

**Minutes of the meeting of Kingshurst Parish Council
held on Tuesday 9 December 2008 at 7.15 p.m.
at Kingshurst Primary School**

Cllrs. present:

D. Cole	Chairman
B. Mulready	Vice-Chairman
A. Follows	
B. Follows	
T. Williams	
S. Daly	
D. Davis	
L. Brunger	
D. Woolley	

In Attendance :

Mr D. Wheeler	Accountant
Mrs. P. Ross	Acting Clerk for the Meeting

Members of the public: Mr. Hampton, Mr. Richards, Mrs. Sherriff, Mrs. Harwood, Mrs. Kimberley, Representatives of Young at Heart, Kingshurst Sporting FC

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

The Chairman, Cllr. Cole and Cllr. Mrs. Davis welcomed Cllr. Woolley to the meeting. All the members were extremely pleased to see him present.

2. Declarations of interest on items on the Agenda

- (a) Councillors are reminded of the need to update their register of interests
 - (b) To declare any personal interests in items on the agenda and their nature
 - (c) To declare any prejudicial interests in items on the agenda and their nature
- All declarations were entered into the Declarations of Interest book.

3. To approve the Minutes of meeting held on 11 November 2008

RESOLVED: that the Minutes be accepted and signed as a true record.

4. Public Participation

The meeting was adjourned for public participation.

Reference was made to comments from Cllr. Nash stating it was a good idea for parish councillors to go out to the public. Cllr. Nash had not been seen in the area to date.

Mr. Hampton referred to this item being lower down on the agenda and Mrs. Ross explained that agendas now had to take the new format in order for the council to achieve Quality Status and for any new Clerk to attain the Certificate in Local Council Administration.

Mrs. Kimberley referred to the previous meeting when Youth Councils had been discussed. She had noted that £150 had been spent by Cllr. Mrs. Evans on taking a group of youngsters out. It was explained that this had been an informal arranged not authorised by the Parish Council and Cllr. Mrs. Evans had in fact paid for the outing herself. £1000 had been received from SMBC which Kingshurst Parish Council intended to use to set up a Youth Council. Local schools would be approached and children from the schools would be elected to sit on the council. It would have to be under the umbrella of the Parish Council and representative members from the Council would play an integral part in the Youth Council.

Mr. Hampton had visited the Notice Board again and still had difficulty in reading the notices.

Mrs. Sherriff asked whether the cameras were working in the precinct as a mugging had occurred putting a member of the public into hospital. Cllr. Brunger said that if the cameras in the Parade were working someone should be watching them. SMBC needed contacting by the police.

Mr. Richards represented Stonham Housing Association. Management responsibility for Yorkswood House would be taken over in the new year. He said he would like to maintain contact with the Parish Council in order to establish the best course of action to take with the development of projects. The Chairman said he hoped to see Mr. Richards at future meetings. Mr. Richards explained how the new system would work and offered to forward a summary to Kingshurst PC offices.

Mrs. Kimberley asked for confirmation that Babbs Mill was being demolished. Cllr. A. Follows confirmed this and reported that it was an SMBC matter. Cllr. Brunger said discussions had taken place between SMBC and Warwickshire Wildlife Trust and the Parish Council could only offer its views. Mr. Hampton reported on an increase in the use of motorbikes in the part over the last couple of weeks. The Chairman offered to speak to the Police direct. Cllr. Mrs. Williams said that the Smiths Wood Area Policy stressed the need for repeated telephone calls to the Police reporting the incidents. The meeting reconvened to closed session.

5. To receive reports from Borough Councillors

Cllr. Mrs. Evans apologised for not being able to attend as she was attending a meeting at SMBC. She listed the following:

1. There was a mugging on Kingshurst Parade last week and the lady was hospitalised overnight. She asked to make the elderly residents aware of this.
2. Cllr. Mrs. Evans had been involved with the Police Priorities Meeting and it had been agreed that whilst Neighbourhood watch was an effective tool it also took the police off the streets for at least an hour every month. It was agreed that this now needed reviewing. St. Marcus Petch has moved on and Matthew Hudson will be acting Sgt. Until the replacement arrived.
3. Regarding the Christmas Event, she confirmed attending and asked for confirmation of the time that the Mayor would be turning the lights on. She also asked what time the Event would commence.
4. Regeneration: She has written to SMBC's Planning Department about the gate of the school, the fact that it did not appear on the original map, and its related problems. She suggested that the Parish Council do the same and send a letter to Alison Lush about the parking situation at home time and the start of the school day.

She and Cllr. Hall will be holding a Surgery on Saturday 13 December, at St. Barnabas Church Hall between 10.00 and 12.00 noon.

