

**Kingston Parish Council**  
**Minutes of Meeting held at 8.00pm on 13 November 2014**

**Present:**

Tim Fitzjohn, Chairman (TF)  
Julie Conder (JCo)  
James Clear (JCI)  
Trish Dunlop (TD)  
Keith Tan (KT)  
Peter Stokes, Clerk  
Tumi Hawkins (SCDC)

**1. Apologies**

1.1. Stephen Frost

**2. Minutes of last meeting**

2.1. Accepted

**3. Matters Arising**

- 3.1. **3.1 Cycleway between Kingston and Toft** (Stephen Frost): Stephen Frost absent. Agreed to contact him and ask for an update. **Action: Clerk.**
- 3.2. **9.5 Extending insurance to include councillor indemnity (TF):** Our current insurer is unable to offer this cover, and it is difficult to arrange as a separate policy. TF has discovered that Aon Insurance offers members' and employees' indemnity as standard. The Clerk advised that our present policy is due for renewal on 31 May 2015. We are currently in a 5-year fixed price agreement with our present insurer, but in the Clerk's view this could be terminated without difficulty. Agreed that a quotation would be sought from Aon in time for discussion at the March meeting. **Action: Clerk.**
- 3.3. **4.3 Flooding in Kingston:** The expected gully-cleaning exercise has not yet occurred in Kingston due to slippage of the CCC programme. The Clerk will continue to monitor to ensure it takes place, and keep Paul Wheeler informed. It was also noted that one of the factors contributing to road flooding was blockage of the channels leading from road edges into ditches. It was agreed to set up a workday to get these cleared, and any other winter maintenance jobs in the village. The date was agreed as 31 January 2015. **Action: Clerk.**
- 3.4. **6.1 Broadband in Kingston:** Tumi Hawkins advised that she had been to a meeting with Noelle Godfrey, director of the 'Connecting Cambridgeshire' project, to express the concerns of residents who could not connect to superfast broadband. Ms Godfrey had advised her that it was unlikely that villages like Kingston would be connected to the fibre system in the current project because it was not cost-effective, due to the small number of people who would benefit. There was much heated discussion about this, with the view being strongly expressed by several councillors that fast broadband was as essential to modern life as a connection to mains water and sewage, and all residents should have this service. It was agreed that KPC would lobby CCC to provide superfast broadband to all Kingston residents, if necessary by providing a fibre-optic cabinet in Kingston. Further consultation with residents would be undertaken to enable KPC to provide evidence of the views of residents. Agreed that the Clerk would carry out further consultation, and provide collated information to TF, who will write a suitable letter. **Action: Clerk, TF.**

#### 4. Correspondence

- 4.1. **Letter from SCDC** re parish precepts and estimated tax base: noted.
- 4.2. **Letter from SCDC** re Local Green Spaces: This is a final round of consultation with landowners. Kingston has proposed 4 LGAs: the Orchard together with the triangle of grass adjoining its southern boundary, Field Road Green, the green at the crossroads together with the triangle of grass between Green Ley and The Old Farmhouse, and the Recreation Ground. In the proposal from KPC in February, Tranquil was inadvertently included in the first of these. KPC is happy with the proposals, except that Tranquil should be excluded from the proposed LGAs as it is a private garden. The Clerk has already asked for the boundary of the relevant LGS to be amended to exclude Tranquil using the official objection form. The owners of Tranquil have been informed of the situation and will also object.
- 4.3. **Letter from CCC** re street lighting energy: agreed to continue with the present suppliers of energy for the 5 footway lights in Kingston. No further action.
- 4.4. **Email from CCC** re no 18 bus suspension during road closure: the manner in which the no 18 bus was withdrawn from Kingston at short notice was unsatisfactory, and KPC would still like an explanation as to why the Stagecoach was unaware of the road closure until informed by the Clerk the day before. Agreed to ask Stephen Frost to enquire and report back. **Action: Clerk.**
- 4.5. **Email from Peter Reynolds** on behalf of the PCC, requesting a contribution to the £320 cost of cleaning the First World War memorial plaque in the church: it was agreed that although KPC is minded to make a contribution, it was noted that the plaque does not look significantly different following cleaning, and in particular the capital letters picked out in red are as faint and illegible as before the clean. Agreed to ask Peter Reynolds if any action is planned to correct this. **Action: Clerk.**
- 4.6. **Letter from Peter Reynolds** re street lights: TF to respond. **Action: TF.** In response to a question, Tumi Hawkins confirmed that planning permission was not needed for streetlights. It was also noted that one streetlight, previously outside The Old School House on Bourn Road, had been replaced by a new streetlight round the corner in The Green. Agreed to check that this and other new streetlights had been located in accordance with the published drawings, and if so, question the need to relocate this particular streetlight. **Action: Clerk.** Paul Wheeler advised that Balfour Beatty will on request supply and fit hoods to streetlights that are the cause of nuisance stray light e.g. into bedroom windows. Hoods can be fitted to the back or front of the light fitting. The number to ring is 0800 783 8247. Paul Wheeler has already requested that a hood be fitted to a streetlight outside his house, due to be fitted approximately 27 November. Agreed that the appearance of the hood will be checked when it is fitted, and if acceptable, this information will be passed on to residents.
- 4.7. **Email from Paige Toon:** the goal nets at the recreation ground are in poor condition. Agreed to purchase replacements. **Action: Clerk.**
- 4.8. **Emails etc** from the Local Government Boundary Commission for England advising us of a forthcoming electoral review – no action.
- 4.9. **Email from SCDC** re Tree Warden: agreed that JCI will be the Tree Warden for Kingston.
- 4.10. **Email from David Stone** with questions regarding the proposed £27,000 conditional grant from KPC to the VHMC. TF has responded.

#### 5. County Councillor's report

- 5.1. No report

#### 6. District Councillor report

6.1. See Appendix A

## 7. Village Hall upgrade project

- 7.1. Grants have been confirmed from Amey-Cespa and Biffa, so the project is now fully funded, without the need for any of the second KPC grant of up to £27,000.
- 7.2. It was confirmed that Torrie Smith has resigned from the village hall management committee creating two vacancies: Chairman of the committee, and Project Manager for the upgrade project. It was confirmed that Mark Stalham is the new Chairman and Peter Stokes is the new Project Manager.
- 7.3. The start date has been agreed as 1 February 2015. The builder estimates the work will take 20 working weeks (one week holiday at Easter).

## 8. Open Spaces report

- 8.1. Some work is needed on the Orchard. Work day to be organised – see para 3.3.

## 9. Clerk's report

- 9.1. **Bi-monthly report:** previously circulated. See Appendix B.
- 9.2. **Invoices for payment:**
  - 9.2.1. Buchan's Landscapes £434.69 – approved for payment
  - 9.2.2. CCC street lighting energy £150.77 – approved for payment
  - 9.2.3. Clerk's salary Oct 2014 £73.98 – approved for payment
  - 9.2.4. HMRC PAYE Oct 2014 £18.60 – approved for payment
  - 9.2.5. Clerk's salary Nov 2014 £74.18 – approved for payment
  - 9.2.6. HMRC PAYE Nov 2014 £18.40 – approved for payment
  - 9.2.7. Clerk's expenses £408.69 – approved for payment
- 9.3. **Parish Council banking:** the new accounts are open, and all funds have been transferred. The Santander accounts are closed.
- 9.4. **Village Hall cleaning:** there has been no response to the recruitment advert, but separately an individual has contacted the Clerk offering himself and his wife as a cleaning team. This seems to be an ideal solution to the problem, and since they have their own public liability insurance, the VHMC can engage them directly without KPC involvement. Details to be passed to the VHMC. **Action: Clerk.**
- 9.5. **Local Highway Improvements bid 2014:** the Clerk has performed a presentation to the Highways committee, and the result is now awaited – expected in January 2015.
- 9.6. **Development at Summerhill:** KPC has been offered funding under Section 106 in relation to the development at Summerhill. We are to receive from the developer £4,566.99 for public open space, and £754.76 for community facility space. In order to receive the money KPC is required to sign and submit an indemnity undertaking to comply with the requirements of the funding, which must be used within 10 years. It was agreed that KPC should sign the indemnity and it was signed by TF and JCI.
- 9.7. **Hedges at the allotments:** the Clerk has been contacted by one of the allotment tenants, who has been carrying out some maintenance of the hedges surrounding the allotments. It was agreed that this should not be the responsibility of allotment tenants. Agreed that the maintenance of these hedges would be added to the hedge-cutting and grass-cutting contract documentation.
- 9.8. **Meeting dates:** TD has difficulty attending meetings on Thursdays, so subject to consultation with Tumi Hawkins and Steve Frost, it was agreed that meetings in 2015 will be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month rather than the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday. **Action: Clerk.**

## 10. Planning

- 10.1. **S/1723/14/FL** refurbishment and conversion of stables at The Old Rectory: Bat survey added – for information only,
- 10.2. **S/1467/14/LB** single storey breakfast room extension at The Old Rectory: permission granted.
- 10.3. **S/2077/14/FL** upgrade to telecomm installation at New Farm, Orwell: new application, agreed to approve.
- 10.4. S/2113/14/LD Lawful Development Certificate for existing garden room at Kipling House, Old Wimpole Road: for information only.
- 10.5. **S/1347/14/FL** non-material amendment at House on the Green, Bourn Road: amendments accepted by SCDC.
- 10.6. **C/11/40/056/44/14** tree work at Barn House, Rectory Lane: previously agreed by TF 'no comment'.

**11. Date of next meeting:**

Meeting ended at

Signed.....

Date.....

## South Cambridgeshire District Councillor's Monthly Report November 2014

---

### 1. SCDC Draft Local Development Plan Update

The first block of hearings for the examination of the SCDC Draft Local Development Plan (LDP) began on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2014, and expected to last three weeks. The discussions are centred on the Spatial Strategy, Housing Strategy that SCDC and Cambridge City Council used for preparing the plan.

Updates will be available on the council website.

