

KINGSLAND PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 8 MARCH 2016 AT 7.30 PM AT KINGSLAND POST OFFICE

PRESENT

R C Smallwood ... CHAIRMAN, Mr C Southgate (VICE CHAIRMAN), Mrs G B Bengry, Mrs L Juson, Mr G Bradley and Mr P D Vaughan.

IN ATTENDANCE

Gareth Morris and Owain George, Welsh Water; Ward Cllr. S Bowen (Bircher); and Mr R Hewitt, Parish Clerk. Six members of the public were present.

2016/153 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** accepted from Mrs C Sawyers, Mr D Thompson, Mr B J Watkins and Mr D Fordham.

2016/154 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION**
There were none.

2016/155 **MINUTES OF MEETING** – The Minutes of the Meeting held on 19 January 2016 were agreed and signed.

2016/156 **SEWERAGE INFRASTRUCTURE**
Mr George, Welsh Water said planning applications for developments which connect to the sewerage infrastructure are looked at on a case-by-case basis. Welsh Water anticipates there is sufficient capacity in the sewerage infrastructure to connect an additional 66 properties. At that point Welsh Water will consider what works may be required. In planning applications, blockages in the pipes and maintenance issues are not taken into account. Welsh Water stand by the Herefordshire Council Water Cycle Study - Addendum (Feb. 2015), which states that Kingsland falls within category 1 and "the assessment suggests there is no current capacity"; which for Welsh Water means provision for an additional 66 properties.

Mr Morris, Welsh Water provided an overview of the maintenance work that was required at the end of December 2015 by the Coronation Hall, and the outcome of subsequent investigations into the localised flooding. Welsh Water cleared the gullies blocked with silt, and since doing this the problem has not recurred. The gullies are believed to be the responsibility of the highways authority, but Welsh Water said they did the work to prevent any further problems.

Cllr. Vaughan said there is believed to be a spring by the fire station and broken pipe work means the water may be leaking into the sewerage pipe adding to the flow that it is required to carry.

The parish council thanked Welsh Water for attending the meeting, and agreed to request a drainage engineer from Balfour Beatty attend the next meeting. Ward Cllr. Bowen said Balfour Beatty had been unavailable on 8 March, and that hopefully they should be able to attend the next meeting.

2016/157 REPORT ON HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

Ward Cllr. Bowen said he will look at potholes and other highways defects shortly with Balfour Beatty's locality steward. Herefordshire Council has received a one-off £4.4 million grant from government, and Ward Cllr. Bowen has requested a proportion of this is used on highways. Work needed includes resurfacing the A4110 by the car auctions, and also cleaning and restoring the double yellow lines, which have become obscured by mud. The U road from Basket's Gate to Aston also urgently needs attention. Unfortunately, the £20 million allocated to C and U roads has now been spent and the 2016-17 budget for roads is greatly reduced.

The county's schools are performing well. Eighty-eight percent are good or outstanding, and the results achieved place Herefordshire in the top quartile in England. The proposed university at Hereford has received £30 million funding from government. A further £50 million needs to be found, and this is believed to be achievable.

Herefordshire Council will be supporting 20 families and single people seeking asylum from Syria. Work on the A49-A465 link road will begin shortly. At Leominster, the East-West relief road is in prospect as part of housing growth. The Community Infrastructure Levy, 25 percent of which is allocated to parishes with a neighbourhood development plan, is expected to be in place by January 2016.

2016/158 LOCAL RESIDENTS DISCUSSION

A member of the public requested support for a litter pick. Cllr. Juson kindly volunteered to coordinate this. The Clerk will obtain litter picking equipment from Balfour Beatty once the date is set.

A member of the public asked if the transparency grant has been obtained to support www.kingslandlife.com.

2016/159 CLERKS REPORT

The parish defibrillator requires new electrode pads, as the current pads expire on 30 May 2016. Herefordshire Council is asking for views on the revised Statement of Community Involvement with respect to planning applications by 23 March 2016.

2016/160 PLANNING

160532 Threshers Barn, 2 The Wardens, Kingsland, HR6 9DP – Proposed single storey rear extension. The parish council agreed to support the application.

160352 Annexe, Cobnash Cottage, Kingsland, HR6 9RA – Change of use from ancillary accommodation to holiday let. The parish council agreed to support the application.

