

KINGSTON ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY 14th JULY 2008 AT 7.30PM

Member of the Public: Prior to the commencement of the meeting a member of the public brought to the attention of the Parish Council a number of holes on the Greenway road between the School and Fulford Telephone Box and that a child had fallen off their bicycle due to a pot-hole. The Chairman thanked the member of the public for the information. Discussion also took place regarding the man-hole cover on the same road near the junction in the KSM village, where it was not seated properly causing noise to residents as cars passed over it.

Resolved

The Parish Clerk was asked to write to Highways to seek urgent attention to these matters.

The Chairman informed the meeting that Peter Lacey from the Society of Local Councils (SALC) had been invited but was unable to attend until later. All agreed to postpone item 4, Playing Fields, until he arrived.

1 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

In Attendance: Councillors R M Stokes (Chairman) D S Bradley
J L Clarke C G Hancock
W R I Barrie K Taylor (part)
C Miles

The Clerk, Ms C Hardy, District Councillor J Brockwell and 3 members of the public attended the meeting. Mr Peter Lacey from SALC joined the meeting at 8.45pm.

Apologies were received from Cllrs Flood and Harris.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST in any Agenda item
There were no declarations of interest.

3 APPROVAL OF MINUTES of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 9th June 2008. Mr. Masterton-Smith's surname had been spelt incorrectly. The Parish Clerk apologised for the error.

Resolved

The minutes were approved and signed as a true record with the amendment of the surname error highlighted.

Matters Arising:

10.3 Taunton Deane Area Working Panel - Cllr Bradley informed the meeting that this Panel was to cease and it would now come under the Taunton Deane Community Strategic Partnership raising concerns that KSM is grouped with urban areas with which it has little in common.

Resolved

The Clerk was asked to write to Community Partnerships co-ordinator Mary Rousseau, with a copy to Mr Brendan Cleere at TDBC, expressing this view and the fact that this step was taken without prior consultation..

4.2 PLAY EQUIPMENT FOR PLAYING FIELDS DUE FROM HILL FARM – Cllrs discussed the situation regarding the requirement of this development to provide a provision for play equipment for the Playing Fields.

Resolved

The Clerk was asked to write to the Planning Department to ascertain at what stage in the development does this contribution become liable, the time limit and whether it can be brought forward if development ceases.

5 HIGHWAYS/FOOTPATHS

5.1 Relocation of telephone box – BT had now removed the telephone box and had written to the Parish Council with an apology for the delay, explaining the situation. It was noted that the footpath needs to be finished and the rubbish bin repositioned. The Clerk informed Members that the new telephone box should be supplied in the new site within 6-8 weeks and that BT was awaiting cabling to be fitted.

Resolved

The Clerk was asked to write to Highways and TDBC to tidy up the area and redo the footpath/bin as a priority as it could be unsafe for pedestrians particularly as a number of elderly people use the path.

5.2 White Lines on Road from The Swan Pub to the Post Office – nothing to report since the last meeting.

Resolved

The Clerk was asked to write to Highways informing them that the matter had been ongoing for some time and a resolution was sought as soon as possible.

5.3 Street lighting at pinch point at Mill Cross – Nothing to report since the last meeting.

5.4 Finger post opposite Swan Pub – Nothing to report since the last meeting.

5.5 Speed Watch – The speed gun had been purchased and training of volunteers is underway with regular speed watch shifts planned.

5.6 Road Flooding in the Parish – Nothing to report since the last meeting.

5.7 Rubbish in Lay-by past Westhay – Nothing to report since the last meeting.

6 PARISH PLAN – Cllrs Stokes and Clarke had met with Mr. Nigel Bacon to progress completion of the Parish Plan. The points raised by the Parish Council had now been included. A discussion took place on the format and layout for the plan.

Resolved

To approve the amended wording of the Parish Plan and request that a proof of the plan to be passed to the Parish Council for approval prior to printing. A revised estimate is required for producing the final Parish Plan and for the sub-committee to be asked to provide a statement of how the funding has been spent in order to provide records for auditing purposes.

Cllr Taylor arrived at 8.05pm.