### 2. Strategic Partnerships with Hunts Council and Cambridge City

The Cabinet formally agreed to share services with neighbouring councils. Building Control, Legal and ICT services will be shared with Huntingdonshire District Council, and with Cambridge City Council, allegedly saving up to £1.25 million. Waste collection will be shared with City Council, allegedly saving around £700,000.

The shared services are expected to be in place by April 2015.

### 3. Rough Sleeping Estimates 2014

Every year the Council needs to estimate the number of people sleeping rough in the district. Please can you contact Amelia Davies at South Cambs if you are aware of anyone sleeping rough in your community, overnight between 12th/13th November 2014. It will be helpful to know where the rough sleeper is located to prevent double counting.

The definition of a rough sleeper is as follows:

*People sleeping, about to bed down (sitting on/in or standing next to their bedding) or actually bedded down in the open air (such as on the streets, in tents, doorways, parks, bus shelters or encampments). People in buildings or other places not designed for habitation (such as stairwells, barns, sheds, car parks, cars, derelict boats, stations, or "bashes"*

### 4. A428/A421 Alliance

The four Councils through which the A428 and A421 pass from Cambridge to Bedford, have got together to form an alliance with a view to petitioning the Government to find the money to carry out work to dual the road and make junction changes to make it fit for purpose.

The inaugural meeting took place on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October, and was fully attended including the MPs for Bedford and Huntingdon. I also attended and once again made a plea to the Highways Agency to do something about the A1303 which is the only link between their trunk roads (A14 and M11) going West or South. It is absurd that the only connection between those two major roads is a local road creaking under its own weight.

The HA official said it would be looked at as part of a list of junction schemes, and that we should also submit comments on an ongoing consultation –though I cannot find the consultation online!!!

### 5. Superfast Broadband

#### **BT Race to Infinity**

Still resolving installation/connection issues. Extra capacity is being added to the network in Caldecote and commissioning of that extra infrastructure is ongoing.

---

## **Connecting Cambridgeshire Project**

Although Kingston properties are connected to cabinets at Toft, some parts of the village are still unable to order. This is because those sections of the village are too far from Toft and the connection from the fibre cabinet to Kingston is still over the existing copper cables.

I had a meeting with the director of CC Project, Noelle Godfrey (NG), on 29<sup>th</sup> October to discuss the concerns of residents and find out what is being done to get them connected.

NG re-iterated that by end of 2015, Kingston will have at least 2Mbps service which is the minimum that the CC Project aimed to get to 99% of premises. They are currently working on finding the right technology to bring this about. However, if there the opportunity to get better service by 2016, then it is an option that they will consider.

The Project has to maximise the investment that it has, which is code to mean larger communities which add significantly to the total covered will get priority in the spending regime.

### **6. Casework**

Your Councillor is here to help you. Please do feel free to contact me with comments, questions, problems, reports, suggestions or complaints to do with SCDC services (housing, planning, benefits, council tax, bin collection etc). I can be contacted by phone, email or via my website. I hope I can help but even if I can't, then it's highly likely that I know someone who can!

### **7. Councillor Drop-in surgery**

This normally takes place on the first Thursday of every month, 7pm – 8pm at the Caldecote Village Hall and first Monday of every month, 6pm – 7pm at the Toft People's Hall. However, if you need my assistance at any time in the interim, I am always available to you, so please contact me in one of the usual ways.

### **8. Dates for your diary**

4th Nov 2014	10am	Examination of SCDC Local Development Plan begins
27 <sup>th</sup> Nov 2014	2pm	Full Council Meeting

*Tumi*

Tumi Hawkins  
13-November 2014

<b>Email me @:</b>	tumi@tumihawkins.org.uk
<b>Follow on twitter:</b>	<a href="http://twitter.com/CouncillorTumi">http://twitter.com/CouncillorTumi</a>
<b>Facebook share:</b>	<a href="http://www.facebook.com/itsCouncillorTumi">http://www.facebook.com/itsCouncillorTumi</a>
<b>Link on LinkedIn</b>	<a href="http://www.linkedin.com/in/tumihawkins">http://www.linkedin.com/in/tumihawkins</a>
<b>Read my blog at:</b>	<a href="http://www.TumiHawkins.org.uk">http://www.TumiHawkins.org.uk</a>
<b>Call me on:</b>	01954 210840

## Appendix B

**Financial report 05 Dec 2014**

N.B. All figures exclude VAT

Item	Budget 2014-15 £	Expenditure YTD £	Budget minus expenditure YTD £	
Grass and Hedge cutting	1872	1536	336	
Insurance	677	677	0	no more invoices expected
Clerk's salary	1111	463	648	
Grants (section 137)	650	0	650	
Village Hall upgrade	16155	0	16155	
Audit fees	145	140	5	
Village asset maintenance	500	118	383	
Subscriptions	180	101	78	
Parish Magazine	470	0	470	
Footpath lighting	114	71	43	
Miscellaneous and expenses	260	578	-318	
Income other than precept	-20154	-2	-20154	Bank interest
<b>Total</b>	<b>1979</b>	<b>3681</b>		

<b>Bank balances</b>	Current account:	435	Unity Trust Bank
	Deposit account:	8898	Santander