160231 Plot 4, Croftmead, Kingsland, HR6 9RZ – Proposed new dwelling and ancillary outbuilding - material amendments to approved Planning Permission P143821/F. There was no objection to the material amendments.

153670 Village Green Stores, Kingsland, HR6 9QS – Proposed to repair and refurbish the existing roof. The parish council agreed to support the application.

Planning Decisions – The meeting noted Herefordshire Council has given planning permission for 153484 Station House.

Planning application 160386 Barn conversion at Becknell House was withdrawn before it could be considered by the parish council. Planning application 152219 Land to the rear of The Laurels has been refused by Herefordshire Council.

Enforcement – In connection with recent reports of cars being sold once more at Cobnash, the enforcement officer has stated Herefordshire Council will “not tolerate car sales on the site”. The enforcement officer has not been able to obtain access to Dark Orchard to date.

2016/161

FINANCE

Herefordshire Council has paid £958.29 of the P3 footpaths and lengthsman scheme grant for April-December 2015. An additional £2,353.44 is expected for the period to December 2015.

The following payments were AGREED: Herefordshire Council, administration of election, May 2015 (£63.45); Kingsland Village Shop, meetings (£30.00); and Groundwork UK, surplus neighbourhood plan grant (£542.00).

The Expression of Interest and Annual Maintenance Plan for the 2016-17 P3 footpath and lengthsman scheme was agreed by the parish council.

2016/162

HIGHWAYS

The meeting considered the draft 2016-17 road resurfacing programme and agreed to urge Balfour Beatty to include parts of Longford and North Road, the A4110 at Shirlheath and the part of the road from Basket's Gate to Aston that is breaking up.

Highway regulations regarding weight restrictions require a road to have a culvert or road surface with a specific maximum load such as 3.5T. Neither of these conditions apply to North Road and Longford, which means the proposed weight restriction will not be possible to implement.

A member of the public asked the parish council to consider measures to address speeding on Longford and North Road in Kingsland. The Clerk asked the parish council to note the following: West Mercia Police is not in a position to offer Community Speed Watch as speed data obtained is “too high”; Safer Roads Partnership is unable to carry out regular enforcement as traffic volumes are “below the threshold”, which means enforcement will be done “periodically”; Balfour Beatty's stock of speed indicator devices (SIDs) are “not at an acceptable level of functionality to be deployed” and are being replaced. In addition, Balfour Beatty has advised that putting up permanent vehicle activated signs requires a collision history as well as evidence of speeding.

The parish council agreed to consider a proposal for a 20mph speed restriction in the centre of Kingsland, and to explore the cost and benefits of implementing 'village gates'. Ward Cllr. Bowen said he will request additional 30 mph repeater signs along North Road and Longford.

The Local Government Ombudsman was unable to register the complaint from the parish council in connection with the outstanding Section 106 highways improvement work. Apparently, parish councils are unable to use the service. Advice from the Society for Local Council Clerks was noted. Mr Bill Wiggins MP has written to Herefordshire Council on behalf of the parish council, and was told: “[Herefordshire Council] at this moment in time [is] unable to give you a specific date for the works... but will be in a better position to feedback back to you and the parish when the programme for the coming year has been finalised which will be complete by the end of March 2016”.

- 2016/163 LENGTHSMAN**
There were no activities to report.

- 2016/164 FOOTPATHS**
Cllr. Bradley said the new gate has been delivered for the Pinsley footpath and will be installed shortly.

- 2016/165 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**
The next stage of the neighbourhood plan is to be confirmed by Herefordshire Council following the completion of the Regulation 16 consultation.

- 2016/166 GOOD NEIGHBOUR SCHEME**
The meeting noted that the Church may take the lead in establishing a local scheme, and agreed this may be the way forward.

- 2016/167 TRANSPARENCY CODE GRANT**
The outcome of the application for £600.00 to pay for the updating of the website and one year's hosting and maintenance of the site has yet to be decided. HALC has said funding for some grant applications may not be decided until the new financial year.

- 2016/168 CONSULTATION ON SHOBDON'S DRAFT NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**
The consultation was noted.

- 2016/169 SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS 2016-17**
The proposed schedule of meetings was agreed.

- 2016/170 MATTERS RAISED FOR THE NEXT MEETING (no discussion)**
There were no matters raised.

- 2016/171 INFORMATION ITEMS**
Noted.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 10.02 pm.

Signed:

Date: