

Kingston Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting held at 8.00pm on 20 September 2016

Present:

Tim Fitzjohn, Chairman (TF)
Julie Conder (JCo)
James Clear (JCI)
Keith Tan (KT)
Peter Stokes, Clerk

1. Apologies

1.1. Trish Dunlop

2. Minutes of last meeting

2.1. Accepted

3. Matters Arising

- 3.1. **3.1 Communications problems with County Councillor:** TF had tried again to contact SF by phone but with no response. TF had contacted the Local Conservative Office and South Cambs District Council for advice and we now have a new email address for SF. TF to continue to pursue. **Action: TF.**
- 3.2. **3.2 Dog waste/litter bins:** we still await the installation of the third bin, next to the old well. The responsible official, Heidi Duffett, has stopped replying to emails. Cllr Hawkins has already agreed to chase Ms Duffett on our behalf but has been unable to contact her. The Clerk has recently sent a reminder to Cllr Hawkins and will continue to chase. **Action: Clerk.**

4. Correspondence

- 4.1. **Email from Martyn Apperly** re Highbank. Agreed that although the situation is unsatisfactory, no useful further action can be taken.
- 4.2. **Email from Michael Herbert** re litter in layby, etc. Noted.
- 4.3. **Emails from Peter Reynolds** re stones opposite Thatches. It was noted that the Reids have reduced the number of stones. Agreed to remind the Reids that they have agreed also to lower the stones into the ground a little. **Action: Clerk.**
- 4.4. **Email and letter re Kingston phone box:** BT wants to remove Kingston payphone unless it is agreed during the consultation period that there are good reasons for keeping it. If it is removed Kingston can optionally at a cost of £1 retain the box without phone for another use. Agreed to object to removal of the payphone on the grounds that the mobile phone signal in that part of the village is poor or non-existent, and the payphone therefore provides a vital link for calling the emergency services in the event of an emergency at or near the village hall. **Action: Clerk.**
- 4.5. **Letter from the Local Government Boundary Commission** re new electoral arrangements for Cambridgeshire County Council: the commission has completed its review and has set out its final recommendations, to be implemented following Parliamentary approval. An interactive map showing the changes is available at www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk. Kingston parish is currently in Hardwick Division which also includes Childerley, Caldecote, Hardwick, Toft, Comberton, Madingley, Kingston, Coton, Barton and Grantchester. Under the proposed new arrangements Kingston will remain in Hardwick Division, which will have the same parishes as before except it will include Great and Little Eversden and exclude Childerley. The Clerk showed maps

printed from the above website showing these changes. Agreed that members would check the website to ensure the changes are as stated. **Action: all.**

5. County Councillor's report

5.1. No report

6. District Councillor's report

6.1. No report

7. Open Spaces report

7.1. The future of The Swards was discussed. Current maintenance costs are approx. £300 p.a. There was a general feeling that the current status quo should remain without changes, or possibly that the grass cutting could be reduced to the footpath only. Peter Reynolds has offered to prepare a history of The Swards, and it was agreed to postpone any further decision until this document was available and councillors have had the opportunity to consider it.

8. Clerk's report

8.1. **Bi-monthly report** – previously circulated – see Appendix A.

8.2. Invoices for payment:

8.2.1. Buchan's Landscape Services June 2016, grasscutting £456.85: agreed for payment

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8.2.4. PKF Littlejohn audit fee £120.00: agreed for payment

8.2.5. Peter Reynolds materials for re-treating bus shelter £101.42: agreed for payment

8.3. **Revised standing orders:** for next meeting

8.4. **Fence at permissive path near old railway bridge:** still awaiting repair, promised for week beginning 26/09/2016

8.5. **Repairs to tunnel slide:** now complete

8.6. **Closed footpath:** now open

8.7. **Annual audit:** complete, no matters of concern found by the auditors.

8.8. **Appointment of trustees for Kingston Poor's Land Charity:** The present trustees, Joan Reynolds and Donal O'Donnell had previously indicated their willingness to continue in office if appointed. Agreed that their re-appointment was confirmed.

8.9. **2017 Local Highways Improvements funding:** agreed not to submit a bid this year. We have been told some time ago that our bid for the 2016 round was successful, but have heard no further news. Clerk to chase. **Action: Clerk.**

9. Planning

9.1. **S/1154/16/DC** An application has been submitted for alterations to outbuilding at Kingston Wood Manor. No consultation – for information only.

9.2. **S/1719/16/FL** Permission has been granted for construction of new garden building at Thatches, Rectory Lane.

9.3. **S/3212/15/PA** change of use of agricultural building at Kingston Pastures Farm, Old Wimpole Road

- 9.4. **S/2277/16/FL** An application has been submitted to demolish an existing lean-to porch and replace with a conservatory at Tranquil, Rectory Lane. Agreed to support the application.

10. Items for next meeting:

- 10.1. JCo reported that she had been able to obtain no further update on the faster broadband project.
- 10.2. TF reported that Peter Reynolds and Ron Leslie are collaborating on a 'History of Kingston', to be published as a booklet. They have so far funded the project themselves, and the next step will be to print around 60 copies of the booklet at an estimated cost of £1100. They intend to approach the Parish Council to request a grant to cover or contribute to costs. TF to obtain more details of the proposed funding of the project, to be discussed at a future meeting.

11. Date of next meeting: 8 November 2016

Meeting ended at 21:25.

Signed.....

Date.....

Appendix A

Financial report 01 Sep 2016

N.B. All figures exclude VAT

Item	Budget 2016-17 £	Expenditure YTD £	Budget minus expenditure YTD £	
Grass and Hedge cutting	2032	761	1271	
Insurance	399	412	-13	
Clerk's salary	1141	494	647	
Grants (section 137)	667	100	567	
Village Hall upgrade	1288	644	644	
Audit fees	40	44	-4	
Village asset maintenance	450	215	235	
Subscriptions	226	182	44	
Parish Magazine	475	0	475	
Footpath lighting	161	0	161	
Miscellaneous and expenses	720	47	673	
Income other than precept	-125	815	-940	
Total	7475	3714		

Bank balances	Current account:	3868	
	Deposit account:	18403	