

Kingston Parish Council

Minutes of Annual General Meeting held at 8.00pm on 9 May 2013

Present:

Simon Draper, Chairman (SD)
Tim Fitzjohn (TF)
Julie Conder (JCo)
Katherine Stalham (KS)
James Clear (JCI)
Peter Stokes, Clerk
Tumi Hawkins, District Councillor (TH)
Linda Browne, Community Liaison Support Assistant, SCDC

1. Apologies

None

2. Elections

- 2.1. SD agreed to stand again as Chairman. Proposed by JC, unanimously elected.
- 2.2. TF agreed to stand again as Vice-Chairman. Proposed by JCI, unanimously elected.
- 2.3. Other officers agreed to continue in their present posts, and were unanimously re-appointed.

3. Presentation by Linda Browne

- 3.1. One of Linda's roles is to help parish councils formulate their parish plans. She will attend the next meeting of the working group and continue with ongoing support and monitoring of the plan in action.
- 3.2. Linda is also a general contact point and liaison for other services in SCDC. It was agreed that she now will attend the Annual Parish meeting on 16 May to give a presentation.

4. Minutes of last meeting

Agreed

5. Matters Arising

- 5.1. **3.1 Signatories for internet banking system:** Clerk to contact TF and arrange access.
- 5.2. **3.4 Speeding through village and application for funding under Local Minor Highways Improvements scheme:** Decision awaited regarding application for 40 mpg zone and additional 'Give Way' sign. When/if this is achieved, new application for funding to be made for proposed speed reduction ramps and 'Slow – Turning' sign in next year's round.
- 5.3. **3.5 Turning right into Crane's Lane:** see item 5.2.
- 5.4. **4.1 Noise nuisance at playground:** no further action.
- 5.5. **4.2 Summer party on Orchard 13 July:** the following was agreed:
 - 5.5.1. Cream tea with scones on the Orchard, event timing 2.00 – 5.00 pm.
 - 5.5.2. Entry free, table-to-table collection during event. All proceeds to the Village Hall improvement fund.
 - 5.5.3. Katherine Stalham to organise, she will recruit other volunteers.

- 5.5.4. KPC to fund tea and other consumables. Scones to be made and donated by volunteers.
- 5.5.5. Event to feature children's games (Katherine Reid to be approached), tug-o-war (JCI), music (Janet Clear to be approached). **Action: KS.**
- 5.5.6. Possible beer sales – KS to check license. **Action: KS.**
- 5.5.7. Peter Stokes to design poster and arrange publicity. **Action PS.**
- 5.5.8. Ice cream van – Tumi Hawkins to provide. **Action TH.**
- 5.5.9. At least one marquee will be needed. If the weather appears threatening immediately before the event a 2nd marquee will be put up.

6. Correspondence

- 6.1. **Email from Jill Coleman** re parking of vehicles on the village green. Clerk to speak to owners. **Action: Clerk.**
- 6.2. **Email from SCDC** acknowledging submission for Local Green spaces from KPC. Decision awaited.

7. County Councillor's report

No report

8. District Councillor's report

See Appendix A

9. Community Plan report

- 9.1. Questionnaires have now been analysed and comments collated.
- 9.2. A first draft of the Community Plan has been drawn up.
- 9.3. A meeting of the working group will be arranged soon, including Linda Browne, to review and refine the first draft.

10. Village Hall upgrade project

- 10.1. The Auction of Promises raised Approx £4000. Two promises were not sold.
- 10.2. Chris Reid is preparing the questionnaire regarding social benefits of the upgrade. The results of this are needed for the Big Lottery application.
- 10.3. SD questioned whether the SCDC grant already secured had a time limit, and warned that delays in raising further funding had added several months to the originally planned timescale.

11. Open Spaces report

- 11.1. JCI has applied weed killer to the grass around fruit trees in the Orchard.
- 11.2. A work day was held at the playground on 6 April. Soil was added to the grassy mound, the willow tunnel was re-tied and the football nets were repaired.
- 11.3. There is a vacant plot at the allotments, to be offered to the next Kingston resident on the waiting list. **Action: Clerk.**
- 11.4. JCI will put a mound of manure on the allotment site for the use of allotment tenants. **Action: JCI.**

12. Clerk's report

- 12.1. **Bi-monthly reports:** previously circulated, see Appendices B and C.
- 12.2. **2012/13 accounts:** The Clerk reported that the Internal Audit had been completed with no problems or queries. The Accounts for 2012/13 were approved. The responses to the 8 Annual Governance statements were agreed as 'yes'.

12.3. Invoices for payment:

- 12.3.1. Playsafety annual playground inspection £88.80: agreed for payment.
- 12.3.2. SCDC rent for allotments £30.00: agreed for payment.
- 12.3.3. LCR annual subscription £16.00: agreed for payment.
- 12.3.4. CPALC annual affiliation fee £79.44: agreed for payment.
- 12.3.5. Valerie Seekings internal audit £40.00: agreed for payment.
- 12.3.6. Buchan's grasscutting £461.39: agreed for payment.
- 12.3.7. Suffolk ACRE Services insurance renewal £677.13 inclusive of a 10% discount for a five year fixed price agreement: agreed for payment with 5-year commitment.

13. Planning

- 13.1. **S/0297/13/VC Variation of planning permission at The Old Rectory:** has been granted
- 13.2. **S1814/12/FL Application to demolish existing house and rebuild with two houses at Summerhill:** Planning inspectorate has acknowledged KPC submission and request to be informed of result.
- 13.3. **S/2193/12/FL Retrospective application to build pergola at The Old Rectory:** applicant has appealed to the Home Secretary following refusal by SCDC Planning Department.
- 13.4. **S/2624/12/FB Retrospective application to demolish garden wall at The Old Rectory:** applicant has appealed to the Home Secretary following refusal by SCDC Planning Department.
- 13.5. **S/1150/12/LB Application to replace French doors at The Old Rectory:** applicant has appealed to the Home Secretary following no decision by SCDC Planning Department.
- 13.6. **S/0678/13/LB Application to reinstate inglenook fireplace at Thatches:** agreed by SD and the Clerk to respond 'no recommendation' on 21/04/2013 under Standing Order 13.3. The earlier decision was confirmed.
- 13.7. **C/11/40/056 Application to remove a willow tree at Orchard House:** agreed by SD and the Clerk to respond 'no recommendation' on 29/04/2013 under Standing Order 13.3. The earlier decision was confirmed.

14. Other matters

- 14.1. KS enquired about work being done outside the houses on the north side of Crane's Lane. The layby has been dug up but no reinstatement work is being carried out. The Clerk advised that Alison Greenwood had made the same enquiry, and then reported that work had re-started on the layby.

15. Dates of next meetings:

- 15.1. 16 May: Annual Parish meeting
- 15.2. 11 July: Parish Council meeting

Meeting ended at 22.25.

Signed.....

Date.....

South Cambridgeshire District Councillor's Monthly Report May 2013

1. SCDC Local Development Plan - Update

I attended the third Member workshop on the contents of the draft Local Development plan which took place on 23 April 2013. We discussed several topics including (1) sustainable development strategy (2) Housing site options (3) Employment site options (4) major joint areas with Cambridge – Cambridge East and the Northern Fringe East, (5) some Parish council proposals (for framework changes etc.).

Three issues that will be of interest to residents in the Ward are:

(a) 3500 homes proposed at Bourn Airfield: There was no appetite from members to build on this site because of the likelihood of creating a ribbon of development along the A428. And there is the issue of transport and that it is not big enough to sustain itself in terms of facilities (schools etc.).

(b) the proposal for the former TKA Tallent site to be redeveloped for employment use. This was given a cautious support, only on its own without housing. But there was still concern about transport to/from it.

(c) the proposal for a community stadium on Bourn Airfield. Most thought it was not a good idea. Too far out from the city, transport and parking issues, and viability.

(d) Proposal to build some houses on land at Bennell Farm, Comberton which is in Toft Parish. There was cautious support with condition that it is not high density and the affordable housing will be allocated on a cascade basis (to local people first).

There will be a fourth workshop this month and I will update further.

2. SCDC Transport Issues

Demand Responsive Transport: SCDC officers are working together with County officers to design a Demand Responsive Transport (DRT) scheme that will potentially replace the local services No.18 through Kingston and Toft and No 2 through Caldecote, when the County removes subsidies later this year. However, we require more information from residents who use the buses as to where they wish to go, what times etc. I would encourage residents to read the DRT information leaflet, complete the questionnaire and return to me or to South Cambs. For those who have online access, the documents can be downloaded from <http://tumihawkins.org.uk/transport-on-demand> or contact me if you want a copy sent to you.

A14 upgrade: Central government has asked that all the local authorities along the section of A14 that needs upgrading should contribute some money to it (not sure but around £5m-to be confirmed). This seems to be an unfair request, particularly when it is a national road which the local taxpayer is already paying for through our general taxes. We also pay road tax, and petrol tax, and to be asked to contribute from our local taxes does not seem right. South Cambs administration seems to think they will want to use the New Homes Bonus or other capital funds that we get. But again, it seems that money meant for local projects should be used for local projects. I would welcome views from residents on whether or not we should contribute to the A14 upgrade.

3. Welfare Reform

The welfare reform kicked in on 1st April 2013, and this means that a number of people will be hit hard in their pockets. SCDC expects that over 3,000 residents in the district will be affected as three measures kick in namely (i) localised council tax where those of working age will see a reduction of about 8.5% in their council tax benefit (1300 residents affected) (ii) the so called bedroom tax for under-occupation of social rented property where the housing benefit is reduced by 14% for one underused bedroom and 25% for two underused bedrooms (632 families) and finally (iii) the benefit cap limiting benefits received to £350 for single adults and £500 for couples (about 30 families).

SCDC has also changed the rules for council tax relief for properties. Anyone with an empty property will now pay 100% council tax for even one day. If a property is empty for more than two years, then it becomes liable for 150% of council tax, so landlords and second home owners are being fined for leaving their properties empty for any reason whatsoever Over 1,300 homes are affected by these changes.

The local authority is writing to each household affected to let them know what it will mean for them and to advise what information and support is available.

Overall, not a good year for our pockets in South Cambridgeshire!

4. Broadband – Connecting Cambridgeshire

I attended a meeting of the Broadband Champions of the Connecting Cambridgeshire project in Alconbury last month. The meeting was organised to explain how BT envisages to rollout broadband to the county by the deadline of end of 2015. It expects to be able to do this using only Fibre To The Cabinet (FTTC) technology. There is no timetable yet as to which community will be enabled first, but it will depend on the infrastructure that currently exists, and the ease of getting communities on the superfast broadband highway. No community will be left out!

5. Casework

Your Councillor is here to help you. Please do feel free to contact me with comments, questions, problems, reports, suggestions or complaints. 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!

6. Councillor Drop-in surgery

Kingston Village Hall: second Thursdays of every other month, next on 11th July 2013, 7pm – 8pm

7. Dates for your diary

16 May 2013	8pm	Annual Parish Meeting of Kingston Parish
6 June 2013		Kingston Blues Band in Kingston Village Hall
6 June 2013	10 am	Planning Committee meeting
11 July 2013	7pm-8pm	Councillor Surgery, Kingston Village Hall

Tumi

Tumi Hawkins
9-May-13

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

Appendix B

Financial report 24 Apr 2013

(2012/13)

N.B. All figures exclude VAT

Item	Budget 2012-13 £	Expenditure YTD £	Budget minus expenditure YTD £	
Grass and Hedge cutting	1856.00	2016.51	-160.51	Grasscutting of protected verges added after budget
Insurance	744.00	744.39	-0.39	
Clerk's salary	1057.00	1056.96	0.04	
Grants (section 137)	1496.00	1690.66	-194.66	Jubilee party cost exceeded budget, also cost of VH planning appln not budgetted
Audit fees	169.00	160.00	9.00	
Village asset maintenance	3350.00	2969.38	380.62	
Subscriptions	202.00	170.45	31.55	
Parish Magazine	400.00	400.00	0.00	
Footpath lighting	139.00	108.65	30.35	
Miscellaneous and expenses	250.00	385.82	-135.82	
Income other than precept	-114.00	-1443.23	1329.23	SCDC Grant, interest, allotment rents, oil club rebate
Total	9549.00	8259.59		

Bank balances	Current account:	£1,145.51	
	Deposit account:	£9,684.77	

Appendix C

Financial report 03 May 2013

N.B. All figures exclude VAT

Item	Budget 2013-14 £	Expenditure YTD £	Budget minus expenditure YTD £	
Grass and Hedge cutting	2017	0.00	2017.00	
Insurance	744	0.00	744.00	
Clerk's salary	1089	0.00	1088.71	
Grants (section 137)	649	0.00	648.90	
Village Hall upgrade	800	0.00	800.00	
Audit fees	45	0.00	45.00	
Village asset maintenance	1000	0.00	1000.00	
Subscriptions	304	0.00	304.00	
Parish Magazine	400	0.00	400.00	
Footpath lighting	112	0.00	112.27	
Miscellaneous and expenses	165	0.00	165.00	
Income other than precept	-115	0.00	-115.00	
Total	7210	0.00		

Bank balances	Current account:	£1,113.72	
	Deposit account:	£9,684.77	