

Minutes of the meeting of Kingshurst Parish Council
ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
Held on Tuesday 15th May 2012 at 7p.m.
In the Pavilions Sporting Club

Cllrs. present: D. Cole Chair
 B. Mulready Vice-Chairman
 D. Davis
 A. Follows
 D. Woolley

Clerk J. Aske

In Attendance : Borough Cllrs; D. Jamieson, A. Nash and F. Nash
 Three members of the Public attended

It was noted that Cllrs. are invited to attend not summoned.

1. Welcome and Apologies: Cllr. B. Follows, Cllr. T. Williams, Cllr. M. Dawson placed apologies before the meeting. Cllr. Milne, Cllr. Webber Cllr. Whyte did not send in apologies. Cllr. Muluka is working away.

2. To approve the Minutes of meeting held on 17th May 2011
Approved and signed.

4. Matters arising from previous minutes – Cllr. A. Follows mentioned that the idea of a market in the parade fell though as it would be too costly. The planters to be painted by the local children fell apart and were disposed of. They will not be replaced owing to the cost.

5. Chairman's Report
Chair Cole read out his report for the year

6. Any other Parish Matters – Chair handed the meeting to the members of the public.

Cllr. A. Nash reported he had spoken to residents residing near Lark Meadow. This he said should be declared a Nature Reserve. Recently lizards and hedgehogs had been observed in the area. He expressed his concerns that certain information in his opinion had not been disclosed to residents concerning the building of 200 homes on the meadow. In the Solihull Draft Local Plan it is noted that 'places of interest will be excluded'. Cllr. A. Nash noted this also was withheld at the recent Kingshurst Parish Council Meeting by a Borough Cllr. He added that the Kingshurst Parish Council was not keeping residents informed and although was not telling Chair Cole how to do his job he suggested this should change.

Cllr. A. Follows reported that he had heard un-officially by the then Borough Councillor D. Evans that the Meadow had been taken out of the equation. B. Cllr. A. Nash referred to the meeting held with Cllr. Ian Courts and said the residents were given minimum information and other information was withheld.

B. Cllr. D. Jamieson took the floor and firstly mentioned the improvements on Cooks Lane had been completed, although not completely satisfying all residents.

Reports of less collisions and traffic moving much more slowly have proved to be a success. Chair Cole asked B. Cllr. Jamieson if anything could be organised with the Council regarding the HGV that are being directed to Cooks Lane by the Sat Nav systems. Cllr. Jamieson said he would report this and then went on with another item regarding Cooks Lane. The Level Crossing had been completed and was proving very successful with many thousands of people using it every day. He went on to mention the underpass that at some point was going to be filled in. But the cost would be around £60k for this work to be carried out. He added though that many young people on training schemes decorate the walls of the underpass with their artwork. This was very impressive.

B. Cllr. Jamieson then wanted to discuss the Lark Meadow site on which is causing concern to all the residents of Kingshurst. He added that it is an inappropriate site for housing and should be withdrawn. He informed the Councillors and residents that a large sum of money is available to help with housing and if a suitable site is not found that the money would be lost. He suggested an area over towards the National Exhibition Centre. He said this is the only site that fits the bill. The land would be between Chelmsley Wood and the Birmingham Business Park.

Cllr. A. Follows mentioned that at a recent meeting regarding the HS2 that the land is earmarked for 10K parking spaces. Cllr. Jamieson said no it was not that piece of land. This was near the Birmingham Business Park. He also mentioned that it would be in 2015 which is an election year so anything could happen. He said he was also opposed to the building of homes on the grass verge of the Chester Road and Winward Way.

B. Cllr. A. Nash wanted to say that Cllr. F. Nash has noted the boarded up flats in the area that have been empty for 3 years.

Cllr. A. Follows mentioned that this was part of Re-gen, but they did not get the funding.

Cllr. A. Nash suggested that with the £140 million that could be available the properties should be purchased and done up to house the many homeless.

Cllr. Jamieson said to conclude he would like the Kingshurst Parish Council to take a Big Say in this and report the anger of the residents to the Borough Cllrs.

Cllr. Mrs. F. Nash took the floor. She had heard rumours that the pub was to be flattened and asked what would happen to the land. Also the Bus stop she thought was built in a particularly dangerous place. This was located in Marston Drive. She thought children were in danger getting on and off the busses.

Cllr. A. Follows asked which pub she was referring to. It was the Mountford. The Parish Council had not received any plans. But he had said at one point Re-gen did want to purchase it but it was too expensive. Cllr. F. Nash said that residents were worried that it would become a dumping ground if it were to be flattened.

Cllr. A. Follows went on to say that there had been plans to refurbish the flats in that area but there is no money available to do so. He said there is talk that Solihull Community Housing would take the flats in Overgreen Drive on. He added that it would cost £30k for each flat to be refurbished. Cllr Follows also went on to say that his father-in-law had worked out how much revenue was lost by SMBC keeping the flat boarded up. It was a least £350k a year.

Cllr. F. Nash commented that the Re gen in her opinion was a total disaster and did not complete anything. They had little regard for residents living with boarded up flats opposite them.

Chair Cole added that the loss of income from the boarded up flat was pointed out to Cllr. Ian Courts at the meeting some months ago.

Cllr. A. Nash wanted to point out that this was a Tory Basic Idea and none of them live here in Kingshurst. He went on to say that homeless families want new homes.

Chair asked a member of the public to take the floor as she indicated she would like to ask a few questions. Firstly she wanted the KPC to confirm the rumour that the Pavilions was in receivership. Cllr. Follows answered that it was in Administration and proceeded to

tell her the difference. The administrators appointed would be looking for a buyer while the Pavilions are still running. She wanted to know if they were still paying the rent. Yes was the answer to this question.

Cllr. Mulready said that if the company fall into receivership the lease would automatically come back to the KPC. The lease has information regarding the playing fields and the opening and closing of the gates. The fields he said are specifically for the Children of Kingshurst and this will always be so.

The member of the public asked about the Fun Day and was assured this was going ahead.

She asked if there were any vacancies on the Parish Council at the moment. There were no vacancies at present. She noted that she did not hear apologies from the members that were not here. Clerk advised that it was an invite to attend. Former Cllr. S. Daly noted from previous meetings minutes that it seemed regularly that the same Cllrs did not turn up to meetings. Cllr. A. Follows pointed out the terms of their Office.

Chair went on to ask if anyone had any more news regarding the demise of CARA. Cllr. F. Nash told the Chair there is a meeting scheduled the following evening at 5.30 regarding their status. She noted that staff were asked to change their systems. She reiterated people need to know that this service was in danger.

Chair Cole added that CARA rejected a merger with CAB, and were going to register for Charitable Status.

B. Cllr. A. Nash told those present he believes that Castle Bromwich Gardens have been given £40k by SMBC.

Cllr. F. Nash asked the PC to write letters and get SMBC to change their minds about withdrawing funds to CARA.

A further member of the Public spoke on his role in the community. He said he represented Kingshurst Community First Panel. He would be looking for money to improve the Kingshurst Parade Gardens in the next 12 months. This was all he wanted to say.

The Chair thanked all those who had attended and closed the meeting.

Meeting Closed at 7.50pm

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