Cllr. Hall accepted the invitation to the Christmas Event but gave apologies for tonight's meeting. Again he was attending an SMBC meeting.

Both he and Cllr. Mrs. Evans had long discussion with the Police regarding progress on all matters arising within Kingshurst. The Police have been told that progress reports are expected from now on. In the past residents have

complained about several matters and received no feedback. The main theme is still anti social behaviour and alcohol. The hotspots will be hit. He ended his report by wishing the Acting Clerk and all the Members a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

6. To receive and approve reports from KPC Committees

6.1 Finance Committee

The list of accounts presented for December had been approved for payment and the Accountant authorised to make a transfer from the deposit account to the current account of £5250. A pre-precept meeting had been held and the Accountant had presented an update. A full Council precept meeting would be held in January to set the final figure.

6.2 Events Committee

Cllr. Mrs. Williams had managed to obtain a blow up Santa at a cost of £15.00 plus one at £9.76 ready for the Christmas Event on Saturday. A presentation basket of wine and cheese had been purchased for the Mayor at a cost of £10.00. Adding the items together and taking off VAT the final figure amounted to £31.05. All were in agreement to accept this.

6.3 Allotments

Cllr. Mulready said the site was all tidy and clean. He had met with representatives from the Warwickshire Wildlife rust three times and we was very hopeful of obtaining a grant for the Community Gardens.

7. Progress reports for information/action:

7.1 Railway Sleepers

Cllr. Mulready said these were still on site. There may be a chance to sell the lot to a lady from Castle Bromwich. He was asked to chase the matter up. Cllr. Mrs. Williams offered to help. If these can be sold at the price asked the portakabin can be progressed.

7.2 The Pavilions

Cllr. Mrs. Daly said that every year someone carried out a survey, money is being spent and nothing is being done. The Surveyor's Report is received and no action is taken. Unless the repairs are carried out it is pointless having a survey. Cllr. Brunger Said that under the terms of the Lease if repairs are not carried out the covenants of the lease are in breach. There were 95 years left on the Lease. Cllr. Follows said that the Council was within their rights to get the work done themselves, pay the contractors out of the £25,000 that is held on deposit. CALCO have to make up the £25,000. Cllr. Mulready said that £484 had been spent this year. The car park had not been mentioned in the report.

RESOLVED: Take immediate action to have any necessary repairs carried out.

8. To receive reports from members representing the Council on outside bodies

8.1 Airport Consultative Committee

SMBC had put in final plans for an extension on the second runway. There are 30 more destinations from Birmingham making 142 in total.

8.2 Colebridge Trust

No-one had been in touch since the last PC meeting and Cllr. Mrs. Williams has tried telephoning them.

8.3 CARA

Nothing to report. A meeting had been suspended and a new date was awaited.

8.4 WALC/SAC

Cllrs. A. Follows and Mrs. B. Follows had attended the last meeting which mostly dealt with environmental issues. Two speakers had been invited from the Environment Agency who spoke mainly about commercialised and domestic units. They are also responsible for part of the lake/river locally and the local culvert was mentioned. Cllrs. Mrs. Follows confirmed that this was their responsibility and would liaise with them and arrange a site visit.

9. Information items: to receive and discuss items for information and comments/action if appropriate

9.1 Cllr. Mulready reported on a request from Borough Cllr. Mrs. Evans for 20 sleepers for Yorkswood School to make raised beds on the allotments. He suggested inviting the children from the school to the allotments. The Chairman agreed that the Council wanted children involved in the Community Gardens. The sleepers do not belong to the Parish Council but to the Community Gardens. It was agreed that a letter be written to Cllr. Mrs. Evans to that effect. Cllr. Brunger made the point that if the sleepers were not the Council's to give how could someone from Castle Bromwich purchase them. Cllr. Mulready explained that any money coming into the Community Gardens would go into the Council account and if any money was needed for the gardens the committee could make a request to the Council. Mrs. Ross suggested 'earmarking' the amount to avoid future confusion.

A full list of correspondence and e-mails is attached to these minutes (members having already received it). Other items read out were as follows:-

1. WALC. Briefing Event for all Chairman, Aspiring chairmen and interested Councillors. The Grange Hall, Southam, on Saturday 21.2.09 between 10.00 and 1.00 p.m. The Chairman hoped to be able to attend and would confirm.
2. SMBC. Christmas collection posters.
3. SMBC. Planning proposal for extension of main runway at Birmingham International Airport.

Planning proposal for provision of additional teaching accommodation at City Technology College.

4. SMBC. The Council has published its Core Strategy Issues and Option document for consultation. Officers are available on 6.1.09 between 2.00 and 5.00 p.m at Shirley Library, 8.1.09 between 3.00 and 7.00 p.m at Balsall Common Library, 9.1.09 between 2.00 and 5.00 p.m. at Chelmsley Wood Library and 10.1.09 between 10.000 and 1.00 p.m. at Solihull Central Library.

5. Duston German Shepherd Dog Training Club. Confirmation that the team will join the Fun Day on 14 June 2009.

6. Yorkswood Primary School

Thank you letter for the trophies presented to the school for award to pupils.

7. SMBC. Consultation on proposals to close Kingfisher Primary School. Consultation document available. Closing date for responses is 9.1.09. Cllr. Mrs. Williams said the Bosworth Wood School and Kingshurst will be joined and children with learning difficulties will use the old school building.

8. LexisNexis. Commercial Judicial Review and Regulatory Proceedings. One day course 3.2.09 in Central London.

e-mails

1. 3 Newsletters re. SUSTAIN
2. SMBC, Alison Lush. Neighbourhood Management Newsletter.
3. Volunteer Managers Forum, Jess Bishop. Minutes from last meeting.
4. Paul Richards, Service Manager, Stonham Housing. (Present at the meeting to address the council).
5. SMBC, Alison Lush. She had met with residents and Cllrs. Evans and Follows plus Mary Higginson from the Regen partnership. Residents in Knightsbridge Flats, Oakthorpe Drive very upset about damage to the garages and theft reported to

Neighbourhood Watch meetings. The Rights of Way officers had been contacted and the possibility of gating is being reviewed. It is thought that the culprits come over the top of the garages from the properties at the back. Needs monitoring. She suggested a site meeting. Cllr. Follows who had been present at the meeting said the land is privately owned and they are due to be redeveloped. He felt it was out of the Parish Council's remit.

10. To consider adoption of the New Freedom of Information Act New Model Publication Scheme

Members were given a copy of the suggested pro forma and it was RESOLVED: to adopt in principle.

Mrs. Ross will adapt the scheme to fit Kingshurst Parish Council ready to be adopted in full at the next PC meeting. All Councillors will be sent a copy with their agendas and minutes.

11. Councillors' reports and items for future agenda:

- 11.1 Parish Council's views on the future in respect of the village centre
- 11.2 Youth Council - The way forward

12. Presentation of Grant Aid

The following grants were present:

- Young at Heart £250
- Seeds of Hope £90
- Kingshurst Sporting FC £400
- Community Interest Group £250
- Tuesday Domino Group £50

13. Date of next meeting

Tuesday 13 January 2009 at St. Barnabas Church Hall commencing 7.15 p.m.

14. Confidential matters: To consider the exclusion of the public and press under Section 1 Public Bodies (Admission to meeting) Act 1960.

- 14.1 To approve minutes of meeting held on 9 December 2008
- 14.2 Personnel issues
- 14.3 Legal issues

Meeting closed at 8.25 p.m.

..... Signed

..... Dated

13. Confidential matters taken under Section 1 Public Bodes (Admission to meetings) Act 1960

13.1 To approve minutes of confidential part of meeting held on 11 November 2008
Proposed, seconded and agreed that the Minutes be accepted as a true record and signed.

13.2 Personnel issues

Appointment of Clerk. There were six applicants. Five to be interviewed on Thursday from 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.

One on Friday at 10.00 a.m.

The Interview Panel consisted of Chairman Cllr. Cole and Vice-Chairman Cllr. Mulready of the Council, Chairman of Finance Cllr. A. Follows, Chairman of Events Cllr. Mrs. Williams plus Cllr. Mrs. Daly. Mrs. Ross, Acting Clerk, would be in attendance.

RESOLVED: that the Interview panel consider all applicants and should an applicant prove to be suited to the post of Clerk, go ahead and appoint for commencement of duties in January.

13.3 Legal issues

Nothing to report on the case re. Carter

Cllr. Mrs. Daly reported on an e-mail from the Standards Committee re. Marie Zizzi (former Clerk) who had reported four councillors for acting inappropriately. A decision from the Standards Committee was awaited.

Cllr. Mrs. Davis referred to a e-mail from an individual councillor requesting legal advice on the approach made by Marie Zizzi to the Standards Committee and asked what this would cost the Parish Council. She questioned the fact that not all the councillors had seen the relevant correspondence. Mrs. Ross advised members that no individual councillor may take action on behalf of full Council without being specifically authorised so to do at a full Council meeting.

13.4 Precept

The Accountant gave a brief update on the precept. A revised schedule had been given to each member of the Finance Committee and at present, the precept looked to be set just below £50,000 keeping reserves at around £17,500.

Meeting closed at 9.00 p.m.

..... Signed Dated

