

KINGSTONE AND THRUXTON GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk: Mrs Lesley Hay, Bankcroft, Monkland Herefordshire HR6 9DB

Telephone: 01568 720 092 Mobile: 07540 25 28 28

Kingstone and Thrupton Group Parish Council Website

www.kingstoneandthruxtongpc.org

MINUTES

of Kingstone and Thrupton Group Parish Council

Meeting held in Kingstone Village Hall

on Wednesday 3rd July 2019 7.30p.m.

PRESENT: Cllr M. Walker (Chairman); Cllr D Lloyd; Cllr C Russell; Cllr L Thorne; Cllr S Walker (Vice Chairman) and Cllr J Watkins.

PRESENT: Ward Cllr C Bolderson; 22 members of the public. 3 Representatives of Lagan Homes.

Chairman welcomed those present and introduced new Parish Clerk, Lesley Hay.

The Chairman extended a sincere vote of thanks on behalf of the Parish Council to Rachel Craine who recently retired as Parish Clerk after 13 years continued service.

Prior to the start of the meeting it was confirmed by the Chairman that all Candidate Spending Return and Declaration forms had been completed and returned.

1.0. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: James Howell (Locality Steward)

2.0. TO COMPLETE:

(2.1) Councillors completed their contact detail forms.

(2.2) The Clerk accepted and signed her Contract of Employment and this was counter signed by the Chairman on behalf of the Parish Council.

3.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND WRITTEN APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATIONS by Parish Councillors –

(3.1) Cllr D Lloyd declared an interest in Item 15.00 and signed the book accordingly.

(3.2) To consider any written applications for dispensation

A written application was made to the Parish Clerk to request dispensation on issues related to Kingstone Village Hall due to the fact that the Parish Council would be unable to function if said members were to withdraw from the chamber.

Councillor Mr M Walker Chairman, Councillor Mrs S Walker Vice – Chairman and Councillor Mrs L Thorne signed the document.

The Proper Officer of the Parish Council agreed to the application on the grounds as stated. Dispensation enabled until the Parish Council is quorate for conducting Parish Council business.

4.0 Two members of the public Mrs A Vincent and Mr G Bonner showed an interest in becoming Parish Councillors. The Chairman, having confirmed they both held the necessary requirement; both were invited to sign the Acceptance of Office declaration form and to join the table as a full voting member of the Parish Council.

5.0 MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on the 21st May 2019 were agreed to be a true record and it was unanimously voted that they be adopted and signed by the Chairman.

6.0 MR JOHN LAGAN

The Chairman welcomed Mr John Lagan and invited him to present an update with regard to Lagan Homes Development. Mr Lagan introduced Alison Clack, Senior Planning Consultant for Creda Planning. Ms Clack explained that Herefordshire Council had recently written to Lagan Homes explaining that due to the lack of 5 year land supply they invited Lagan Homes to consider putting forward a proposal to make a marginal increase in density on the proposed site

Bearing this in mind, Lagan Homes would like to marginally increase the density by 31 units from 150 to 181 units which would still result in a low-density scheme of less than 10 units per acre. Further lengthy discussion was based on this proposal and the impact on the local infrastructure; village amenities etc.

Mr Lagan introduced Stuart Pearson, Technical Director and together they attempted to answer and reassure on the many questions raised from the floor. There was discussion associated with the extra 106 monies that would become available as a result of these extra 31 units and the offer of additional financial support to the village hall.

The open discussion was brought to a close by the Chairman who thanked Mr Lagan and his associates for attending the meeting,

It was acknowledged that there had, to date, been no formal planning application for these 31 extra units and it was agreed that the Parish Council would discuss this proposal in more detail at the next Parish Council meeting in August.

7.0 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman read out a letter from a resident with regard to the alleged dumping of rubbish in Whitehouse Drive. There was discussion and it was acknowledged that the piece of land in question does in fact belong to the Parish Council. It is now

understood that a load of gravel has been dumped on the site so it was agreed that Cllr. Lloyd and the Chairman will arrange a site visit.

The Chairman deferred to the next meeting a discussion on future Planning Application site visits.

8.0 TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE LOCAL POLICE OFFICER

– no representative present.

9.0 WARD COUNCILLOR'S REPORT: Ward Cllr Christy Bolderson

Report:

Since the last Parish Council meeting, the wheels have started to turn within the New Administration. There has been a cabinet reshuffle to reflect emerging priorities in relation to tourism, climate change and community engagement plus committees such as cabinet, planning, scrutiny etc have held their first meetings. I attended the flag raising ceremony marking the start of Armed Forces week, which was very successful. I also had a meeting to understand the current situation of s.106 monies across the ward and the status of any ongoing projects/plans.

Herefordshire Council has now officially broken ground on the South Wye Transport Package (SWTP) - otherwise known as the Southern Link Road. Whilst the new administration has not yet made any decisions on the SWTP, preserving the planning consent for the southern link road will avoid the potential cost of the planning application lapsing whilst the approach to the scheme is being considered. I hope the new administration's position on the SWTP will become known in the upcoming weeks. I am in the process of arranging a tour of the Ward for the new Cabinet member for Transport and Infrastructure so that he can fully appreciate the pressures our road network faces and for him to meet key businesses / landlords within the area.

I have attended a Ward tour with our new Locality Steward. Please find attached maps of the work expected to be performed during July on both the B4348 outside Allensmore nurseries, and the C1228 which cuts up from the B4348 to Haywood Lane. Other matters that I have raised with the Locality Steward this month include: drainage in Callow, drainage at Lock Garage, road conditions and drainage in Kivernoll, Kingstone Constituent issues with graffiti and Grafton Constituent issues with a leaning BT pole. There were also a number of other matters raised in relation to specific potholes and road conditions across the ward.

Parish Specific Activity: Kingstone

With the primary aim of engaging the local community and reducing the incidence of anti-social behaviour amongst young people, the PCSOs have actively been working on developing a dirt bike track on the Lowfield Meadow park. The land is

owned by Herefordshire Housing and therefore, it is requested that the Parish Council hold the licence to have the right to use the land. The building of the dirt bike track can be funded by s.106 monies, however, the ongoing maintenance and insurance liabilities would fall to the Parish Council. I understand that there is a very successful dirt bike track at Withington which has been in place for at least 5 years. I would highly recommend that the clerk of the Withington Parish Council is contacted so a tour of the track could be organised and cost implications explored.

I have been involved in reviewing planning matters this month in relation to Thruxton Court, Lagan Homes and ETL and I have requested the council to initiate works to develop the plans for footpaths to be extended down Woodfield Close from Green Lane to the playing fields. This work is to be funded by s.106 monies.

10.0 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Chairman opened the Open session.

Two items were discussed. The Clerk was asked to contact Doug Addis with regard to clearing/strimming Cook's Lane and also to contact the lengthsman with regard to clearing the footpath by the Lagan House development.

The Chairman closed the open Session.

11.0 VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE REPORT -The Chairman confirmed that there is a meeting of the Village Hall committee next week.

12.0 SPORTS ASSOCIATION REPORT – Steve Madison reported that unfortunately, there will be no summer event this year. One of the benches has been vandalised but the boards have been replaced and seat made sound.

13.0 LOCALITY STEWARD / LENGTHSMAN SCHEME

(13.1) It was noted that the additional dog bin – Minutes dated 10th April 2019 item 6 - which outlined that an additional bin would be ordered and the invoice passed to a local business man for payment – is still outstanding. The Chairman will contact Paul Wright with regard to this outstanding issue and will report back to the next meeting.

(13.2) Lengthsman Report and July work sheet – see item 10

(13.3) The Clerk confirmed that James Howell is the new Locality Steward and she will extend an invite for James to attend a future Parish Council meeting.

14.0. CLERK'S UPDATE: The current Standing Orders; revised Code of Conduct; Financial Regulations etc. for 2019-2020 were adopted and signed by the Chairman

15.0 PLANNING –

Planning Consultation 191726 – Exchequer Court, Thrupton.

Proposed demolition of modern agricultural buildings and replacement with a development of 6 dwellings incorporating the conversion of two traditional barns into two dwellings, four new dwellings, refurbishment of a brick outbuilding to serve Exchequer Court, garaging, drainage and alterations to existing access.

This planning application was discussed at length with full details available on the Herefordshire Planning website. The Chairman asked for a show of hands and it was agreed by majority, with two abstentions, that the Parish Council had no objection in principle to the application. The Clerk was asked to inform the Planning Officer of the decision.

16.0 SPEEDING ISSUES. Further to discussion in 2018 – there has been no further headway in Kingstone and Thrupton becoming part of the Community Speed Watch scheme. Speeding is still a serious ongoing problem especially associated with white delivery vans and commercial vehicles. There was discussion on perhaps joining the Balfour Beatty SID scheme. There was also concern expressed with regard to the speed repeater signs being obstructed with overgrowth. It was not clear whether this is a Balfour Beatty or Highways England problem – Clerk will liaise initially with the Locality Steward.

17.0 SKATE PARK/DIRT BIKE TRACK

It has been established that ownership of proposed dirt bike track is Herefordshire Housing Association. During discussion it became apparent that the proposal was not for a skate park but for a dirt bike track. There would be no costs to the Parish Council as it would be funded from 106 monies. The Parish Council however would hold the licence and be responsible for the insurance and maintenance. Clerk to approach Herefordshire Council with regard to obtaining an idea of the costs associated with insurance.

Issues with regard to possible anti-social behaviour were raised. The local PCSO had previously acknowledged concerns with regard to policing the dirt track but had explained they were currently working to reduce the local anti-social behaviour problem.

It was acknowledged that the proposed dirt track may also need an annual ROSPA inspection.

18.0 TO RECEIVE THE FINANCIAL REPORT:

(18.1) To consider payment of accounts. The July schedule of payments had been circulated and it was unanimously agreed these should be paid. The Clerk raised the cheques accordingly and these were signed.

(18.2) Up to date financial accounts sheet had been circulated.

(18.3) Bank signatories were discussed and deferred until next meeting.

(18.4) Confirmation that Notice of Public Rights has been displayed.

19.0 CORRESPONDENCE:

(19.1) Allowance Scheme for Parish and Town Councillors – had been circulated. It was agreed no further action necessary.

20.0 MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS FOR NEXT AGENDA – Bike track; Bank signatories; Dog Bin update; Lagan Homes; Speeding;

21.0 DATE of next meeting: Wednesday 14th August 2019 at 7.30p.m.

Chairman closed the meeting at 9.50p.m.

Parish Council Chairman Councillor Mr Malcolm Walker

Signed: 

Date:3rd July 2019

KTPC/LAH