

Kingston Parish Council

(www.kingston-pc.org.uk)

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 8 September 2021 at
Kingston Village Hall

Item No		ACTION BY
1.	<p>PUBLIC ATTENDANCE AND QUESTIONS:</p> <p>There were no members of the public present.</p>	
AGENDA		
2.	<p>MEETING ATTENDANCE:</p> <p>Present: Councillors: Maria Barney (Chair)(MB), Fiona Harrison (FH), Chris Moulder (CM) Joe Halanen (JH) Alex Leith (AL) and Deborah Upton (Interim Clerk)</p> <p>Acceptance of Apologies for Absence: Cllr. John Bewick (JB)</p>	
3.	<p>DECLARATION OF INTERESTS:</p> <p>The following interests were declared by Councillors: -</p> <p>MB Personal interest in Item 11c) as member of the Steering Committee for the Safer C7 Group</p> <p>FH Prejudicial interest in 6 Mushroom Field as close neighbour and might be affected by any proposals</p>	
4.	<p>MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:</p> <p>The minutes of the last Kingston Parish Council Meeting held on 14 July 2021 were approved by the Council and signed by the Chair.</p>	
5.	<p>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING NOT COVERED IN THIS AGENDA:</p> <p>MB and AL were to form a sub-committee to work on a Facebook page, and any Saxondown proposals would be added to it.</p>	MB/AL
6.	<p>COVID 19:</p> <p>The Council noted this item and continues to follow current guidance.</p>	
7.	<p>REPORTS FROM OTHER BODIES:</p> <p>There were no reports from the District or County Councillors'.</p>	

	<p>The Pavilion Committee reported on the replacement boiler update. A quote had been received from BHESCO for their preferred supplier and this was below their initial estimate. A full report is awaited, but the Council was hopeful that the pavilion could be open in October/November if the work can be undertaken. BHESCO had also advised that there was an annual service charge of £130, and the Council considered this very reasonable and was an advantage of the system.</p> <p>It was resolved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) To note the report on the replacement boiler update. b) To agree expenditure of not more than £14700 on the replacement boiler. c) Agree the annual service charge of £130 and reflect this in the budget for the next financial year. 	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p>FINANCIAL REPORTS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) It was noted that the second quarter of the current financial year (July – Sept 2021) financial reports will be presented at the November meeting. b) The Council was advised that the external audit had been concluded and that the Notice of Conclusion of Audit would be published. There were no recommendations received from the auditor, but their report would be presented formally to the November meeting. c) It was noted that the precept for Q2 (£25,000) has been received from Lewes District Council. d) The Council noted that the draft budget would be presented to the next meeting and agreed to provide any suggestions direct to the Clerk. They were keen to ensure that they appropriately used their S137 resource, and the Clerk was asked to consider whether any budgetary changes needed to happen to ensure this. <p>It was resolved: To note the updates and that the Notice of Conclusion of Audit would be published, and to provide any draft budget suggestions to the Clerk.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>All</p> <p>Clerk</p>
<p>9.</p>	<p>SAXONDOWN EASEMENT RESERVE FUNDS:</p> <p>The Council had thoroughly considered the shortlist and noted that it did not have the legal powers to carry out some of the proposed projects. The Council felt that some village projects could be assisted by having space on the Council’s website, which could be improved to better support the needs of the community.</p> <p>The Chair would send letters to those residents who had submitted suggestions which the Council were not able to take forward. An article was to be put into the Kingston News as well as on the website/Facebook page, and a deadline of Friday 3 December for brief comments was agreed. Suggested examples would also be put on the website to assist residents.</p> <p>It was resolved:</p>	<p>Chair (MB)</p>

