



Kingshurst Parish Council

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Clerk to the Council: Ms Joanne Aske kingshurstpc@btconnect.com

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Kingshurst Parish Council held on the 7th May 2019 at 7pm At the Pavilions Sporting Club Meriden Drive, Kingshurst B37 6BX

Cllrs. present: B. Follows, L. Cole, D Cole, R. Whiskens, A Follows, S. Daly D. Woolley, T. Williams, M. Frampton, D Hinsley and P. Sultana.

In Attendance: Clerk to the Council J Aske and 5 members of the public attended Two PSCO Officers.

Borough Cllr. F. Nash sent in her apologies and Marcus Brain will attend the meeting later.

18/19 Cllr. A. Follows started the meeting on behalf of the Chair. He welcomed all the new councillors. Apologies were received from Cllr. Kimberley – Holiday.

19/19 Acceptance of Office: All of the elected councillors made a written statutory declaration of Acceptance of Office.

20/19 To receive written requests for disclosable Pecuniary Interests where that interest is not already in the register of members' interests. New Councillors must complete forms provided. A copy of the code of conduct will be provided here. Clerk was given the paperwork by two new Councillors and the other two will complete the forms shortly.

21/19. Election of (a) Chairman (b) Vice Chairman

(a) Cllr. Alvin Follows was proposed by Cllr. D Cole and seconded by Cllr. S. Daly. Cllr. Paul Sultana proposed Cllr. David Cole and Cllr. T Williams seconded him. Cllr. Cole noted here that in his opinion the Chair should only serve one year as it can be stressful. He asked his name be removed from the proposal. It was agreed without objections to elect Alvin Follows as Chair of the Kingshurst Parish Council.

(b) Cllr. B. Follows nominated David Hinsley as Vice Chair, this was seconded by A. Follows. All agreed that Cllr. David Hinsley be elected for the position of Vice Chair. The elected Chair and Vice Chair signed a declaration of office for the year.
At this point the two PSCO's arrived to give a report.

22/19 To approve the minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 11th April 2019

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting held on 11th April 2019 that having been circulated and read were signed as a true record.

23/19 Confirmation of:

23.1 Responsible Financial Officer, Cllr. A. Follows proposed Mrs. L. Baudet. It was seconded by Cllr. D. Woolley. All agreed. Internal Auditor – Cllr. A. Follows proposed Ruth Roberts seconded Cllr. T. Williams. No objections

23.2 To decide and action the forming of Committees:
Finance, Allotments, Events and Environmental.

A Finance Committee was agreed by the majority. Members: A. Follows, D. Woolley, S. Daly.

D. Hinsley, J. Kimberley and T. Williams. John Kimberley had asked to be placed onto the Finance Committee.

Cllr. Hinsley asked if the council should make a decision that future Finance Committees agree instead of bring the proposals to the full council for approval. Terms of Reference can be updated so decisions can be made solely by the Finance Committee – All agreed.

An Allotments Working Party was decided with members S. Daly, Mark Frampton D. Hinsley and T. Williams.

An Events Committee was agreed with Members: S. Daly, T. Williams P. Sultana, R. Whiskens, L. Cole and B. Follows.

A Environmental Committee was agreed with members: P. Sultana, S. Cole and M. Frampton.

A Transport Working party was agreed with members: D. Cole, D. Woolley, P. Sultana and L. Cole.

23.3 To decide and elect Councillors to represent the KPC on outside bodies.

Birmingham Airport Consultative Committee: Cllr. B. Follows will represent and T. Williams and D Cole as reserves.

WALC/SAC: A. Follows and B. Follows agreed to be the KPC's representatives.

School Governors: Cllr. David Cole Kingshurst Primary and Cllr. A. Follows Yorkswood Primary.

In the future there may be a position for a KPC Councillor to attend governors meetings at St. Anthony's. Presently Marcus Brain can give any updates if required.

23.4 A decision for a Youth Services working party for projects in the year ahead. Members: R. Whiskens, D. Cole and D. Hinsley. Local associations will be asked to liaise with the KPC working party.

24.19 Standing Orders and Financial Regulations

24.1 To agree (a) to adopt the Council's Standing Orders and Financial Regulations (b) to agree to review standing orders and financial regulations through a working party. Proposed by D Hinsley and seconded by T. Williams to adopt and continue with the present documentation.

Clerk spoke of signing agendas through the software on the computer so Councillors can receive their paperwork via email. All agreed that if the free software be loaded that paperwork can be sent by email to the majority of councillors.

25/19 To receive reports from Borough Councillors: Cllr. David Cole referred to the rising youth crime relates the lack of youth facilities. David Jamieson Crime commissioner had mentioned to him from a previous meeting that there are Social Funds that can be applied for to help with this. The Romanian Easter Festival was successfully held in Wolverhampton this year and may do so in the future. The great British spring clean that took place a few weeks ago had a good turnout. David read out a thank you letter from the Mayor Flo Nash for her invite to the event.

Chair thanked David Cole and asked the Police to give any reports they may have.

PSCO's gave a discussion regarding car crime and little reported to them.

Fires and vandalism were spoken of and the thefts on the shops on the Parade.

Greggs reported to the police that things were improving with anti social behaviour and for many weeks they had no ASB.

The Police regularly visit the Parade to talk to the shop owners.

Cllr. Sultana spoke about the CCTV cameras on the Parade. These are operational and monitored by the Council.

The Fires were discussed and the police know of the individuals causing them. It was noted that residents are hesitant in making written statements. The Police have to catch them doing the crime to be able to prosecute. Meetings with Solihull Council are taking place and tenants will be

evicted when they are involved in crimes and ASB. Social media reports from the residents that people are scared to go out. Neighbourhood Watch signs were discussed.

Cllr. Paul Sultana spoke here on the Kingshurst and Fordbridge Street watch. He said he understands the victims are scared of making the complaints. Volunteers are needed for the Street watch programme.

Other discussions took place regarding the persistent ASB in the area. The decline in the presence of the police force is having an effect on the area. The new sergeant is Adam Gibbs.

Chair thanked the PCSO's and they left the meeting at 20.10

26/19 Finance:

26/1 No report as the Finance Meeting is due soon.

26/2 To adopt and agree to Kingshurst Parish Council Grants and Donations Policy. (Donations will be to a maximum of £500). Paperwork supplied with this agenda. Proposed by D Cole and seconded by T. Williams. All agreed. **Resolved** that the Kingshurst Parish Council adopt a new Grants and Donation Policy to a maximum of £500.

26/2 A Finance Meeting was agreed to take place on the 23rd May 2019 at 6.30pm in the Seeds of Hope before the Resident annual Meeting. All agreed.

26/3 Members allowances: to discuss and agree to raise members allowances as recommended by SMBC. Allowances that have increased with effect from 1st April 2019. Proposed by D Cole to accept the new rates and seconded by S. Daly. No objections so Chair motioned the approval.

Resolved that the Member's allowances be paid at the maximum rate as forwarded previously by email from Solihull Council to be back dated to the 1st April 2019.

26/4 A donation of £300 was proposed by D. Cole to HYPE to pay for annual rent. (Youth Centre run by volunteers in Kingshurst). This was seconded by D. Hinsley. Once the application paperwork has been received that a cheque be raised for £300. All agreed.

27/19 Information items: To receive and discuss items for information and comment/action if appropriate.

27.1 Correspondence and emails. An invite to the investiture of the Mayor had been received for the Chair to attend on Tuesday 14th May. The Vice Chair will attend on the Chairs behalf.

A notice from Marie Curie had been received and asked to put in the notice board. A query arose as the contents looked like a business opportunity for advice on taking out a will. Clerk pointed out they cannot advertise a business. Clerk will look into it.

