

**Minutes of the meeting of Kingshurst Parish Council**  
**ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**  
**held on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2009 at 7.30 p.m.**  
**in St. Barnabas Church Hall**

Cllrs. present:	D. Cole	Chairman
	B. Mulready	Vice-Chairman
	S. Daly	
	D. Davis	
	A. Follows	
	B. Follows	
	D. Woolley	
Clerk	J. Aske	

In Attendance : Cllr. R. Hall. Cllr. Mrs. D. Evans. S. Evans. Mrs. S. Kimberley.  
Mr. J. Kimberley. Diana Stokes. Mr. D. Hampton

**1. Welcome and Apologies:**

Chairman D. Cole welcomed everyone. No apologies.

**2. Presentation.**

The speaker Mr. Duncan Sutherland was not able to attend as he had another appointment.

**3. To approve the Minutes of meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2008**

Approved and signed.

**4. Matters arising from previous minutes**

M. J. Kimberley asked about the Babbs Mill boat house, the foundations were left after the structure had been knocked down. He thought something was going to be built there. He wanted to know if it went to the Parish Council Meeting and what would be happening. He thought that views from the public as to what should be built in its place should be sort. He thought that the World Wild Life Trust would get involved. Cllr. A. Follows said that the project had been left in abeyance as it was depending on a lotto bid for funding. Cllr. Mrs. D. Evans said if the Lotto bids were successful the members of the public would be informed. Presently the Meriden Park was being bought up to date so it can get green flag status. Mr. Kimberley asked if it could go on the agenda also a letter to the WWLT and to formerly raise it with the Solihull Borough Council to bring them up to date with the status of the park. The Boat House closed in 2002 and has not been operational since then. Cllr. Mrs. D. Evans said that SMBC would have to guarantee Green Flag status. But from asking members of public, the general view is that they do not want a building there.

**5. Chairman's Report 2008-09**

Chair Cole read out his report. Each councillor had been given a copy.

**6. Any other Parish Matters**

The Chair asked Mr. Hamilton if he was happy. He was not. Mr. Hampton reminded the council he was only representing himself, he asked as to why the Borough Councils Monitoring Officer attended the last meeting of the Council and why was there an Extraordinary Meeting called. He was told that after a seminar that some councillors attended one evening with Mr. Philip Lloyd-Williams he was invited back.

The Clerk had given him a list of dates for meetings and he managed to get to that date without giving us too much notice. As Philip Lloyd-Williams was very good at delivering the information the acting Clerk and fellow Councillors thought it would be good for members of the public to hear as well. As for the Extraordinary meeting this was a Private and Confidential matter.

Mr. Hampton went on to say he is worried about the rate that co-opted members can get onto the council and felt there was a general apathy on the Council's behalf. He himself is not worried that he is barred from the private and confidential meetings. But he thought that new members should have a probationary period before they can attend the private and confidential part of the meeting. He wanted to know how well we knew the two new members. As he himself had never seen Mr. John Milne before he vaguely recalls seeing Mrs. Louise Baudet as an acting Clerk. He suggests the Council change lawful proceedings by being trend setters in making sure new council members prove their worth.

Cllr. B. Mulready stood to say that the new members received the correct papers and procedures to be elected onto the Council.

Cllr. L. Brunger commented that he understands Mr. Hampton's concerns, but the moment the papers are signed they are Councillors and that is the Law.

Cllr. S. Daly pointed out that Co-opted members do not receive an allowance.

Cllr. Mrs. B. Fellows said she had received the new members' letters too late to give an opinion. But went on to say she is not saying she would not have them as councillors.

Mrs. S. Kimberley, asked us to consider the public as things have happened in the past that have become sensitive issues. She agrees with Mr. Hampton.

Mr. Hampton wanted to stress that in no way was he casting a slur on the new members of the Council.

The Monitoring Officer was mentioned again. Mr. Hampton asked again why does Mr. Philip Lloyd-Williams have concerns with this Council.

Cllr. A. Follows said maybe NALC could give us some guidelines on the new members.

Mr. J. Kimberley said he thought it would be a good idea for experienced councillors to advise them and have a named person for them to get assistance from.

Cllr. Louise Baudet, said provided you have no criminal records you may not refuse a co-opted member when the vacancy has been advertised and also there are sufficient training courses for new members. She thought that Mr. J. Kimberley's idea of having a named buddy to mentor the new members was excellent.

It was proposed to put the New Members on the next Agenda of the Full Council Meeting, to discuss the training and issues arising further.

Chairman Cole said that Mr. Hampton also wished to talk about the Jubilee gardens.

Mr. Hampton said he was concerned with the Health and Safety records recorded in last year's annual meeting stating the Jubilee Gardens were closed. He is disappointed in the Gardens and says they should die a natural death. The land would be better used for new allotments. He went on to say he felt it was a complete waste of money and time.

Cllr. B. Mulready said there has been no expense to the Council whatsoever. The issue of Health and safety had to be addressed with school children and members of the public. There is a faulty drain which causes one allotment to be unworkable.

Cllr. L. Brunger asked Cllr. Mulready how much money had been spent on the Jubilee Gardens and Cllr. B. Mulready said again that Parish Council money was not spent on the Jubilee gardens. He said how proud he was of the allotments as they had never looked so good. There is one plot that has the problem of 'mayors tail' a weed that grows many metres down and is very hard to get rid of.

Cllr. Mulready said that Claire Culiffe from the W.W.L.F is working with him to get a grant. This would help to maintain pathways and wheelchair access.

Chairman David Cole said the Jubilee Gardens and the New Councillors training would be put on the Agenda.

Mrs. Sandra Kimberley said she hoped Mr. Duncan Sutherland would be able to make a presentation soon. He has been given the dates of the meetings. There is no meeting in August.

Mr. Hampton said he thought AGM should be advertised in the newspapers. Various conversations erupted about the fact that members of the public do not come to meetings. It was suggested that we have the Annual Meetings on a Sunday. The Council said it would do its best to advertise further meetings. It was also established that there is a difference in the meeting names as this was a Parish meeting not a Public Meeting.

Mrs. S. Kimberley said it would be a good idea to publish a newsletter three or four times a year with the dates of meetings.

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and the meeting was closed.

Meeting Closed at 8.40pm

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

