

ANNUAL KINGSCOTE PARISH COUNCIL ASSEMBLY

Minutes of the Meeting on Wednesday 18th May 2016 at 7.45pm in the Village Hall

PRESENT: Graham Nichols (Chairman), Richard Gale (Vice Chairman), Ben Bennett, Sebastian Cooper, Anna Davison (Clerk).

Jim Parsons District Representative at CDC

APOLOGIES: Mike Challis

PUBLIC PRESENT: Paddy Carpenter, John Fox, Sue Bull, Tony Wooldridge, Brian Mc Tear, Ken Davis, Irene Ingleby-Oddy, Seema Bowers, Laura Walmsley, John Giddings, Bella Lucy, John Newman.

1. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING 19th May 2015.

Minutes of the meeting were approved and signed.

2. MATTERS ARISING.

The Clerk gave a brief summary of the success of the First Aid course which was held as a result of the vote at last year's Parish Assembly. 8 people attended the course and it was enjoyed by all. The Clerk will organize the second part and is happy to organize future courses if the demand is there.

The Kingscote Village notice board is working well, but will need varnishing in the future. KPC is looking for a volunteer to come forward and help with varnishing. Action: Clerk

The planning application for an Anaerobic Digester at Chavenage went to appeal but was thrown out. There will not be an AD plant.

There has been a proposed development for a 100 acre subsidy free solar farm at Babdown. No planning application has been submitted.

3. FINANCE.

Current balance as of 1st April 2016 stands at £4,536

The precept has been frozen for the seventh year at £3,000.

The Parish Council thanked Godfrey Ainsworth for offering to complete the internal audit again. The unapproved Audit is available to view on line at www.kingscoteonline.com and is also available to read on both village notice boards.

4. PROGRESS REPORT.

Doug England has resigned; the protocol for his replacement is on the notice boards. CDC have posted the official notification which is also available to view. The Clerk summarized the procedure: 10 letters are required by CDC by the 26th May to initiate an election. If this happens CDC will hold and finance an election no later than the 29th July. If this is not the case then those interested in standing for the Parish Council are encouraged to contact the Clerk. Anyone wishing to support an applicant is welcome to contact the Parish Councillors directly or via the Clerk to show their support. The Parish Council can then co-opt an applicant at a meeting and if the need arises they can vote amongst themselves to find the most suitable candidate.

Bagpath Road has been re-surfaced, as has the slip road off the A4135 to Horsley past the top of Windmill Lane.

The website www.kingscoteonline.com has been handed over to Kingscote Parish Council. The website will be funded by the precept and historic running costs will be reimbursed to

Alice Cooper. Alice is to continue in her voluntary role as Webmaster, but the Clerk will have access to the administration of the site, in particular the Kingscote Parish Council section. Bella was thanked for raising the issue of outstanding costs.

Map of Kingscote Parish Houses: Tony Wooldridge has drawn up a map that shows the location of the central houses of Kingscote with a code to give the names and therefore locations of each house. Tony was thanked for his contribution. Volunteers are requested to come forward to help cover the other areas of the Parish. Tony is going to wait for feedback and correct any errors before forwarding the map to the Clerk. It will then be laminated and displayed on the appropriate Village Notice board. Action: Tony Wooldridge

For some time there has been concern with the broadband speed to the Kingscote area. Various attempts have been made to improve the situation. The most recent was Voneus, although this brought improvement with consistency, overall the speed has been disappointing and extra data allowance expensive. Bella Lucy, Alice Cooper and Jon Bowers have formed a group and have offered to research the possible solutions. Jim Parsons was keen to help and has already registered Kingscote area with 'Fastershire' a BT initiative on our behalf. Jim commented that CDC has a £500,000 budget to improve broadband and Gloucestershire County Council will match that. Jim is to send the latest information to the Clerk and it is hoped, with his support and good communication, some progress can be made. Action: Jim Parsons, Clerk

5. HIGHWAYS:

See progress report above. In addition as per minutes of the last meeting the turn off at the Uley junction from the A4135 was raised. Each year this meeting raises concerns for safety for standing traffic leaving Kingscote Parish and waiting to turn back to the right towards Uley. Each year the feedback from Highways via Parish Council is that no more can be done. Graham Nichols pointed out that the vegetation has been cut back, but no more trees have been felled.

Recent issues relating to Highways are as follows:

Hazelcote Lane. Ref:11103527 This road is now the top concern for action, it is in an appalling state.

Flooding at Hunters Hall Ref: 11103534. This had improved but recent rain again overwhelmed the drains.

Double white lines at the Hunters Hall ref:11103525. The Parish Council were disappointed that the recent white lining work did not include this, as it was agreed at a past site meeting with Highways that this would be done.

Signage in Bagpath "Scubbets". Ref: 11103533

Barnhill Court Road markings: Ref:11103528. Residents were reminded that pothole markings may fade before work is done, but highways use GPS so there is no need for concern. Any resident wishing to show support for any of the above issues is encouraged to ring: 08000 514 514 and report their concerns to Highways using the relevant reference numbers above. The more feedback that is given, the greater pressure there is for action.

The Parish Council and members of the assembly showed their strong disappointment in the state of the roads in general. They questioned Amey's ability to improve the quality of the roads in the Parish. Jim Parsons said there had been concerns over the service that Amey had provided, not helped by changes to pothole criteria. Clerk to email Tony Hicks and express the concerns of Kingscote P.C. and residents. Action: Clerk

John Giddings raised the issue of white lines at the top of Ashcroft Lane. Clerk to find out when the lines were last there, and if they are going to be replaced. Action: Clerk

6. VILLAGE HALL

Ken Davies gave a summary of the Village Hall activities and finances for those who had

missed the earlier Village Hall meeting. The committee all resigned and Ken Davis and Viv Ainsworth chose not to stand again. They were both separately thanked for their incredible hard work to get the Village Hall finances' and the fabric of the building in to such good shape.

The Village Hall finances are healthy with nearly £10,000 in total in the bank. This is set aside for future repair works; and will most likely include repair to insect damage to the outside wall and some roof repairs.

Carol Paton is to look at the roofing contract and feedback to the Clerk.

Action: Carol Paton, Clerk

Clerk to look into the risk assessment requirements for the Village Hall. Action: Clerk

7. PLANNING.

Mr. Fox pointed out that all the amendments for the temporary dwelling at Scrubbetts Farm have been approved.

8. A.O.B.

Seema Bowers gave a brief summary of her research in to the acquisition of a defibrillator for the community. Advice from the South West Ambulance Service Trust has shown that two sites would be needed to cover the Parish. The first is the phone box in Kingscote, the second on the wall of Brook House garage. The Clerk is to facilitate Jim Parsons liaising with Seema to promote the possibility of CDC funding. Action: Clerk

Following this topic Mr. Parson's used this opportunity to answer questions raised by an email the Clerk had received from Mike Challis, who was unable to attend. Jim agreed that the ambulance response times for GL8 8** were inadequate. It was noted that the NHS 111 centers are allowed to refer 10% of their calls to A and E which could add an increase into an already overstretched service. In March 2014 50% of ambulances failed to reach their target times, and there has been no marked change since. Jim has pushed for a meeting to discuss this and as a result there is a full day meeting on the 24th June 2016 with HCOSC, the Fire Brigade, and the Ambulance service. Jim will feed back a report that will be published on the website after this date. Action: Jim Parsons

The second issue was the lack of visibility of public comments on planning permissions. Other district Councils make this information available - why doesn't CDC? Mr. Parsons volunteered to find the answer.

Finally Mr. Parsons gave an update on the Local Plan: Amendment 19 that has passed through full Council. This final draft is to be released for final public consultation. It will be finalized in the autumn before sending to DCLG. This was followed by news on the Unitary Devolution. Mr. Parsons explained his concerns for the community as there could be pressure on NHS patients in CDC having to travel long distances for treatment into Oxfordshire. Mr. Parsons is to keep us informed. Action on the above: Jim Parsons

The meeting was closed at 8.55pm