



Minutes of Kingsclere Parish Council General Purposes Meeting GP 03/19
Held at 7.30pm on Monday 11th March 2019 in the Village Club

GP 03/19 – Present:

Cllrs: Adams; Farey; Mussett; Peach N; Price; Sawyer J. Clerk – Porton.

It was resolved that CM would chair the meeting.

03/19.1 – Apologies:

Cllr Bowes

03/19.2 – Declarations of Interest:

AP and NP 03/19.9 Allotments

03/19.3 – Minutes:

The Minutes of General Purposes Meeting 11th February 2019 were accepted and signed as a true record.

03/19.4 – Matters Arising:

None.

03/19.5 – S106 Fund Allocations:

At the last meeting, prices had been provided for Bluebells (in the green); bird boxes; bat boxes and picnic benches. It was also suggested the committee consider Owl boxes and some additional tree planting.

It was suggested that screening from the A339 for noise and pollution is desirable at the Community Orchard before any picnic benches are added. It was stated as an opinion that noise screening is not achievable with trees. The orchard has been designed in an oval shape with picnic benches placed inside the surrounding fruit trees. As the fruit trees grow there will be more screening. Q What screening is feasible? On the boundary there is room for one row of hedging all along and in places there is room for two rows. The road level is higher than the ground on the field and any visual screening needs to be tall enough to screen the road. After discussion it was agreed that a mix of native hedge including hawthorn; blackthorn and elder should be planted on the boundary with the A339

Picnic tables – Q Are they premature for orchard, would they be better in the Recreation Ground or Holding Field? Orchard will be ready 2020 – the first trees planted should fruit in 2020. The cost of 4 benches is £1449.00. The quote had been for the open style benches that are more accessible – it was agreed that this is the style of bench the PC should purchase.

As there is £2000 in the 2019/20 budget for trees it was agreed there is no need to allocate monies for trees from this fund.

The car park on the holding field could qualify for some of this funding.

It was agreed that quotes would be sought for hedging in the Community Orchard and for gap filling on the Holding Field. Cllrs. to compile a list of green elements for S106 allocation for all of the parish areas which includes bulbs, hedges, boxes. Delay applying for fund allocation until we get the new pricings. As the window of opportunity to plant bulbs in the green will end soon, £160.00 was approved for bulbs in the green.

Resolved: Bluebells in the green to be purchased up to the value of £160

Clerk to check if the installation costs of the already purchased play equipment can be funded with S106.

Action: All Cllrs. Clerk.

03/19.6 – Mowing and Maintenance Contract:

Six tenders were received and reviewed by IB and the Clerk. The cheapest was not our current contractor and therefore a reference has been sought and provided. Clerk to speak to referee and to check the type of work the contractor has provided is similar to ours and then accept.

Resolved: Cheapest quote to be accepted.

Action: Clerk

03/19.7 – Promoting the Conservation Area:

The heritage of the conservation area in the village should be celebrated. New signage, for example Brown (tourist) Signs would help promote the village centre to those passing. The Heritage Trail (Millennium Plaques) are in need of refurbishing or replacing. SA to investigate further and compile a heritage report for the committee to review.

Action: SA.

03/19.8 – Lengthsman Scheme:

It is time to renew the contract with the lead parish. Contract information had been circulated prior to the meeting.

Resolved: It was agreed the council should join the scheme again this year.

Action: Clerk.

03/19.9 – Allotments:

AP attended the AMG AGM, the group will provide the minutes soon. The AMG request that the Terms of Reference are updated so that it is not necessary to be a plot holder to be a member – clerk to add item to the agenda for the next meeting.

9.1 Mole infestation:

The AMG has requested the council consider engaging in a mole catcher. It was noted that there is more of problem in the adjacent play area owned by BDBC. The play area still requires rolling (Clerk has asked BDBC). Possibly one mole in the allotments – to be assessed once BDBC have dealt with theirs.

Action: Clerk.

9.2 Water Trough Installation:

Two quotes have been received so far – they are more expensive than initially envisaged. It has been suggested that it may be cheaper if the distance to the additional 3rd trough is reduced. The distance to the proposed locations 67m, it could be reduced to 30m if plot holders agree to the trough being placed in the middle (between rows 2 and 3). A third quote is in progress which should be ready for OM.

Action: AP.

9.3 Clerk's Report:

The Clerk clarified some items from the minutes of the AMG meeting 29-Jan-2019:

- “No update on tree's next to The Lines” – the clerk wrote to Sovereign Housing in July 2018 – there has not been any follow up. BDBC Tree Officers do not recommend crown treatments unless there are safety issues. The Clerk accepts this advice and therefore will only pursue Sovereign further if the AMG request her to do so.

- “2 People on waiting list but they are not from the Village”- This information is out of date – all but one non-residents were removed from the waiting list in September 2018 because they had either found a plot elsewhere (Ecchinswell or Tadley) or were allocated. The last non-resident was removed in December 2018 (allocated one in Tadley). There are currently five people on the waiting list. Two plots were surrendered this renewal 1A(b) and 2C. One plot has not been renewed 2G(a). Plot 2C will be split into two so there will be four plots available to offer. The clerk will now offer these plots to the first 4 people, leaving one resident on the waiting list.

AP requested Clerk to provide an update for the AMG before the next meeting (23rd April)

Action: Clerk

03/19.10 – Cemetery:

10.1 Burial Register:

There are currently 14 slots left in the current burial register which should last another year, possibly a bit more. The current register came from Shaw's but they are priced at £170. Legally the council are only required to keep a register which can be in any format so printing a copy of the digital register maintained in Excel will suffice but the Clerk has highlighted it is nice to have a written record, There is a cheaper version available from Eden at £40

Resolved: Clerk to purchase the £40 register from Eden.

Action: Clerk.

10.2 Paths and Carpark Improvements:

Quotes for the work have demonstrated that the project was going to cost more than initially thought. It is suggested that the council should look to budget approximately £10000. The project can be split into smaller tasks to spread the cost over several financial years e.g. car park; two paths and greening. The carpark sub level and edging is in good condition so there is only a need to scrape away the top layer, fill and compact any pot holes and then relay the pea shingle/gravel top layer. The paths need a more substantial treatment including a sublayer and edging so will be more costly. Spoil (which has been dumped by gravediggers) needs removing – once complete this will need regular checking to ensure it does not re-occur – gravediggers are paid to take spoil away by the undertakers. The Carpark is considered the most urgent work, although it is noted that the surface is not dangerous – three quotes to be obtained and brought to OM when available. Other items to be built into the next budget.

Action: CM.

03/19.11 – Public Space Protection Orders:

The orders cannot be amended at this time. It was agreed that more signs are required, in particular 'Dog Fouling – Please clean up after your dog'. It was requested that laminated posters with 'eyes' are displayed on notice boards. A large sign (50x50cm approx.) to be produced for the Wayfarers Walk at White Hill; the vehicle gate at the Recreation Ground and for the FP at the top of Bear Hill costing £5-£10 each. Large signs at first could then be replaced with a smaller sign when message has been received and understood. Large signs could then be relocated to other problem areas. CM to draft and circulate.

Action: CM, Clerk.

03/19.12 – Bonfires:

Following a complaint about fires from houses in North Street, the Clerk will send the Bonfire Leaflet available from BDBC to two properties. BDBC Environmental Health are responsible for nuisance bonfires – the Parish Council do not have any powers to act but the Clerk will also provide the AMG with the bonfire leaflets.

Action: Clerk.

03/19.13 – Action List:

The 2nd draft of the document was circulated prior to the meeting. The Clerk requests Cllrs. review the documents and suggest priorities; due dates and review dates.

Action: All.

03/19.14 – Highways Issues:

Road markings have still not been replaced on the C56. Thanks are noted for the road repairs on the A339 in Headley. The 50 MPH limit sign outside The Star has been hit again and is facing the wrong way. Cones left on the verge between The Star and Cottismore have fallen over and some are the ditch. A34 has been cleared of litter – thank you. The drains outside McColls and 49 Swan Street are still blocked. The Pavement in Longcroft Road is covered with decomposed leaf litter and is slippery. Foxs Lane pavement by Popes Hill is also slippery (decomposed leaf litter again). The road surface on Foxs Lane by Ecchinswell Road is in poor condition. The road markings (Give Way) in Swan Street at George Street have eroded. The curbs outside McColls are loose close (near the entrance door) and the tarmac in the road is uneven where pedestrians cross causing a safety concern. Straw from the tractor/lorry is strewn all over the roads again – try and get a registration number. On the A339 before slip road for Basingstoke Road – a post needs replacing with a new 50 sign (sign went missing some time ago and the post has now fallen over). There is mud on the road at the entrance to the Basingstoke Road slip road where the cats eyes begin. The puddle here is now reduced following work by the Lengthsman – see if there is any more work to the gullies/drainage grips that can be done. On the A339, at the culvert back at the back of the Community Orchard (by the railings) there is an enormous puddle – something blocked the drainage.

Clerk to log faults with highways.

Action: Clerk

03/19.15 – Planning Applications:

15.1 18/03276/ROC – Land At Frith Farm, South Of Church Lane Wolverton – no objections.

15.2 T/00083/19/TCA – Kingsclere House, Foxs Lane – a tidy up of the tree would be preferred rather than a fell. Clerk advised that a resident had requested work here for safety issues.

15.3 19/00435/FUL – Land To The North Of Kingsclere Park, Kingsclere Park – no objections.

03/19.16 – Date of next meeting:

Monday 8th April 2019 7:30pm in the Village Club.

Meeting closed 21:35

Signed:.....Chairman Date:.....

Signed:.....Clerk Date:.....

Distribution: Cllrs: S Adams; I Bowes; M Farey; C Mussett; N Peach; R Peach; A Price; F Sawyer and J Sawyer.
Noticeboard; Website: www.kingsclere-pc.org.uk.