7 PARISH FLOOD – Nothing to report since the last meeting. This item to be renamed "Flood Risk Assessment" in future.

8 CORRESPONDENCE

8.1 TDBC weekly bulletin – Nothing relevant to report.

8.2 Somerset County Council Local Initiative Budget – Members discussed options for consideration and that the Parish should look for a discrete project. District Councillor Brockwell outlined a project at Hestercombe, which had positive results and she agreed to forward information.

Resolved

It was agreed that a request for a budget should be linked to a project for the youth of the Parish and to approach parishioners for suggestions and proposals. Cllr Bradley agreed to approach Ann Simpson who has an interest.

8.3 TDBC Maintenance Grants 2008/2009 - Members discussed expenditure for the Burial Grounds, Playing Fields and Footpath Maintenance and the request to TDBC for Maintenance Grants.

Resolved

It was agreed to maintain levels at the same as last year:

- Burial Grounds – last year = £500
- Playing Fields – last year = £500
- Footpath Maintenance – last year = £250

8.4 Community Council for Somerset Site for Development – The Clerk had requested further information. The Parish Council had previously written under the Local Area Agreement proposing four flats for single persons.

Resolved

It was agreed to send a copy of the previous letter to TDBC Chief Housing Officer John Williams and TDBC Chief Executive Penny James.

8.5 Service to the Community Awards Nominations – Members discussed seeking nominations of someone within the community deserving of an award for his or her services.

Resolved

It was agreed to ask the community to nominate anyone deserving of recognition for an award and for names to be passed to the Parish Clerk by no later than 5th August.

9 PLANNING MATTERS

- 9.1 Applications - Nil
- 9.2 Waiting Decisions - Nil
- 9.3 Granted permission - Nil
- 9.4 Refused Permission - Nil
- 9.5 Withdrawn - Nil
- 9.6 Other – Nil

10 SUBMISSION TO LINK UP

Resolved

That the following items be included in Link Up:

- An update on Speed Watch;
- Information about the local initiative budget seeking suggestions and proposals for a Youth Project;
- Information on the services to the community award seeking nominations for someone within the community deserving of an award for his or her services;
- An update on the Parish Council's position relating to the request from the Playing Fields Committee.

4 PLAYING FIELDS – Peter Lacey, SALC, outlined options for the Parish Council to consider relating to the ownership and running of the Playing Fields. He advised that he needed to see a copy of the Governing document from the Playing Fields Association before giving definitive advice. He also recommended the Parish Council use the services of a Solicitor specialising in this subject if it pursues the matter. He agreed to look into the specific issues and provide further information. The Chairman thanked Mr. Lacey for attending the meeting.

Resolved

Members agreed interest in the concept of the Parish Council becoming Custodian Trustees but not Sole Management Trustees and to obtain further information on the legalities.

11 FINANCIAL MATTERS

11.1 Systems of Internal Audit – Peter Lacey kindly explained all elements of the Internal Audit Review and Members completed the required form.

Resolved

Members agreed and approved the Internal Audit Review and for the Chairman and Clerk (RFO) to sign it.

11.2 Local Councils Annual Return and Accounts year April 2007/March 2008 – The Clerk had met with the Internal Auditor, Mr. Terry Waymouth, who had approved the Financial Accounts and they had been forwarded to the External Auditors, Moore Stephens. Mr. Waymouth had recommended in future the Budget figures are included with the financial accounts. He had also requested his fee of £100 be paid to his nominated charity, MIND.

Resolved

The Clerk to review the layout of the accounts to show budget. It was agreed to pay £100 to MIND and for this to be clearly recorded as fees allocated to the Internal Auditor.

11.3 Receipts: Nil

11.4 Payments:

Resolved

It was agreed to make the following payments:

HM Revenue & Customs (Income Tax on C Hardy salary):	£140.25
Photocopying/Stationery	£ 26.16
Clerk's Internet & Telephone Contribution	£ 19.78
Fee to Internal Auditor and for this to be paid to his nominated charity, MIND:	£100.00

12 ITEMS OF REPORT AND ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

- To revisit Section 137 payments (item raised by Cllr Bradley)
- Proposal to alter the format and order of the agenda.

13 DATES FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

Mon 8 Sept 2008	Mon 13 Oct 2008
Mon 10 Nov 2008	Mon 8 Dec 2008

The meeting closed at 9.45pm

Signed:

Date: