

KIRKBAMPTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Kirkbampton Parish Council

held on Monday 20th January 2025 at 7.30p.m.

Present: M Cunliffe (MC), C Clark (CC), and TH Rudd (HR).

In Attendance: Clerk / RFO, A Dawes (AD). Unitary Authority Councillor M Johnson (MJ).

001/01/25 Apologies for Absence:

P S Heggie (PH), S Edgar (SE)

002/01/25 Requests for Dispensations & Declarations of Interest

No requests for dispensations were received and no declarations of interest were made.

003/01/25 Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 4th November 2024

Resolved to authorise the Chairman to sign, as a true and accurate record, the minutes of the last meeting of the Council.

004/01/25 Public Participation

1 member of the public was in attendance. (PM) with a view to being co-opted to the Council.

004/01/25.1 Unitary Authority Update - MJ reported on recent meetings and activity at the Unitary Authority including the proposals which were still at consultation stage regarding refuse collection which may result in a deterioration in service provision. Also discussed were the potential increases in Council Tax of 4.99% and increase in Police and Fire elements by 5%. It was also noted that comments need to be made regarding the Boundary review with Council unanimous in its disquiet at the proposed increase in Council Membership from 46 to 55.

MJ also spoke regarding the potential proposition to go to an elected Mayor in the area. This could have a detrimental effect on Council Tax charges as well.

CC asked if MJ could take up the matter of unresolved Highways issues. MJ asked for the relevant EI number.

004/01/25.2 Police Matters – No officers in attendance but AD read out the report for members which is attached to these minutes.

004/01/25.3 Councillor co-option - **RESOLVED** that AD would commence the required paperwork to co-opt PM.

005/01/25 Administrative and Village Matters

Little Bampton

Play Area No further meetings had yet taken place. It was **RESOLVED** that SE and CC would continue to push forward with ideas for fundraising and grant claims towards the cost of the Play area.

Studholme – AD updated Council on the position and members **RESOLVED** to indicate to the lawyers a deadline date of the 1st February 2025 to have the issue moved forward.

Trees – Council **RESOLVED** that the item would be added to the next meetings agenda.

006/01/25 **Highways matters** – no further matters other than those discussed above.

007/01/25 **Finance Matters** – AD presented Council with the Statements of Income and Expenditure for November and December together with Bank reconciliations and these were noted by members.

Donation requests –Kirkbampton Village Hall still to provide paperwork for the procurement of a replacement commemorative bench (in exceptional circumstances) £500 agreed.

008/01/25 **Grass Cutting Contract** - Tender submission details were made available to members and it was **RESOLVED** to place the contract with Croft Engineering documentation to be retained for the duration of the contract.

009/01/25 **M.P. visit request** – Clerk was still to invoke the process of complaint to HM.gov regarding the non-attendance of the M.P.

010/01/25 **Police matters** – AD reported that apologies had been received from local Police, but a report ad been submitted which is attached to the minutes.

011/01/25 **Watchtree Defibrillator** – Members **RESOLVED** to donate £380 to Watchtree towards the cost of a Defibrillator.

012/01/25 **V E Day celebrations** – AD to pass details received to Watchtree and the Village Hall Committee

013/01/25 **Date of Next Meeting**

RESOLVED that the next meeting(s) of the Parish Council will be held in Kirkbampton Village Hall on Monday 3rd March 2025 at 7.30pm.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed @ 8.45