



# Kingshurst Parish Council

18 The Parade, Kingshurst Shopping Centre,  
Birmingham, B37 6BA

☎ 0121 770 3017 - FAX: 0121 779 7948

Clerk to the Council: Ms Joanne Aske [kingshurstpc@btconnect.com](mailto:kingshurstpc@btconnect.com)

## Minutes of Kingshurst Parish Council Full Council Meeting held on the 11<sup>th</sup> March 2014 at 7.15pm In The Pavilions Sporting Club, Meriden Drive, Kingshurst. B37 6BA

Cllrs. present: D. Cole Chair  
A. Follows  
D. Davis  
D. Woolley  
E. Muluka  
R. Webber  
T. Williams  
B. Follows

In Attendance : Mr. David Wheeler and Ms. J. Aske (Clerk)  
Members of the Public: 20 Members of the Public were present.  
Borough Cllrs B. Cllr. David Jamieson  
Guest Community Officer R. Hagan  
Apologies: B. Cllrs. A Nash, F. Nash sent in apologies.

### 1. Apologies: To receive apologies and approve reasons for absence:

P Whyte - Family Commitment  
J. Milne - Family Commitment  
B. Mulready - Holiday  
M. Dawson – Did not arrive or send in apologies

2. **Minutes:** The minutes of the last meeting held on the 11<sup>th</sup> February 2014 were approved and signed.

Chair Cole announced that he would change the order of the agenda to suit those present.

3. **To receive reports from PC Connell regarding scrambling bikes being used on Babbs Mill.** Community Officer Russell Hagan attended the meeting in place of PC Connell. Chair Cole asked him to take the floor. C.O. Hagan stood in front of the residents so they could hear him clearly. He proceeded to tell the residents and Councillors that he had just been appointed in charge of Operation Kickstart. The operation is to work with the Council and community to stop youths with antisocial behaviour using bikes to off road on Babbs Mill. With each having different powers the council can operate an 'intelligence' in using schools etc to prevent teenagers from breaking the law and the police can attend the situations but not pursue the bikes as this is too dangerous. Bikers can be charged and Solihull Housing can intervene and warn tenants that are the parents of the offender. Bikes can be confiscated and they are checked to make sure they are not stolen. He asked the members of the public to keep a diary and ring 101 the non-emergency phone line and someone will get back to them regarding the incident. But he stressed that members of the public must ensure their own safety first. Members of the public interacted with the Officer and spoke of recent and

past incidents of off road bikers and the damage that occurred because of them. It had been reported and nothing was done about it they said.

Visits to the area take place and residents doors are knocked to ask for information but most are reluctant to give information. The plans are for Council and Police to work together with the offending youths and information from Head teachers in the schools can be shared. Unfortunately with the recent cuts in funding the role of Young Person Officers are depleted.

Chair Cole thanked CO Hagan and the residents appreciated his time and report by clapping while he left the meeting.

Chair asked Borough Cllr Jamieson to take the floor. Residents had attended the meeting to speak with B. Cllr. Jamieson on recent Planning applications regarding the John Henry Newman College and the CTC recreational facilities.

**To receive reports from Borough Councillors.** Chair invited B. Cllr. Jamieson to take the floor. He addressed the members of the public and Parish Cllrs with three issues. Firstly the GP surgery, he reported he had been informed that negotiations were still going ahead with the Council hoping to buy the existing premises from the owners. He had been told that a 12 month leighway had been arranged so the panic would be over for a while. The surgery will continue to serve the patients. Secondly the Council Tax, there is no increase for Solihull this year. He warned that if it does not increase with inflation it does have an adverse effect on the services provided. With two thirds of residents in council band C it will cut the Government Grant by a third. Two or three years down the line problems will occur with receiving funding. He urged the member of the public to go on to the web site and look at all the services the Borough Council provides.

The third issue B. Cllr. Jamieson wanted to discuss is the recent planning applications from JHN College and the CTC. *(Both Colleges had put in applications for Third generation flood lighted football fields on their premises, meaning the two will be next to each other)*. He said both applicants are looking for money from the Football foundation plus their own funding. Money is available from the loss of playing fields from Fordbridge and Bishop Wilson School. This money can be allocated to recreational facilities in the area.

He said he got an extension for the time to put in objections until the 2<sup>nd</sup> April. He can speak on behalf of the residents at meetings to put in their concerns to the Borough Council. Also members of the public can write their objections to the Council, he suggested they keep emotions out of the letters. He advised the use of 'the enjoyment of my property is reduced by...' will help when planning objections are received. The noise and the light will be taken into consideration as it will have an effect on the quality of your life.

Chair Cole thanked Borough Cllr Jamieson and then went on to agenda item 10 as members of the public were keen to have their views heard and had questions for Cllr. Jamieson to take back to the Council on their behalf.

**10. Planning: To consider and comment on any planning applications received:** Clerk has received notification on two planning applications:

CCT and John Henry Newman College have both put planning applications in for 3G artificial turf pitch with ball stop fencing and floodlighting.

Chair reported he had attended a meeting at the CTC Academy and listened to the issues. These proposals along with the proposals of building homes on Babbs Mill will if successful cause more traffic onto Cooks Lane will cause further misery to residents. Those living in close proximity would have to cope with floodlighting and noise also.

Cllr. A. Follows said we can write to oppose the planning but it does fall under the Fordbridge Town Council.

B. Cllr. Jamieson said the KPC can legally oppose the planning as its affecting both parishes. Kingshurst residents will be affected and by law the Borough Council has to ask for a view about the proposal.

Chair Cole said he proposes that the KPC object to the proposals on behalf of the residents in Kingshurst. All agreed. He then went on to the Public Participation part of the Agenda as members of the public were keen to express their views.

### **13. Public Participation:**

To adjourn to allow public participation for 15 minutes.

Residents are invited to give their views and question the Parish Council on issues on this agenda, or raise issues for future consideration at the discretion of the Chairman. Members of the public may not take part in the Parish Council meeting itself.

Chair announced that they had 15 minutes in this section but Cllr. Jamieson and Matt Morgan from JHN College would take members of the public to the other side of the room to have a separate meeting as many residents clearly needed more time.

Members of the public asked why two 3G pitches next to each other should even be considered. Matt replied that a recent study and research in the area concluded that children needed to play football.

Cllr. A. Follows asked if it was likely that the two applications would go through. B. Cllr. Jamieson replied that the two will be examined entirely separately. All considerations will be taken into account he said.

Member of the public voiced his concerns regarding the noise already coming from the existing CTC pitch and the swearing was appalling. The times of the games went on to 10pm at the weekend.

Much conversation regarding the times of the games was spoken about. All residents present opposed the planning on the grounds of noise, lighting and traffic. Properties in close proximity would have floodlights shining into their bedrooms and their children's rooms. The residents wanted reassurance that noise would be monitored and when would lights be switched off. One resident wanted to know why JHN did not have a meeting for residents like the CTC did. Matt explained he was new to the area.

Concerns came forward from the residents regarding the amount of traffic from the footballers, spectators and parking allocations etc. They wanted to know the height of the floodlights would it be 50 foot high they asked. Laws should be able to protect them as planners have to consider a distance of 50 metres distances from peoples' homes. One resident asked why the JHN pitch could not be situated further down towards the end of the land. Someone mentioned it was because of flooding in that part of the field. Questions on how many adults would be using the pitches were another concern.

*(Cllr. R. Webber wrote a note to Chair Cole and asked to be excused from the meeting).*

Chair Cole asked those residents that needed more to time air their views if they would like to move across to the other side of the meeting room with Borough Cllr. Jamieson and Matt to continue their discussions as the FC meeting needed to proceed.

*(The residents thanked the Chairman and went across to the other side of the meeting room).*

Chair Cole then went on to agenda item 5 as Mr. Gary Leake was waiting to make a presentation to the Parish Councillors.

**5. Pavilions:** To receive and approve any reports regarding the Pavilions Sporting Club and make decisions as appropriate.

5.1 Update on current situation regarding the Pavilions Sporting Club. Nothing has been received from the asset Management Company regarding the future of the Pavilions.

5.2 Update on Solicitors documentation on securing further the Parish Council Pavilions Sporting Fields into Trust. The Solicitors have now completed this assignment.

5.3 Mr. Gary Leake would like to present a self funding project concerning the Pavilions Playing fields. Chair asked Gary Leake to make his presentation to the Cllrs.

Gary and his colleagues' moved the chairs nearer to the Cllrs. as it was difficult to hear owing to the other meeting with residents across the room. He had given each member of the Council a presentation of the self funding project (see attached for minute book).

Gary as Club secretary went through the proposals.

His presentation is called 'Showcase Pitch project Case Study'.

The Proposal: Barriers around main pitch.

Dugouts.

Road and Allotment Ball Netting.

He asked the Cllrs to take a look at the printed proposals. He had already cleared it with the tenants of the Pavilions and they are in favour.

Gary Leak said the aim is to keep the under 16 children at the Club, presently they have to move on to an adults club to continue playing football after 16. This proposal would mean they wouldn't lose the talent from the Club. It would offer an opportunity to have Midland Combination Football on the premises. It would include Ladies fourth tier football. Boundaries are needed especially for cup finals and other leagues.

Cllr. A. Follows asked about the proposed barriers. Gary said they would be temporary spiked or a socket in the ground. They unscrew and can be put away. Cllr, A. Follows mentioned that the barriers could stop the people of Kingshurst playing on their fields. Gary assured him that whichever set used would be pushed into the ground by a spike or capped if UPVC. Barriers can be removed.

Cllr. B. Follows had concerns that he viewed the playing fields as sacrosanct (*meaning not to be entered or trespassed upon*). Gary took this light-heartedly and said of a recent misunderstanding that had occurred when the fields were being used for the KPC Fun Day. The field had just been re-seeded at the time.

Cllr. D. Davis asked if he intended to take the barriers down after the game had finished. Gary replied that this would not happen and the intention would be to keep them up for the season unless it was being used for other purposes.

Chair Cole asked how long it would take to dismantle the barriers. Gary did not know the answer to this question. Cllr. Williams asked about the netting near the Allotments. This would prevent balls going into the allotments.

The Car parking was mentioned as if more games were being played, parking would be an issue.

Chair asked how soon do you need to know their answer. As soon as possible he said. Chair proposed that a further meeting for the Cllrs should take place to clearly read the proposals as the meeting was difficult to hear with the noise coming from residents across the other side of the room. Chair thanked Gary and his colleagues' and they left the meeting.

5.4 Cllr. A Follows would like to discuss a part of the lease regarding the building of a flat above the function room. Cllr. A. Follows briefly mentioned that although it would need looking into more thoroughly, the original lease with Connaught Taverns clearly stated that a flat was to be built on the premises. As the previous manager did not require a flat it was not built. He said that he will investigate further as to where we stand on this as the peppercorn rent reflected the investment that should have been made in the Pavilions by the original tenants.

Chair thanked Cllr. A. Follows. He then went on to Agenda Item 11.

## **11. Planning: To consider, comment and take action if appropriate on any planning that is being proposed for the future:**

11.1 Local Development Plan: Babbs Mill. Chair had distributed a draft of a letter he would like to out to the Borough Cllrs. (See attached for minute book) the Cllrs agreed for the Clerk to send another letter opposing the plans to built 70 homes on the nature reserve.

11.2 Mountford Public House Site: Update: Representatives from the Patient Participation Group were in attendance and wanted to know if a meeting had taken place in the Council House regarding any proposals for the Mountford site. Nothing had taken place as yet. Chair Cole is going to speak on the residents behalf when the opportunity arises to put forward their views for a new Medical Centre on that site.

The representative from the PPG thanked the Cllrs. and left the meeting.

The Cllrs all moved their tables and chairs to group in together as it was very difficult to hear what was being said owing to the continued meeting across the room with the residents.

Chair went on to agenda item 4.

#### **4. Finance: To receive and approve reports from KPC Finance Committee and make decisions as appropriate.**

4.1 Finance: Chair asked Chair of Finance Cllr. A. Follows for his report. The Balance in the current account stood at £16409.44 the deposit account at £69.33 and the corporate account at £15,053.51. A sum of £53.51 was interest for three months. It was agreed to pass the cheque list for £4400.

