

KINGSLAND PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT 7.30 PM ON TUESDAY 13 FEBRUARY 2018 AT THE VILLAGE SHOP AND CAFE

PRESENT Mr R C Smallwood... CHAIRMAN, Mrs G B Bengry, Mrs L Juson, Mr D Fordham, and Mr P D Vaughan.

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

2018/157 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Mr D Thompson... VICE CHAIRMAN, Mrs C Sawyers, Mr C Southgate, Mr J Vaughan and Mr B J Watkins.

2018/158 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION
Cllrs. Smallwood and Fordham declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in planning application 180324 Bell House. Cllr. P D Vaughan declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in planning application 180154, 19 Hamlyn Place.

2018/159 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING – The Minutes of the Meeting held on 9 January 2018 were agreed and signed.

2018/160 CO-OPT NEW MEMBER
Postponed to the next meeting.

2018/161 REPORT ON HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL
Ward Cllr. Bowen said Council Tax will increase in 2018-19 by 4.9 percent. Approximately 76 percent of revenues are needed to care for around 3,500 people in the county. The leader of the council is stepping down. Questions have been asked by the police and crime panel about the sale of the AB1 plate by the Police and Crime Commissioner.

The proposed speed limit on the A4110 at Lawton Cross is to be implemented. Progress is being made to have a mini roundabout as well. Balfour Beatty is to be asked about the policy for pothole repairs. It is felt a longer term approach needs to be taken. A 40 mph speed limit by Lucton is possible.

The county smallholdings have now all been sold. Most tenants were able to purchase land if they wished. Quarry Farm will carry on. Ward Cllr. Bowen said the funds raised need to be invested in assets whether student accommodation, housing or industrial estates. This way new income will be generated for the long term.

By 2020 there is likely to be no support grant from government, and the county will need to rely on council tax and business rates. There needs to be some equalisation in respect of business rates. Farms and small businesses are not liable for business rates.

The bypass in Hereford has opened up new land for development. A new shared police and fire station will have better access to the main roads. The £8 million from the recent highways legal case is expected to be available from the new financial year in April 2018, and should be used for potholes and resurfacing of roads. Ward Cllr. Bowen has requested a review of traffic patterns in north west Herefordshire to see where traffic is going.

2018/162 LOCAL RESIDENTS DISCUSSION

A member of the public asked what proportion of county council expenditure was needed to fund pensions. Concern was raised about potholes, and the damage caused to private vehicles. A member of the public asked about plans for a mini roundabout at Lawton Cross. A member of the public asked that a summary of parish council minutes are published in the Kingsland newsletter as not everyone is able or willing to use the website www.kingslandlife.com. A member of the public spoke against planning application 180077, 1 Highfield Close.

2018/163 CLERKS REPORT

Annual Return 2017 has been submitted to the Charity Commission in respect of the A H Williams Trust. Herefordshire Council is providing a General Data Protection Regulations briefing for Clerks, and one of these will be attended in March. The parish laptop has had the operating system reinstalled following a failure to boot. A manual handling guide has been provided for volunteers helping with the footpaths. Balfour Beatty have confirmed that Church Lane is an adopted road, however, this does not cover the adjacent land between the road and nearby properties. Potholes in Church Lane have been reported to Balfour Beatty.

2018/164 PLANNING

180185 (Outline) Longmore House, Shirlheath – Proposed new dwelling. It was agreed to comment that: The lack of a location plan in the documents presented makes it difficult to comment on the outline planning application as it is not possible to be certain which area of land is proposed to have a new dwelling. Planning services was asked to provide a location plan in order to be able to comment on the application.

180183 Longmore Cottage, Shirlheath – Proposed extension of cottage and its sub-division from house to form separate dwelling. There was no objection to the planning application.

180077, 1 Highfield Close, Kingsland – Proposed demolition of existing dwelling and erection of a replacement dwelling. The parish council objected to the planning application on the grounds that the proposed dwelling does not preserve or enhance the Kingsland Conservation Area (KNDP 6). The dwellings at Highfield Close were built in a similar style and the character and appearance of the Close should be protected. The proposed dwelling is not in keeping with the neighbouring properties.

180070, 1 Three Owls, North Road, Kingsland, HR6 9RZ – Proposed car port. The planning application was supported.

180324 Bell House, North Road, Kingsland, HR6 9RU – One Apple tree which has died requires removal for safety reasons. This is also linked to the removal of a beech hedge and various shrubs adjacent to it and moving a garden fence approximately 1.6 metres for garden improvement reasons. Consideration of the application was postponed.

[Cllr. P D Vaughan left the meeting.]

180154, 19 Hamlyn Place, Kingsland, HR6 9RE – Proposed erection of conservatory on west elevation. The planning application was supported.

[Cllr. P D Vaughan rejoined the meeting.]

180195 Land adjacent Longmoor House, Street Lane, Shirleath – Proposed residential development. The planning application was supported.

Planning Decisions/ Enforcement – Herefordshire Council has granted planning permission for: Cobnash House (174575); and Garden House (£174028). Planning application 174587 The Waltons has been withdrawn. Works to trees are allowed for Land adjacent to Garden House (174171).

2018/164 FINANCE

The following payments were AGREED: R Mills, enhanced lengthsman (£1,469.10); and R Bayliss, footpaths maintenance (£78.85).

The lengthsman and footpaths annual maintenance plan for 2018-19 was agreed. The lengthsman budget will be £3,000.00. The budget for footpaths will be £1,436.50 of which £331.50 is provided by the parish council. There is no lengthsman grant in 2018-19. Ward Cllr. Bowen said Herefordshire Council has been asked to provide financial support for the lengthsman scheme in 2018-19.

The meeting noted the new external audit process which permits self certification for councils with less than £25,000.00 in both revenues and expenditure. Self certifying means there is no charge for an external audit. Fees will apply if the external auditor is contacted in respect of the published accounts.

2018/165 HIGHWAYS/ LENGTHSMAN SCHEME

The lengthsman has been asked to clear the pavements on North Road.

2018/166 P3 FOOTPATHS

Cllr. Juson said the volunteers are proving very helpful. There has been a walk which flagged up some maintenance, and work has started on improving the path to the brook. Two new stiles and a fingerpost are required from Balfour Beatty.

2018/167 SPEED LIMIT, A4110 AT LAWTON CROSS

The meeting noted that a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) has been initiated to implement the 40 mph speed limit on the A4110 between Lawton Cross and Kingsland. The TRO is for a distance of approximately 650 metres beginning from the Lawton Cross junction in a northerly direction on the A4110.

2018/168 LORRY SIGNING AND TRAFFIC ISLAND PROPOSAL

Balfour Beatty have said they are unable to implement the proposed lorry sign by Burnt House and traffic island, both of which are outside the parish, without the support of the appropriate ward councillor and Leominster Town Council. The highways agent has suggested the parish council approach adjacent parishes as well. The matter was postponed to the next meeting.

2018/169 MEETINGS IN 2018-19

The schedule of meetings was agreed.

2018/170 MATTERS RAISED FOR THE NEXT MEETING (no discussion) – None.

2018/171 INFORMATION ITEMS

The information items on the agenda were noted.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.50 pm.

Signed:

Date: