

**KINGSLAND PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 21 JANUARY 2014  
AT 7.30 PM AT THE POST OFFICE, KINGSLAND**

**PRESENT**

Mr R C Smallwood (CHAIRMAN), Mrs G B Bengry, Mrs J Barbour, Mr B J Watkins, Mr P D Vaughan, Mr G T Bradley and Mr D Thompson.

**IN ATTENDANCE**

District Cllr. S Bowen; and Mr R Hewitt, Parish Clerk.

- 2014/137**      **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – Apologies were accepted from Mrs R J Edwards, Mr D Fordham, Mr H Jones and Mr C Southgate (VICE CHAIRMAN).
- 2014/138**      **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST and WRITTEN DISPENSATIONS**  
Cllr. Vaughan declared a disclosable interest in planning application 132735/F Oakfields Farm. The Chairman declared a disclosable interest in planning application P133364/FH The Granary.
- 2014/139**      **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING** – The Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 12 November 2013, and Extraordinary Meeting held on Wednesday 18 December 2013 were agreed and signed.
- 2014/140**      **RESURFACING OF CORONATION HALL CAR PARK**  
HMRC has noted in a letter dated 18 November 2013 that the parish council has “considered the guidance contained in VATGPB4450 and [has] concluded ‘the VAT could be recovered as a concession’.” The meeting AGREED to claim the VAT back on the £7,000.00 donated from the Old Fire Station Trust for the resurfacing of the Coronation Hall car park, provided the works are ordered by the parish council and based on three quotations. Payment for the balance of the resurfacing costs will be made by the Coronation Hall Committee.
- 2014/141**      **HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCILLOR’S REPORT**  
Herefordshire Council has asked cabinet to reconsider the decision to charge students who use the school bus to travel to a school which is not their nearest. Plans to provide training to students who require it is not considered a sufficient safeguard.
- A library service will continue and there is a statutory duty to provide a reasonable and good service. Additional services may be provided from the same site, such as a police enquiry desk at Leominster library. The opening hours of the libraries will be reduced, and volunteers will be asked to help support the service. Herefordshire Council is trying to get local councils to operate public conveniences. In the meantime they are closed.
- Social Services and Adult Social Care will take an increasing share of funding. Issues raised by the recent OFSTED report are being addressed, and a recent peer review reported that Herefordshire Council’s adult and social services are making progress and going in the right direction. HALO is going to spend £8 million to revamp the leisure centres as it prepares to rely on its own income in the future.

The investment in the C and U roads will now be over two years, with £15 million in the first year and £5 million in the second year. Balfour Beatty has deployed three 'hot box' vehicles and an additional jetter, but the repairs are being affected by the weather. District Cllr. Bowen said he would ask Balfour Beatty to repair a large pothole on the Coronation Hall side of the Corners crossroads, and the collapsed culvert outside China Hall going towards Leominster from Cobnash.

Council Tax is likely to increase by 1.9 percent which is the maximum increase possible without triggering a referendum. The cost of the Hartlebury incinerator should be repaid from the profits made from the operation of the facility, and the contract ends in 2023.

#### **2014/142 LOCAL RESIDENTS DISCUSSION**

A member of the public spoke against planning application 132735/F Oakfields Farm, and felt the plans should have been more widely publicised. The Chairman said the planning application was considered by the parish council in November 2013, and that members of the public had spoken against the plans at that time, but the parish council had taken the decision to support the application.

The Chairman suggested the member of the public also consider making his views known to Herefordshire Council as they are responsible for taking the decision on the planning application. Amended plans for the Oakfields Farm planning application will be considered later in the meeting.

The member of the public asked that the parish council consider supporting a tractor bypass to minimise the number of tractors passing through the village. The meeting noted the proposal but was concerned at the cost and the availability of land for the initiative. Also, all vehicles have the right to use the public highway. The Chairman suggested the member of the public propose the initiative to highways at Herefordshire Council.

#### **2014/143 CLERK'S REPORT**

Hereford & Worcester Fire and Rescue Service acknowledged receipt of the parish council's comments on the Community Risk Management Plan consultation. Balfour Beatty has highlighted street cleaning in Kingsland as a priority, and the deep rut and potholes from Lorne House to Luctonians have been reported to the locality inspector. The students who received the Wigmore High School awards sponsored by the parish council have written to say thank you.

#### **2014/144 FINANCE**

The following payments were agreed: Coronation Hall, extraordinary meeting on 18 December 2013 (£5.00); St Michael's PCC, churchyard maintenance (£1,200.00); HMRC, PAYE for period ending 5 January 2014 (£109.40); and the Clerk, expenses November to December 2013 (£31.15). A payment of £106.10 to R Bayliss for footpaths maintenance was ratified.

The meeting considered the proposed precept for 2014/15. It was AGREED to purchase a laptop solely for the use of parish council business, and the Clerk was asked to look at an Apple Mac as well as Windows based computers. The meeting RESOLVED to set the 2014-15 precept at £10,000.00.

**2014/145 THE LENGTHSMAN SCHEME**

There was no lengthsman report.

**2014/146 P3 FOOTPATH SCHEME**

Cllr. Bradley reported that the landowner at the back of the churchyard has agreed to place a kissing gate on the footpath where it joins KL2. The meeting AGREED to purchase the kissing gate which will be supported by local fund raising. The kissing gate needs to be purchased as the process to reinstate the footpath is ongoing and Herefordshire Council will only supply kissing gates for a PROW.

The Clerk was asked to report that two longhorn bulls were seen grazing at the Glebe Land by the footpath, and to schedule the clearing of the footpath for March 2014.

**2014/147 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

The Chairman reported that a neighbourhood plan steering group was formed at the public meeting held on 14 January 2014. The steering group will hold its first meeting on 10 February 2014.

**2014/148 DONATION FOR CHURCHYARD MAINTENANCE**

The meeting AGREED to make a donation of £1,200.00 to St Michael's PCC to support the maintenance of the churchyard during 2013.

**2014/149 DOG FOULING**

The meeting AGREED to purchase dog bags, which will be made available to the public at no charge. Members of the public will be able to obtain the dog bags at the Post Office. A notice will be placed in the newsletter and on [www.kingslandlife.com](http://www.kingslandlife.com) to raise awareness of the increase in dog fouling, and the dog warden will be asked to monitor the situation.

**2014/150 THE MONUMENT**

The Clerk said the Vice Chairman had looked at the Monument and considered works were not required at the moment but that the situation should be monitored and will be checked again in the Spring. The meeting AGREED for the lengthsman to replant a red rose at the Monument.

**2014/151 PLANNING**

**P133331/FH Dry Bridge House, Kingsland, HR6 9SA** – Conservatory at first floor level on existing balcony with internal door for access. The parish council decided to support the application and commented that it is important the appropriate planning process is followed before starting work or developing any property.

**P133258/K The Bell House, Kingsland, HR6 9RU** – Fell one Leylandii. The tree application was supported.

**133019/FH York House, Mortimers Cross, HR6 9TG** – Works comprise a new first floor pitched roof extension and the addition of double glazed doors with side lights to the west elevation. Planning group had no objections, and the meeting ratified the decision.

[Cllr. Vaughan left the meeting.]

**132735/F Oakfields Farm, Kingsland, HR6 9QU** – Erection of 6 no. poultry buildings. The meeting decided to support the amended plans.

[Cllr. Vaughan rejoined the meeting; the Chairman left the meeting and the meeting asked Cllr. Bradley to take the chair.]

**P133364/FH The Granary, Kingsland, HR6 9RU** – Replace car port and storage building with detached building comprising two bay car port, 2 bay store and accessible roof space storage. The planning application was supported.

**132975/F and 132976/L Outbuildings at Park House, Kingsland, HR6 9SQ** – Conversion and renovation of existing building and change of use to holiday lets. The meeting noted that the planning applications have been withdrawn.

**Planning decisions:** Planning applications for 7 Orchard Close (132653/F), York House, Mortimers Cross (133019/F), The Stables, West Town Court (P133170/FH and 133171/L), and The Granary (P133185/F) have been approved by Herefordshire Council. Bridge House (132796/F) has been withdrawn. Determination has been made for the tree works to go ahead at 11 Orchard Close (132888/K) and The Bell House (P133258/K).

**2014/152 MATTERS RAISED FOR NEXT MEETING (no discussion)**

The meeting requested an update on the joint SID shared with Shobdon Parish Council and the request to have a street sign for St Michaels Avenue.

**2014/153 INFORMATION ITEMS**

The meeting noted the information items on the agenda.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.35 pm.

**Signed:** .....

**Date:** .....