

## KINGSLAND PARISH COUNCIL

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 11 APRIL 2017 AT 7.30 PM AT THE POST OFFICE**

**PRESENT** Mr R C Smallwood... CHAIRMAN; Mrs G B Bengry; Mrs C Sawyers; Mr G Bradley; Mr D Thompson (Vice Chairman); Mr C Southgate, and Mr B J Watkins.

**IN ATTENDANCE** Ward Cllr. S Bowen; and Mr R Hewitt, Parish Clerk. There were six members of the public present.

**2018/1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** were received from Mrs L Juson, Mr J Vaughan, Mr P D Vaughan and Mr D Fordham.

**2018/2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION** – None.

**2018/3 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING** – The Minutes of the Meeting held on 21 March 2017 were agreed and signed.

**2018/4 REPORT ON HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL**

The link road from Hereford Station to Edgar Street is making very good progress, and should be completed by January 2018. The Courtyard is hosting a display showing plans for Hereford, including the relief road which goes from Holmer to Belmont via a new bridge. The relief road is to be funded via the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP).

The proposed university has received £8 million from the LEP and a further £15 million is expected from the Department for Education. The plan anticipates 50 students enrolling by 2018. The university is likely to use Franklin House. There will need to be student accommodation, which Ward Cllr. Bowen would like to see funded from the sale of the county smallholdings. The county council's finances are expected to break-even for 2016-17, and council tax has increased by 3.9 percent for 2017-18.

There is a proposal to close the medical walk-in centre at Asda in Hereford, and reduce the number of beds in the community hospitals. These form part of the NHS Transformation Plan which is out for consultation.

The B4362 at Bircher has been resurfaced. Lawton's Cross to Shirlheath will be resurfaced shortly, and the B4362 at Comberton is scheduled to be resurfaced during the summer. Ward Cllr. Bowen said the anticipated funds from the recent legal award, once received by Herefordshire Council, should be used to improve streets such as North Road.

A site meeting has been held with the Section 106 Officer and representatives of the Coronation Hall and Bowling Club to discuss projects to improve the tennis courts and disabled facilities respectively. With regard to the use of Section 106 funds, the parish council is a consultee, but the county council has the final say. Ward Cllr. Bowen said he has requested a summary of Section 106 funding from development in Kingsland, and a breakdown of how the funds have been used.

A cyber security centre has been established at Skylon Park. Ward Cllr. Bowen said cards are available to help protect bank cards, and will place some at the shop for members of the public.

The Traffic Regulation Order to have a speed limit of 30 mph outside Luctonians, which is a condition of planning permission for 162166 Land south of Martindale, will need the support of the police. If this is not forthcoming, it is unclear what impact this may have on the planning decision. Planning services has not responded to this question.

**2018/5 LOCAL RESIDENTS DISCUSSION**

There were no matters raised.

**2018/6 CLERKS REPORT**

Balfour Beatty has completed the annual ranking of Traffic Regulation Orders in the county. The 40 mph speed limit at Cobnash has been ranked 32 out of 110 projects, and Balfour Beatty has stated that the Cobnash TRO will “definitely be in next year’s 2018-19 Annual Plan”, and may even make the plan for 2017-18.

Balfour Beatty is able to prepare a formal quotation for lorry sign designs, and the cost is expected to be around £2,000, depending on the number of changes that may be required to existing signs or provision of new posts. The meeting asked that Balfour Beatty prepare the quotation, and that a traffic island is considered for Burnt House as well.

Damage to the Cobnash fast broadband cabinet has been reported by a member of the public. Balfour Beatty has said the Speed Indicator Devices were operational for the full 28 days of hire at the turn of the year. They were left up however, which is why they were observed to be without power. Herefordshire Council is holding an information event on the Rural Area Site Allocation Development Plan on 22 May 2017.

Herefordshire Housing has not sent over any local connection forms for the parish council to verify to date. The properties at the development by St Mary’s Farm are expected to be handed to Herefordshire Housing for occupation in June.