	<p>a) That the Council consult with residents on the proposals set out in Table 1, together with a proposal for a larger website to support other community user groups.</p> <p>b) That residents' comments should be submitted by 4th December for consideration at the meeting on 12th January, and that proposals would be judged on the proposed criteria.</p> <p>c) That the Chair contact those who submitted proposals which were not shortlisted and notify them of the reasons.</p>	
<p>10.</p>	<p>TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING:</p> <p>The Council noted the update, and that a further application had been received in respect of 6 Mushroom Field. FH advised that she had a prejudicial interest in this application so would take no part in the process, and MB agreed to take on the role of sending letters to residents.</p> <p>The Council also noted that there had been an application for pre-planning advice in respect of 12 dwellings at Castlemer Fruit Farm, as this was a significant development.</p> <p>It was resolved: To note the update and the application for pre-planning advice.</p>	
<p>11.</p>	<p>TRAFFIC AND HIGHWAYS – ISSUES RELATING TO KINGSTON:</p> <p>a) Councillors were advised that the batteries had arrived for the speed sensors, and training was due to be held shortly. Volunteers were to be encouraged, and several councillors were to take part in the training.</p> <p>b) Applications for Expressions of Interest for CIL funding would take place at the end of October, and advice had been received from Chris Patterson of South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA) as to acceptable proposals. The scheme which was likely to be the most successful would be the Juggs Way/Ashcombe Lane/The Junction, by narrowing the road. Gaining support from East Sussex County Council (ESCC) was essential, and they would need to cost up the proposals for the Council. FH offered to contact ESCC to request a meeting.</p> <p>b) The Chair had emailed Lewes District Council (LDC) for permission to move the signs at the junction of The Street and Ashcombe Lane, but no response had been received as yet.</p> <p>c) Members noted the proposed constitution of the Safer C7 Group, and that they are asking for funding to undertake a feasibility study. The Group does not currently have a bank account and a constitution is a requirement for this. A Constitution and bank account would mean that the Group are not just dependant on parish councils for funding and could make grant applications. The Council were supportive of the Group and their proposed Constitution. The Chair had also attended a POLO meeting and fed back to the Council.</p> <p>It was resolved:</p>	<p>FH</p>

	<p>a) The speed sensors update was noted</p> <p>b) That a meeting should be set up with ESCC to gain their support, and that they be asked to cost up the traffic calming proposals.</p> <p>c) That the Council should apply for CIL monies from SDNPA and LDC, subject to any meeting outcomes with ESCC.</p> <p>d) That the Council support the Safer C7 Group and its formal Constitution.</p>	
12.	<p>FOOTPATHS & RIGHTS OF WAY, TREES & HEDGEROWS, VILLAGE GREENS:</p> <p>The Council was advised that there had been no contact from ESCC on the Kingston Ridge to Ashcombe Hollow pathway, and the Clerk was asked to contact them again to press them for action.</p> <p>It was resolved: To note the lack of progress and to chase up ESCC for a response.</p>	Clerk
13.	<p>ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION PLAN:</p> <p>i) The Council had received a very helpful background paper on implementing green corridors. The Ouse Valley CARES (CARES) project has funding and is interested in supporting a mapping exercise to be carried out by an environmental ecologist, which would lead to deliverable projects which could be linked to the SDNPA and could provide a methodology for others to follow. The Council supported CARES and felt that this was a project which the Action Group and Tim Ambrose should be involved with, and a working group was suggested. CM agreed to lead the funding application for the Council.</p> <p>ii) There has been no progress on footpaths and cycleways, and this was deferred to a later meeting.</p> <p>It was resolved: That the Council obtain quotations from ecologists for a mapping exercise, and apply for funding to CARES, based on those quotations.</p>	CM
14. 5 mins >8.55pm	<p>CLERK'S REPORTS:</p> <p>The Council noted that tree work has been completed on the area adjoining the tennis courts, although there might potentially be more work needed between the courts, and Terry Stanley would be contacted for his views.</p> <p>The Council noted the play inspection report of 30th June and the quotation received by the Clerk. A further quotation was due this week, and if this wasn't received the Council wished to proceed with the first quote, bearing in mind the need for repairs.</p> <p>It was resolved: To spend up to £2195 on playground repairs.</p>	FH Clerk
15.	<p>REPORT BACK FROM MEETINGS ATTENDED BY COUNCILLORS ON BEHALF OF KPC:</p>	

	The Council had received an update from the Pavilion Committee under an earlier item, and the Parish Hall Committee and Action Group had not yet met. The meeting of the Lewes & District Local Councils was cancelled.	
16.	<p>RECRUITMENT OF PERMANENT CLERK</p> <p>The Council had appointed Lynn Mounfield as its permanent Clerk and RFO and she would start the position on 9 September 2021.</p> <p>Resolve: The appointment of Lynn Mounfield to the position of Clerk & RFO was noted.</p>	
17.	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING:</p> <p>To note that the next meeting of the Council will be 10 November 2021.</p>	
	CLOSE OF MEETING 8.40 pm	

Signed..... **Chair**

Dated.....**2021**