

**Kingston Parish Council**  
**Minutes of extraordinary meeting**  
**held at 7.00pm on 30<sup>th</sup> August 2023**

**Present:**

Sue Dalgleish (SD) (Chair)  
Julie Conder (JC)  
Miki Ellar (ME)  
Mark Nicholls (MN)  
Paul Wheeler (PW)  
Peter Stokes (PS) (Clerk)

Members of the public: Mrs Katie Vickers, Mr Henry Vickers

**1. Apologies**

None

**2. Planning Application – Reference 23/03028/HFUL – New Barn Farmhouse, Toft Road, Kingston, Cambridgeshire.**

- 2.1. Mr and Mrs Vickers gave details of their proposed extension and answered questions from Councillors. They then withdrew from the meeting room.
- 2.2. Following discussion, the Council agreed to support the application.
- 2.3. Mr and Mrs Vickers were invited to rejoin the meeting, and informed of the Council's decision.
- 2.4. The Clerk was instructed to register the decision on the Planning website.

**Action: Clerk.**

*Mr and Mrs Vickers then left the meeting.*

**3. A.O.B.**

- 3.1. PS (In his capacity as a member of the Village Hall Management Committee) raised the question of weeds on areas close to the hall.
  - 3.1.1. The areas in question are the tarmac area inside the fence, the paths around the bus shelter, the car park, and the area inside the oil tank compound.
  - 3.1.2. In the past these have been treated with Roundup as and when needed by a volunteer, but the arrangement is informal, irregular and not as effective as it could be.
  - 3.1.3. The Village Hall Management Committee requests that the Parish Council consider including the spraying of weeds in these areas in their own grass and hedge cutting contract. This would ensure weeds were

treated on a regular and timely basis resulting in increased amenity value for these public areas.

3.1.4. SD noted that KPC was already in the process of obtaining quotes to treat weeds at the playground, and found the cost to be considerably higher than expected. Spraying weeds at KPC expense at the Village Hall may therefore not be affordable.

3.1.5. It was agreed that the matter would be deferred to the next Parish Council meeting on 12 September 2023.

3.2. A question has been raised by Rachel Hooper of Crossways Cottage about grass cutting. She questioned whether the schedule for grass cutting on the verges around the Field Road area were appropriate, and whether or not they were being adhered to.

3.2.1. MN pointed out that some of the maps in the current grass and hedge cutting contract document defining areas of grass or hedges to be cut were unclear. It was agreed that as the contract document as a whole was originally drawn up many years ago, it should now be reviewed and brought up to date.

3.2.2. It was agreed that Sue Dalglish and Mark Nicholls would meet to look at the village grass cutting maps and review the current agreed schedule the Parish Council has with Buchan's for grass cutting within the village. There are currently different schedules for grass cutting for different areas of the village therefore it was thought that these should be reviewed by the parish council to check whether what is currently contracted is still appropriate.

**4. Date of next meeting:** 12 September 2023.

Meeting finished at 7.40pm.

Meeting minutes ref:

Signed:.....

Date:.....