Concern was raised at the fencing put up at Yew Tree Cottage as it has obscured visibility for vehicles turning right into C1037 Hostel Lane.

**2018/7 PLANNING**

**171007 Maythorne Cottage, Kingsland, HR6 9SW** – Proposed first floor extension. *The meeting agreed to support the planning application.*

**170634 The Garth, Kingsland, HR6 9QJ** – Propose to replace all front windows. *The meeting agreed to support the planning application.*

**170804 and 170805 Westmead, Kingsland, HR6 9QJ** – Erection of a garden room. *The parish council does not consider the style and design of the proposed garden room will enhance or conserve the conservation area, and for this reason objects to the application. Consideration might be given to locating the garden room where it will have less impact on the principal elevations of the building.*

[Cllr. B Watkins left the meeting.]

**Planning Decisions/ Enforcement** – It was noted that Herefordshire Council has granted planning permission for 153690 Land to the rear of Boarsfield (Outline); 164062 Land adjacent to Garden Cottage. Ward Cllr. Bowen said the garden clearance at Hazeldene is expected to be undertaken by the owner shortly.

**2018/8 FINANCE**

The following payments were AGREED: Community Heartbeat Trust, defibrillator wall signs x 6 (£42.00); HMRC, PAYE for period to 5 April 2017 (£133.40); Clerk, expenses December 2016 to March 2017 (£191.19); and R Bayliss, footpaths maintenance (£49.00).

Mr Keith Douglas was appointed internal auditor for the parish council and charitable trust accounts.

The standing order for the Clerk's wages was updated to reflect the 7 hours per week agreed when the precept was set in November 2016. From 1 April 2017, the wages will be paid gross and the Clerk will pay the tax directly to HMRC on a quarterly basis. The Clerk's hourly rate is paid in line with SCP21 as set out by NALC.

**2018/9 HIGHWAYS/ LENGTHSMAN SCHEME**

The parish council agreed to write an official letter of complaint to Balfour Beatty at the condition of Longford and North Road. The village roads require a sweep and clean to keep the drains clear. Ward Cllr. Bowen suggested the road signs could do with a clean. The meeting noted the lengthsman was asked to clean the road signs earlier in the year, and an update will be requested on this work.

The Chairman signed the lengthsman and P3 footpaths contract with Herefordshire Council, which is in line with the payment structure set out in the Expression of Interest and Annual Maintenance Plan, 2017-18.

**2018/10 P3 FOOTPATHS**

Cllr. Bradley asked the meeting to note that Cllr. L Juson has kindly agreed to take on the role of Footpaths Officer at the Annual Meeting in May 2017.

**2018/11 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

The examiner has asked a number of questions of clarification. It was agreed that Data Orchard will prepare draft responses to the questions which will be considered at an additional meeting of the parish council, scheduled for 21 April 2017. A deadline of 24 April 2017 has been given for responses to the questions of clarification to be submitted to the examiner.

**2018/12 CODE OF CONDUCT CONSULTATION**

The consultation was noted.

**2018/13 RESTORATION OF CORNERS' CROSSROADS ROAD SIGN**

The Chairman said the landowner on which the signpost is sited has given permission for the restoration works, which will need to be carried out on their property. On reflection, the meeting decided the mirror should be placed on a separate signpost, which will allow for a full restoration of the existing signpost. It was felt the mirror would be more effective nearer the hedge.

A member of the public asked that the renovated signpost include directions to the surgery, and this was agreed at the meeting. The Chairman kindly agreed to ask the landowner about the nearby boundary wall, which appears to be in need of maintenance as well.

**2018/14 YARPOLE GROUP NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

The Regulation 16 consultation on Yarpole Group's neighbourhood development plan was noted.

**2018/15 MATTERS RAISED FOR THE NEXT MEETING (no discussion)**  
Quotations for new signposts (x2) at the Corners' crossroads.

**2018/16 INFORMATION ITEMS**  
The meeting noted the information items on the agenda.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.07 pm.

**Signed:** .....

**Date:** .....