Lastly the Clerk had received a quotation for the hedge to be cut back from the pavement along the road of the allotments. Cllr. M. Frampton had mentioned that two people had complained about the overhang and it was becoming dangerous. Cllr. Frampton had previously said he would present a quote for the cutting back of the hedge.

It was proposed by A. Follows and seconded by S. Daly to pay £150 to Mr. England to cut the hedge back to the fence but leave the top to overhang and the flowers are budding. All agreed

Resolved to pay £150 for the hedge cutting. The cuttings will be left on site. D. Hinsley will organise a burning of the debris. Discussions took place about a conflict of interest asking Cllr.

Mark to quote for work on the Jubilee Gardens.

Clerk also mentioned here that she needed the costing of the fencing that was purchased by D. Hinsley. He mentioned of having the costs incurred to be replaced with some of the Asda Vouchers that were donated from the Mayor's donations for events as these vouchers may have an expiry date. Proposed by A. Follows and seconded by B. Follows that David Hinsley be repaid for costs with Asda Vouchers. All agreed.

Chair A. Follows took the opportunity here to mention the Retirement Bench for former Cllr Brendan to be positioned in the allotments. Further details of a £70 bench were discussed.

27.2 Cllr. D. Cole had a copy of the Parish and Town Charter. He briefly noted that SMBC has a responsibility to the Parish Council and that the Parish Council have a responsibility to SMBC.

Everyone had received a copy of the Charter. D. Hinsley has a PDF version and he will send it out by email to everyone.

Marcus Brain arrived at this point.

28/1 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.

Member of the Public John Shakespeare spoke on the missing equipment at the park by Babbs Mill Lake. B. Cllr. Cole explained about the specialised manufacturing of replacement equipment and the sixteen week waiting period.

John also mentioned here the fencing around the land that was the Mountford Public house. He worries that travellers will set up there. Cllr. D. Cole will phone Mr. Halton and explain the fencing problems and it was also noted that fly tipping is evident.

Cllr. B. Follows spoke here about the replacement park equipment. She worries it may be stolen again. D Cole said that it was best to replace it with the same quality and standard.

A resident from Castle Bromwich PC offered a CD that can be lent to the KPC with advice on setting up a Youth Council.

Another member from Castle Bromwich Parish Council Kevin Shaw stood to address the council. He is a former resident of Kingshurst. He made some controversial comments regarding Kingshurst. He asked why the Police were not challenged enough by the councillors with their presence this evening. He himself has family members that serve in the force. He thought there was a missed opportunity in questioning the police on the crimes and the offenders.

He furthered his comments on the subject of the member's allowances and how swiftly the decision to receive more allowances was made.

The Councillors felt his criticism and became defensive in explaining their requirements of receiving allowances.

The member of the public asked how the conclusion to accept was proposed so quickly.

Vice Chair Hinsley commented here that allowances are better than claiming expenses.

The member of the public was told by Chair A. Follows that the swiftness of the decision was because the information had been received weeks before the agenda item and councillors had time to know what decision to vote for. The member of the Public thanked the chair for his answer. Chair thanked everyone and went onto the next

29/19 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. To make a resolution that the Chair changes each year. DC

Cllr. T Williams requested her paperwork in paper form. Cllr. Hinsley will help the Clerk with the Signature so Agendas emails can be sent. Chair Follows asked that an agenda item be for changing the Name of the Parish Council to Town Council this would involve a lot of work notifying everyone concerned.

Vice Chair Hinsley will organise Kingshurst Parish Council email address for anyone that wishes to use a different address. GPDR issues were explained here.

30/19. Date of next meeting: To confirm the date of the next meeting which is scheduled for **Thursday June 13th 2019 at 7pm** in The Seeds of Hope Parish Room of St. Barnabas. Agenda items must be submitted by 6th June.

Meeting Closed at 20.54

Signed Date.....