

KINGSTONE AND THRUXTON GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

**Parish Clerk: Mrs Lesley Hay, Bankcroft, Monkland Herefordshire
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Kingstone and Thrupton Group Parish Council Website

www.kingstoneandthruxtongpc.org

MINUTES

of Kingstone and Thrupton Group Parish Council

Meeting held

on Wednesday 22nd July at 7.00p.m.

**Due to present Government restrictions this meeting was
a 'virtual' meeting held via Zoom.**

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

PRESENT: Parish Clerk: Mrs L A Hay

Also, present was one member of the public.

Chairman welcomed those present to the July meeting.

MINUTES

- 1. Acceptance of apologies for absence:** Cllr C Russell; Ward Cllr C Bolderson
- 2. Declarations of interests, Disclosable Pecuniary, Non-Disclosable Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary interests.** Cllr John Watkins declared an interest in item 8 – Planning application 202062 Arkstone Court.
- 3. The minutes** from meeting held 4th March 2020 had been circulated.

It was agreed the minutes to be a true record and it was unanimously voted that they be adopted and signed by the Chairman.

4. Consider Co-option of new Parish Councillor

The Chairman reminded Councillors that there was a Parish Councillor vacancy due to the resignation of Gerard Bonner which could now be filled by co-option. The Chairman was delighted to introduce Colin Pugh who had recently put his name forward with a view to becoming a Parish Councillor.

After discussion, it was unanimously agreed to invite Mr Pugh to join the Parish Council and he duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Officer form and 'moved to the table' with full voting rights. The Clerk will complete the necessary paper work and inform the Elections Officer.

5. **Finance.** Accounts sheet/schedule of payment sheet had been circulated. It was unanimously agreed that all invoices should be paid.

Up to date account details:

Current Acc:		£21,259.65	
Savings Acc:		£3,685.99	
TOTAL		£24,945.64	
Balance b/f		£21,254.78	
Add Income		£6,140.61	
Total		£27,395.39	
Less paid out		£2,449.75	
TOTAL:		£24,945.64	

- 5.1 All correspondence associated with the 2019 -2020 end of year accounts had been previously circulated.
- 5.2 The Annual Governance Statement 2019/2020 was read out by the Chairman. This statement was approved and signed by the Chairman and Clerk.
- 5.3 The Annual Accounts for 2019/2020 were approved and signed by the Chairman and Clerk.
- 5.4 Chairman signed Certificate of Exemption which will now be submitted to the External Auditor.

All documents will now be displayed on the website.

The Notice of Public Rights will be displayed from the 1st September 2020. The slight delay is due to the Clerk moving house but the accounts will be available from that date if any members of the public wish to make an appointment.

- 5.5 It was unanimously agreed to appoint Mr Robert Taplin as Internal Auditor for financial year ending 31st March 2020

6. Ward Councillor Bolderson sent apologies as she was unable to access the Zoom meeting. Please see a copy her June report at the end of these minutes.

(6.1) The Chairman explained that Ward Cllr Bolderson had contacted him with regard to proceeding with building the dirt bike track. However, the Chairman had explained that any decision to go ahead with this scheme had been delayed due to the schools not being able to take part in the planned survey. This item will be deferred until the September meeting.

7. Highways and Environmental Matters update on lengthsman Funding Grant.

The Clerk informed the Councillors that Balfour Beatty were offering extra funding towards resolving some of the drainage problems that exist throughout Herefordshire. This work to be undertaken by the lengthsman where possible.

The Clerk confirmed that she had approached Kingstone lengthsman Paul Wright – but, unfortunately, due to the lack of man power and the necessary larger pieces of machinery – Mr Wright confirmed that he would be unable to undertake major works.

In the circumstances, it was agreed the Clerk would invite D C Gardening, a neighbouring lengthsman who had the required equipment/man power, to give his opinion on areas that may benefit from extra drainage works.

The Clerk confirmed that during a village walk about by the lengthsman and the Locality Steward they had identified local drainage issues which would certainly benefit from additional funding. The Clerk confirmed she had completed and submitted an application form for a grant.

Cllr Pugh asked about the broken pipe associated with Seven side/Sports Grounds which had been identified during the February walk about. There was uncertainty with regard to ownership of the pipe and the Locality Steward was going to make enquiries. The Clerk was asked to contact the Locality Steward to ask if he had managed to find out about the landowner etc.

8. Planning issues:

(8.1) Planning application: 201979 - Brightwells Auction Site - this planning application was discussed – no objections raised.

(8.2) Planning application: 201792 - Bridge Court Barn Kingstone – this planning application was discussed – no objections raised.

Cllr Watkins left the meeting

(8.3) Planning application :202062 - Arkstone Court Clehonger – this planning application was discussed – no objections raised.

The Clerk to record these comments on the Herefordshire Planning website.

Website:

The Chairman reminded Councillors that the Kingstone website would need to be upgraded from September to come into line with the new Government legislation requirements associated with providing an 'Accessibility menu' on the website so people can ask for the web page to be "read" to them, navigate via the keyboard rather than using the mouse and make text bigger etc.

It was agreed that the Clerk would approach Mark Millimore to ask him for a quote to provide a new host and domain name that would provide these requirements.

Vice Chairman Walker will also approach another provider and she too will ask for a quote.

It may be that these quotes will need to be discussed before the September meeting to enable the Parish Council to comply with the new legislation and the commencement date.

Village Hall

The Village Hall remains closed. The extension plans are being finalised.

John Smith Charity – The Chairman confirmed that, following the last meeting (see Minute item 12 – Correspondence), he and Cllr S Walker had sent in their resignations to the John Smith Charity. However, these resignations had been rejected by the other Trustees. The Chairman

explained that this situation left them with no alternative but to monitor the situation for the time being.

Items for Next agenda: Village Hall insurance. School survey; Dirt Bike Track; Web site update; Sports Ground pipe; update on John Smith Charity

Date of next full council meeting:

Date of next meeting – 2nd September 2020 – 7.00p.m. The venue for this meeting will depend on the guidelines in place at that time regarding the use of the Village Hall but will probably be via Zoom.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending via Zoom – and it was generally agreed that the Zoom meeting had gone very well.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7.40 p.m.

Signed:

Date:

Ward Cllr Bolderson's June report.

Planning / Roads

I continue to liaise with individuals and Parish Councils in relation to specific planning applications and road defects. BBLP took advantage of the quieter roads during Lockdown and a number of repairs were performed within Wormside.

Covid 19

Covid-19 activities continue to dominate with the Council's focus remaining to keep as many people as safe as possible and ensuring that front line services are supported. Herefordshire Council, along with

councils across the country, has established an Outbreak Control Plan (which you can view online at www.Herefordshire.gov.uk/outbreakplan).

On the 15th June the Covid 19 Discretionary Grant Fund was launched with a total funding of £3.2m available. It prioritised 4 sectors: businesses in shared workspaces, Bed and Breakfasts, regular market traders and charities that had not been able to access the original grant scheme. Round 1 closed on 29th June, however, if funds remain the Council will re-open the scheme with wider criteria to include other businesses that have been severely affected by Covid 19 and not been able to access any other support.

Household Recycling Centres & Green Garden Sacks

All recycling centres are now open and after next week the collection crews will no longer be taking extra waste from residents on their normal runs. Up until now, these extra collections have meant that there has been little to no capacity to collect green bags. The council are now actively exploring how green garden sacks can be made available to residents and I expect an announcement will be made over the next few weeks.

Maylords Orchards

In June the council secured control of the Maylord Orchard shopping centre in Hereford. The council was already the freehold owner of much of the site, but it was previously subject to a long-term lease to a third party. The council are seeing this site as strategically significant and will look to maximise its role in supporting the short term economic recovery of Hereford, and in the medium to long term consider how the area can be diversified for opportunities such as inner city living, leisure/ culture and the arts, places for learning, flexible business space, for food and drink and hospitality etc.

Over the next few weeks, the council is keen to make currently vacant units in the shopping centre available for short term low cost rental periods for local pop up businesses and social enterprises from across

the county to showcase their products and services, which will also drive new interest and socially distanced footfall into the city centre. Any businesses or social enterprises that would be interested should please contact Andrew Haughey (020 7866 7627) and John Prestwich (020 7312 7494) at Montague Evans (site managers).

Summer activities in Herefordshire

A new directory of summer activities has been developed on the WISH website, to help keep children and families active and entertained during the summer holidays, particularly in light of coronavirus. If you know of any activities or events taking place during the holidays, it's quick, easy and free to add your event to the website, simply visit the WISH website. To see what's available across Herefordshire this summer, visit www.wisherefordshire.org/summeractivities.

Notice of Motion

Our first full council meeting since lockdown will be on Friday 17 July. All public meetings of the Council can be watched live/catch-up via YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/user/HerefordshireCouncil>. Together with Cllr Swinglehurst, I will be placing a notice of motion for the executive to expedite the delivery of a detailed tree strategy for the county. A 2014 draft document exists that might provide the basis for a new strategy which will reinforce our commitment to the environment and align with our declaration of a climate emergency. In addition, the Government is currently consulting on an England Tree Strategy and we will be asking for the council to respond to this consultation. Lastly, in the interim and as a matter of urgency, we will be asking the executive to consider what can be done to protect existing trees and to take immediate action by planting, maintaining and protecting trees in order to have established growth by 2030.