4.2 To agree the resolution from Finance committee to:

Cancel paying for school milk

To make Grant Aid Payments each term to the 3 schools to assist in funding their milk.

All agreed to make payments each term from April 2014 as Grant Aid to pay for the school milk.

4.3 Update on Unity Trust Bank It was decided to stay as we are with the present form of banking, as it would not be beneficial to this Council as we are too small to take advantage of the savings.

As David Wheeler wanted to leave the meeting he asked the Council if they would approve having Louise Best as the Internal Auditor again. All agreed to this.

David Wheeler left the meeting.

Chair went on to agenda item 6 Events.

#### **6. Events: To receive and approve reports from KPC Events Committee and make decisions as appropriate.**

6.1 As Chair of events was absent Cllr. A. follows had chaired the event meeting earlier. He discussed that all is going well with the preparations for the Summer Event taking place on the 22<sup>nd</sup> June. He told the Council that Reverend Johnson from St. Barnabas had attended the events meeting to ask if the KPC would be on board to help towards a commemorative day at the Church possible the 3<sup>rd</sup> August. The day would be very similar to the Remembrance Service. Cllr. A. Follows said we agreed in principal but wanted the okay from the Full Council. Rev Johnson had mentioned booklets re created from material given to the soldiers fighting at the front in WW1. The booklets contained the gospels of St John. Presently they are £6 each she wondered if we are able to help with the cost or to provide refreshments for residents after the Sunday Service. The Majority agreed that the KPC would help financially towards the commemorative day. Cllr David Woolley objected to the decision. Clerk would contact the Rev Johnson and let her know that the KPC agreed to help financially.

#### **7. Allotments: To receive and approve reports from KPC Allotments Committee and make decisions as appropriate.**

7.1 Chair of Allotments Cllr. Mulready was on holiday for this meeting. The clerk did not have anything to report in his absence.

#### **8. Progress reports for information/action and make decisions as appropriate:**

8.1 Cllr. A. Follows had a report regarding Community Energy Warwickshire. The Clerk has asked a representative to attend the April meeting.

#### **9. To receive reports from members representing KPC on outside bodies**

9.1 Airport Consultative Committee: Nothing to report as Cllr. Mulready is away and the next meeting will be in April.

9.2 WALC/SAC - Cllr. A. Follows had attended the meeting as reported in above agenda items.

9.3 School Governors reports: Cllr. A. Follows had nothing to report on Yorkswood School Chair Cole attended a meeting for Kingshurst School. He reported that they will be experiencing four years of building as the school is expanding rapidly and classrooms need to be built. The

School will need three classrooms for each school year. Cllr. B. Follows commented that the school hasn't even got a meeting room. Chair reported that the Head Mistress is resigning.

9.4 North Solihull Partnership Forum: Cllr. A. Follows has nothing to report presently.

9.5 Regen. Nothing to report.

**12. For information/action and make decisions as appropriate:** To receive and discuss items for information and comment/action if appropriate.

12.1 Correspondence and emails: All Cllrs had received copies of post and emails for the month.

Clerk read out a recent planning application for Land at Oakthorpe Drive Kingshurst: The Proposal: Demolition of garage blocks and erection of 8 No. Two Storey, one bedroom Houses. No one opposed this proposal.

12.2 Complaints to Chair from residents regarding a business repairing cars from a private home in Cooks lane. Chair asked if the KPC could write a letter of complaint on behalf of the residents regarding this issue. All agreed.

**14. Councillors' reports and items for future agenda:** Councillors are requested to use this Opportunity to report minor matters of information not included elsewhere on the agenda and to raise items for future Agendas. Councillors are respectfully reminded that this is not an opportunity for debate or decision making.

To invite North Solihull Partnership representatives to our meetings.

**15. Date of next meeting:** Confirmation of the date of the next meeting which is scheduled for Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> April at 7.15 pm in The Pavilions Sporting Club, Meriden Drive, Kingshurst, Birmingham B37 6BX. Items for the agenda need to be in by Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2014

Cllr. Muluka asked if Cllrs. were still interested in an Airport visit that was offered a little while ago. He would get in touch with them.

Chair closed the meeting. The residents across the room finished their meeting at the same time.

Meeting Closed at 9.15 pm

Signed ..... Date .....