

KINGSTON ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY 20TH JULY 2009

1 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

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

The Clerk, Ms C Hardy, District Councillor Jayne Brockwell and Mr Eric Lovell, the Footpaths' Co-ordinator, attended the meeting. There were two members of the public in attendance.

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. Flood, Miles, Harris and Barrie.

2 ITEMS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

2.1 One of the KSM Primary School Governor's outlined details of the planning application and said the School was hoping to commence construction in September.

Resolved:

Members agreed that there would be no objections by the Parish Council to the plans, which would improve the facilities at the School.

2.2 Cllr Brockwell had been in touch with Punch Taverns regarding the closure of The Swan Public House and had stressed to them the importance of this vital link in the village community life. They had informed her that they were seeking new tenants and hoped to re-open within four to six weeks.

3 DECLARATION OF INTEREST – None

4 APPROVAL OF MINUTES of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 8th June 2009.

Resolved:

The minutes were approved and signed as a true record.

5 MATTERS ARISING

5.1 Litterbin – The Clerk informed the meeting that TDBC were now fitting the bag in the litterbin correctly but that animals were still managing to empty contents particularly overnight.

Resolved:

It was agreed for the Clerk to contact TDBC to ascertain whether they could provide an animal-proof bin similar to the one on the Village Green.

5.2 White lines on road – Nothing further to report.

5.3 Nailsbourne sign – Nothing further to report.

ACTION

Clerk

C/F

C/F

5.4 Flood risk assessment – Nothing further to report.

C/F

5.5 Speedwatch –

(1) The Clerk had been in contact with the Parish Clerk at Norton Fitzwarren who wished to borrow the radar speed gun. Members raised concerns about the insurance for the equipment. Discussions also took place regarding the cardboard speed sign in centre of the village, which is looking a little worse for wear. The 30mph speed signs were also in need of cleaning.

(2) Cllr Flood reported that unfortunately Speedwatch was not permitted to undertake speed checks in areas outside the 30mph limit, which meant they were unable to monitor traffic in the area near Parsonage Cottages/Treetops.

Resolved:

(1) Members agreed that it would be beneficial to share the radar speed gun with a neighbouring Parish Council but felt it was their duty to recoup some of the cost of its purchase and/or maintenance. The Clerk to contact Norton Fitzwarren Parish Clerk to ascertain whether they would be interested in contributing funds for its loan. Cllr Flood to also liaise with PCSO Wearmouth. The Clerk to check with the Insurers to ascertain that there is sufficient insurance cover for the equipment. Speedwatch to be asked to remove the cardboard sign. The Clerk to contact Highways to progress cleaning of the 30mph signs.

Clerk/
Cllr Flood

(2) The Clerk to write to Mrs. Huleatt Boyd to inform her that unfortunately Speedwatch could not do a speed check. The Clerk, however, to chase Mr. Titcombe at Highways about responding to the problem following his visit to her.

Clerk

5.6 2 Tainfield Cottages, Nailsbourne – TDBC had confirmed that there are no restrictions on the double garage being converted for family use only. The Planning Officer is currently investigating the use of the agricultural field for domestic curtilage.

C/F

6 FOOTPATHS - The Footpaths' Co-ordinator, Eric Lovell, outlined problems with the footpath at Leeches Field where previously TDBC had been cutting the grass. Unfortunately their new machine is too big for the footpath and it was now becoming untidy and over-grown. Also the fence needed repairing. In addition two gates needed upgrading at T15/31 on the Yarford to Iverton footpath. Mr. Lovell was enquiring whether there are any funds available from the Parish Council although he believed there may be some from TDBC. Mr. Lovell also stated that vegetation overhung the footpath from Bay Hill towards the School and that the pavement was blocked by stinging nettles.

Resolved:

Mr Lovell agreed to ascertain the costs involved on the work and repairs and to contact TDBC in the first instance to see what support, if any, was available and for this item to be on the Agenda for September when the Parish Council will further review the situation. Also the Clerk to contact Highways to confirm their works programme and ensure that Bay Hill is included.

C/F

Clerk

7 TRAFFIC CALMING – Discussions took place on progressing with a pedestrian footpath from the Grange into the village.

Resolved:

Cllr Bradley agreed to contact County Councillor Elaine Waymouth to find out what the Parish Council needs to do to request it. The Clerk to write to Highways to endeavour to find a solution.

Cllr
Bradley

- 8 TDBC PAPERS** – Cllr Bradley updated the meeting with information from the TDBC July Council Meeting, which included a project to transform Taunton into a significant visitor venue as well as information about the LARC rural development programme with investment in rural communities to include the Quantocks and neighbouring Taunton Deane parishes. The programme will run until 2013 and will see £2.25million investment in rural communities in Somerset.

9 PLANNING MATTERS

9.1 Applications

20/09/0008/T Application to fell 2 poplar trees, one hawthorn and one blackthorn and to carry out management work to one yew tree at Camplins, KSM within KSM conservation area.

20/09/0009/T Application to fell one yew tree within KSM conservation area at Camplins, Church Street, KSM

20/09/0011/T Application to carry out management works to one holly tree within KSM conservation area at Camplins, KSM

Resolved:

It was agreed that there were no comments to make on all three applications at Camplins.

9.2 Granted:

20/09/0007 Demolition of lean to extension to the rear of property and erection of two storey extension to the side and rear of property at 2 Tainfield Cottages, Nailsbourne Road, KSM

10 FINANCIAL MATTERS

10.1 Receipts – the following receipts were noted:

Bank Interest - £3.59

Precept - £6,000

10.2 Payments:

Resolved:

That payment be made to:

HM Revenue & Customs £143.70

KSM Village Hall £48.00

11 CORRESPONDENCE

11.1 Letter dated 3rd June from Mrs. Hastilow – she reported that she had seen a few drivers going the wrong way around the village green when travelling down Church Lane.

Resolved:

The Clerk to acknowledge receipt of Mrs. Hastilow's letter. Members felt that there are sufficient signs indicating the right of way around the Village Green but agreed that the Clerk should contact Highways to ask them to repaint the white markings when they are next in the area.

11.2 NALC Annual Conference 4th & 5th September – This item was noted.

11.3 Email dated 4th June from Somerset County Council regarding the Sustainable Communities Competition. Cllr Hancock said the Village Hall previously had an application for a grant to cover insulation and replacement chairs. As there was a member of the public from the Village Hall at the meeting, he agreed to look into this.

11.4 NALC Leadership Academy Warwick University 15th-18th September – no one to attend on this occasion.

11.5 Unipar Services letter dated 2nd June – to advise the Parish Council that the Speedwatch radar gun was due for calibration.

Resolved:

It was agreed for the radar gun to be sent to Unipar Services for calibration at a cost of £138.00.

Cllr Flood

12 ITEMS FOR LINK UP

That the following items are to be included:

- To remind people of the right of way around the Village Green
- The Western Somerset Local Action for Rural Communities (LARC) Group has funding for a rural development programme covering areas which include the Quantocks and neighbouring Taunton Deane parishes. The investment in rural communities will be £2.25million. The scheme is open to applications for both small grants up to £10,000 and full grants of up to £100,000.

13 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Mon 14 th Sept 2009	Mon 12 th Oct 2009
Mon 9 th Nov 2009	Mon 14 th Dec 2009

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm

Signed: Date: