be interested in having a local landowner or an organization such as the Somerset Wildlife Trust or the Woodland Trust own and manage such an area; that the Parish Council may be willing to contribute towards the cost or establishment depending on what is proposed.

10.8 Mr. D Barnes was present to discuss his letter and explain the background to the Parish Council. He advised he had received no response from other affected land owners to his letter. Highways have hinted that they will do something about the problem, but that it won't be done routinely.

Resolved

The Clerk is to write to Highways explaining that it is an ongoing problem and asking them to pursue the relevant landowners saying that it is their responsibility to clear the affected channels.

10.9 The letter from Mr. Graham was discussed.

Resolved

The Clerk is to write to the Village Hall Committee, enclosing a copy of Mr. Graham's letter, asking them to come back to the Parish Council with a proposed solution. The Clerk is to advise Mr. Graham that his letter has been forwarded to the Village Hall Committee.

Mr. Masterton-Smith then asked for permission to add something about the Parish Plan. As part of the Plan they are seeking to develop the Parish website. One proposal is that each organization/ group will have its own password protected access to its own section on the website that would allow it to record new information and to keep their own section up-to-date.

11 PLANNING MATTERS

11.1 Applications

20/2007/012T – Application to fell one apple tree and one lawson cypress tree and carry out tree work on one silver birch tree and two ash trees within Kingston St Mary conservation area at Brantwood, KSM.

20/2007/011 – Erection of cattle shed on land at Pickney, KSM

Resolved

That having considered the above applications the PC has no objections

and supports the applications

11.2 Waiting Decisions

20/2007/004 – Erection of an agricultural store building adjoining existing agricultural building at Tetton Farm, KSM

11.3 Granted permission

20/2007/002 – Erection of conservatory, double garage/domestic workshop/store and retaining wall at Stoneybrooke, Nailsbourne

20/2007/007 – Part conversion of garage to extend existing study at 12 Sawyers Leigh, KSM

20/2007/008 – Single storey extension to south west elevation of Cedar Cottage, Parsonage Lane, KSM

20/2007/009T – Application to pollard four oak trees and one ash tree included in Taunton Deane Borough (KSM No 1) TPO (2007) beside the road to the west of Quantock Way, KSM (TD1024)

11.4 Refused Permission

20/2006/037 – Amendment to wording of condition 5 of permission

20/2005/005 at Mill Meadow, Parsonage Lane, KSM

20/2006/038 – Amendment to wording of condition 6 of permission

20/2005/022 at Mill Meadow, Parsonage Lane, KSM

20/2006/039 – Amendment to wording of condition 3 of permission

20/2006/026 at Mill Meadow, Parsonage Lane, KSM

20/2007/006 – Erection of two storey extension, covered area, pergola, change of use of agricultural land to residential, new drive and entrance, and block up previous entrance at Parsonage Farm, KSM

11.5 Withdrawn - Nil

11.6 Other - Nil

12 SUBMISSION TO LINK-UP

Resolved

That the following should be included:

- TDBC's scheme for installing solar panels
- Home composting – reduced price bins available for Somerset residents
- Verge cutting timetable
- Request for volunteers for millennium seat cleaning

13 MODEL CONTRACT OF EMPLOYMENT – Members considered the revisions to the Clerk's contract of employment as recommended by NALC and SALC (copy attached for members).

Resolved

The Parish Council agreed to the amendments. The Clerk and Chairman signed and dated the list of revisions which the Clerk will attach to her existing contract as an addendum.

14 FINANCIAL MATTERS

14.1 Insurance policy renewal and application to increase fidelity guarantee insurance.

The Clerk advised that she had received notification that the insurance

policy was due for renewal on 1 June 2007. However, she had not yet received a quote for increasing the fidelity guarantee insurance.

Resolved

That payment should be placed on next month's agenda by when the quote should have been received.

14.2 Clerk to give an update on end of year accounts and members to agree who shall be carrying out member audit.

The Clerk advised that she was in the process of completing the end of year accounts. Cllr Harris volunteered to carry out the informal member audit.

14.3 Grass Cutting – members to consider quotes received for grass cutting and footpath work – The Clerk advised that only one quote had been received and that this had been from Chedzoy for £295.

Resolved

That the quote from Chedzoy should be accepted and that he be instructed to carry out the work as requested.

14.4 Payments:

Resolved

That the following payments should be made:

Clerk's Salary	S/O
Clerk's expenses	£33.73
Village Hall booking	£18
Community Council for Somerset (2007/08 subscription)	£ 25
SALC (2007/08 affiliation fee)	£183.59
Information Commissioner	£35

15 URGENT MATTERS RAISED WITH THE CHAIRMAN'S PERMISSION AND ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA –

The Clerk suggested that vandalism and anti-social behaviour in the Parish should be placed on next month's agenda when PC Andy Davies will be in attendance. The Councillors agreed.

The Clerk brought to the Council's attention that the notice board at Fulford had been vandalised. Cllr Clarke will inspect the damage. Steps will then be taken to repair the notice board.

The Chairman then expressed his thanks to those Councillors who are standing down at the election and for all their hard work over the previous years.

He also thanked Councillors for the support and help they had given him during his time as Chairman and wished luck to the new Parish Council.

16 MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC –When time allows the Chairman will allow

questions from members of the public – nil.

17 DATES FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

Mon 14 May 2007	Mon 11 June 2007	Mon 9 July 2007
Mon 10 September 2007	Mon 8 October 2007	Mon 12 Nov 2007
Mon 10 December 2007		

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm.

Signed

Date:

