

KINGSLAND PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ONLINE MEETING OF KINGSLAND PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT 7.30 PM ON TUESDAY 13 OCTOBER 2020

PRESENT: Mrs C Sawyers (Chairman), Mrs Z Broad, Mrs L Juson, Mrs S Rowsell, Mr R Bayliss, Mr D Fordham, Mr R Harris, Mr J Vaughan and Mr B J Watkins.

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms L Fowler and Mr W Best, Environment Agency; Ward Cllr. S Bowen; and Mr R Hewitt, Clerk. Seven (7) members of the public were present.

2020/83 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Mr G Bradley.

2020/84 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION
Cllrs. J Vaughan and B Watkins declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in planning application 200995 Barns at Kingsland, South of Longford.

2020/85 MINUTES OF MEETINGS
The minutes of the meetings held on 18 August and 8 September 2020 were agreed.

2020/86 MAINTENANCE OF THE LUGG
Cllr. Rowsell reported on “a very useful” walkabout with the Environment Agency. The meeting supported Cllr. Rowsell’s proposal to talk to Bodenham about their experience of having a flood working group.

Mr W Best, Environment Agency informed the meeting that riparian owners are responsible for maintenance but accepted that this may be beyond their capability at times and provided a helpline number.

Ward Cllr. Bowen said Balfour Beatty has been alerted to the need to remove silt from the third arch of Lugg bridge. The highway authority is responsible for the watercourse under bridges and roads.

Ms Liz Fowler, Environment Agency, kindly offered to provide support in setting up a flood group should this be something the parish council decides to do.

The Chair thanked Ms Fowler and Mr Best for joining the meeting online.

[Ms Fowler and Mr Best left the meeting.]

2020/87 REPORT ON HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL
Ward Cllr. Bowen said road works at Lawton Cross should be finished by the end of the month. The speed limit at Cobnash is expected soon. A motion to make new housing more hedgehog friendly has been agreed by Herefordshire Council. A ‘Battle of Britain’ service in the Cathedral included excellent participation from schools. The placing of wreaths in Hereford for Remembrance Sunday has been filmed due to Covid 19.

The surface of the road at Cobnash has been reported to Balfour Beatty for urgent attention, and the highway agent has been asked to complete the resurfacing in the village between Longford and North Road. White lining also needs to be done. Ward Cllr. Bowen observed that the scrutiny committee report on long term asset management of the highway network appears to have led to no response from the council.

2020/88 LOCAL RESIDENTS DISCUSSION

A member of the public urged the parish council to implement village gates to define the entrance to Kingsland village. The Kingsland Millennium Green Trust is to ask the school for ideas for a Kingsland flag. A member of the public provided figures on the volume of traffic using Hostel Lane and said the number of HGVs using the road is damaging the surface. The diversion signs for the road works at Lawton Cross are inadequate as they do not direct traffic down the A44 at Leominster or via the A49.

Ward Cllr. Bowen said HGV sat navs are often not used by lorry drivers who opt for the more cost-effective consumer versions. A member of the public expressed concern that drivers may be learning bad habits and will continue to use Hostel Lane after the road works at Lawton Cross are completed.

2020/89 CLERK'S REPORT/ MEETINGS ATTENDED BY COUNCILLORS

The Clerk reported that there has been no request for an election for the vacancy on the parish council which means the parish council will be able to co-opt a member of the public at the next meeting. Herefordshire Council has offered an online briefing on an NDP review. The steering group of the Mortimer's Cross Battlefield Project is to meet in November 2020 and will consider a proposal to fund the restoration of the memorial. An offer from Gigaclear to attend a parish council meeting was noted. After consulting with the Chair a new battery and pads have been purchased for the defibrillator. Regrettably, these were reported as needed after an incident. The process of checking the device has been reviewed. The precept for 2021-22 will need to be considered at the next meeting so it can be submitted to Herefordshire Council by 31 December 2020. Windows 10 needed to be reset, and applications reinstalled on the parish council laptop.

2020/90 PLANNING

[Cllrs. J Vaughan and B Watkins left the meeting.]

200995 Barns at Kingsland, South of Longford – Proposed conversion of three agricultural buildings to form two dwellings and garaging with associated landscaping and infrastructure. Re-consultation to consider amended and additional plans or documents.

The amended and additional plans or documents for planning application 200995 Barns at Kingsland were considered. The parish council acknowledges that some issues have been addressed, however the fundamental problems with the site remain, as set out below:

- *The proposal represents unjustified unsustainable new residential development in an open countryside location, outside of the defined settlement boundary within the Kingsland Village Neighbourhood Development Plan. It is contrary to Policies SS1, SS7, SD1, RA2 and RA3 of the Herefordshire Local Plan Core Strategy, together with Kingsland Neighbourhood Development Plan Policies KNDP1 and KNDP2;*

- *Development of the proposed site would adversely impact the conservation area in this area, which protects the fields and landscape towards St Michaels Church, the scheduled monument and Longford. As such, the proposal would result in material harm to the landscape and setting of the village, and would urbanise country land and unacceptably extend the built form into the open countryside. In doing so, the development is contrary to Policies SS6 and LD1 of the Herefordshire Local Plan – Core Strategy and Policies KNDP1 and KNDP4 of the Kingsland Neighbourhood Development Plan; and*
- *The housing need has not been demonstrated. The NDP at Kingsland has more than delivered on the guidance for development in the core strategy, and there are believed to be some 20 new build properties presently on the market.*

Kingsland Parish Council respectfully requests, on the grounds of public interest, that the planning application is decided by Herefordshire Council's planning committee.

[Cllrs. J Vaughan and B Watkins re-joined the meeting.]

202643 West Town House, Kingsland, HR6 9SE – Proposed demolition of existing conservatory and erection of single storey rear extension and new garage. *There was no objection to the proposed plans.*

202890 Brook Cottage, Kingsland, HR6 9QB – Proposed two storey rear extension. *The parish council objected to the planning application on the grounds of the scale of the proposed extension. The planning principle should be for an extension to be subordinate to the original dwelling. The proposed scale of the extension is considered disproportionate to the original dwelling.*

202983 The Croase House, North Road, Kingsland, HR6 9RZ – T1 - Magnolia - Over the house Glass Roof. Reduction Advised for Safety - Crown Reduce by 20%. *The proposed tree work was supported.*

Herefordshire Council has granted planning permission for 202480, 4 Lugg Green Road. Works to trees within a conservation area are allowed for 202827 Westfield, 202028 Wayfield Cottage and 202763 Milestones.

2020/91 FINANCE

Receipt of 50 percent of the 2020-21 precept (£8,000.00) from Herefordshire Council was noted. The following payments were AGREED: Clerk, defibrillator pads and battery (£270.00); Hitrees, lengthsman (£672.00); and R Bayliss, footpaths maintenance (£112.00). The lengthsman payment will be processed once confirmed with the lengthsman coordinator, Cllr. G Bradley.

2020/92 HIGHWAYS/ LENGTHSMAN SCHEME

A request will be made for Balfour Beatty to clear leaves in the village with a sweeper lorry and to check the drains on North Road. A member of the public has suggested to the highway authority that recent tree clearance at Lawton Bank provides full line of sight for speed enforcement.

The new speed limit at Cobnash “is currently sat with Herefordshire Council awaiting a Record of Officers Decision following submission of an AD Report. The report has been through multiple versions to make changes to identify as a true record with the last submission being sent across on 16th September 2020 for approval”.

2020/93 LAWTON CROSS ROAD WORKS

It was agreed to request that Balfour Beatty place signs at Barons Cross to encourage more traffic to use the A44. The removal of the ‘Road Closed’ sign placed at the top of North Road was noted.

2020/94 P3 FOOTPATHS

Cllr. Juson, footpaths officer, said work and several repairs are being planned.

2020/95 s106 FUNDING FOR HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENTS

The meeting noted that Balfour Beatty has said that s106 funded highway improvement projects are still on hold pending a review by Herefordshire Council. It was agreed to write a joint letter with Pyons Group Parish Council to try and unblock the s106 monies to use on the agreed highway improvements at Kingsland and at Canon Pyon. The joint letter will be sent by email to the cabinet member responsible for highways, the respective ward councillors and senior officers at Herefordshire Council and Balfour Beatty including the chief executive and Place and Economy director, Herefordshire Council, and HALC. The letter will ask why the s106 funding is on hold and highlight potential road safety issues that may result from the delay.

[9.30pm: Standing orders suspended.]

2020/96 VILLAGE SIGNS AND GATES

It was agreed to look at village gates and signs once the new 40mph speed limit is in place at Cobnash to help decide the location of the village gates.

2020/97 PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE WHITE PAPER

The parish council agreed to comment in response to two questions asked in the government’s Planning for the Future white paper:

13a) The parish council believes strongly that neighbourhood plans should be retained. It is important to have a local say; and

13b) The parish council supports the use of new digital tools provided support and grants are available to develop this capability.

2020/98 LOCAL RESILIENCE – Deferred.

2020/99 MATTERS RAISED FOR THE NEXT MEETING (no discussion) – None.

2020/100 INFORMATION ITEMS

The information items on the agenda were noted.

2020/101 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be at 7.30pm on Tuesday 24 November 2020. The meeting will be held online.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.51 pm.

Signed:

Date: