

KINGSLAND PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT 7.30PM ON WEDNESDAY 29 NOVEMBER 2023 AT THE CORONATION HALL

PRESENT: Mr P Saunders (Vice Chairman), Mr D Fordham, Mr S Hicks, Mr S Morgan, Mr R Harris, and Mr J Vaughan.

IN ATTENDANCE: Ward Cllr. D Hurcomb; and Mr R Hewitt, Parish Clerk. Two (2) members of the public were present.

2023/119 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were accepted from Mrs C Sawyers (Chairman), Mr D Thompson and Mr B J Watkins.

2023/120 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION
Cllrs. Harris and Saunders declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in item 2023/134 Public Space Protection Order and 2023/135 Millennium Green Trust.

2023/121 CO-OPTION OF NEW MEMBERS
Deferred.

2023/122 MINUTES OF MEETING
The Minutes of the Meeting held on 18 October 2023 were agreed and signed.

2023/123 REPORT ON HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL
Ward Cllr. D Hurcomb's written report was noted. Winter weather will inevitably mean an increase in potholes. Defects can be reported on a 24-hour basis, including by telephone. Local people are encouraged to check on each other in cold snaps. Roads in the county are likely to benefit from increased government funding arising from the cancellation of HS2 above Birmingham. A full council meeting scheduled for 1 December 2023 will be considering a proposal to increase funding of the road network by £10 million.

Council tax is likely to increase by 4.99 percent. There is a significant overspend forecast for children's services. Additional funding may be available for the public rights of way network.

2023/124 LOCAL RESIDENTS' DISCUSSION
In response to questions, Ward Cllr. Hurcomb said Hereford Lane and Basket Gate are in the programme for surface dressing. The locality steward has been asked to review the section of road between Longford and North Road. The section of road between Cobnash and Kingsland is 'on the radar' of the highway authority.

Cllr. Hurcomb was thanked for the resurfacing work undertaken at Cobnash earlier in November 2023.

2023/125 CLERKS REPORT

The web administrator has put additional measures in place to secure the website. Leinthall Quarry have suggested convening the liaison group after they have received the scoping opinion on their extension project from Herefordshire Council. Talk Community are seeking to recognise local 'Community Champions'.

2023/126 PLANNING

233394 The Garth, Kingsland, HR6 9QJ – Proposed stove inserted into existing dining room fireplace, chimney lined, cowl replaced and TV aerial removed. *The planning application was supported.*

233378 Mortimers Cross Farm, Mortimers Cross, HR6 9PD – Proposed agricultural grain store. *The planning application was supported.*

Herefordshire Council have granted planning permission for 232555 York House. Works to trees within a conservation area are allowed for 233011 Kingsland Coronation Hall.

2023/127 TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT PLAN

The draft survey from the traffic management group was agreed in principle subject to consideration being given to inclusion of comments and thoughts raised in the meeting, and subsequently via the Clerk. Members agreed to provide the Clerk with any additional comments they may have by 4 December 2023.

Mr D Lloyd, traffic management group, reported on enforcement activities undertaken by West Mercia Police in October and November 2023. The traffic management group requested that the parish council ask the highway authority for any speed data that might be collected as part of the follow up to the recent resurfacing at Cobnash, and this was agreed.

The integration of traffic calming measures into the resurfacing at Cobnash was highlighted as a 'brilliant example of what can be achieved', and Ward Cllr. Hurcomb was thanked for his role in achieving this outcome.

2023/128 PLAYGROUND FOR OLDER CHILDREN

The Clerk reported that the Coronation Hall Committee Chairman has written to confirm acceptance of the donation of the playground for older children, subject to inclusion of the bicycle shed which is a condition of the planning permission. It was resolved to fund the cost of the bicycle shed at an estimated cost of £1,674.00 plus installation, subject to exploring all other avenues for additional grant funding.

The parish council reviewed an updated layout for the playground (22920rev8/HER), which was agreed. The revised layout will require planning permission, and it was resolved to make a non-material amendment application to the planning authority for this purpose at a cost of £298.00.

It was resolved to commission the playground from the contractor for £22,921.24, subject to the following payment schedule: 25 percent deposit, 25 percent on delivery of playground equipment, and 50 percent on completion of the installation. Installation is expected to commence in Spring 2024.

Cllr. Saunders reported on approaches made to local companies to request donations in support of the playground. It was agreed to explore support from community groups and local people as well.

2023/129 FOOTPATHS (PROWS)

Cllr. S Morgan, footpath officer reported on a meeting held with Herefordshire Council's public rights of way officers, which was felt to be constructive. However, budgets are tight and a new standard for bridge supports is outstanding. An article has been submitted to the Kingsland village newsletter. Cllr. Thompson was thanked for support in highlighting local landowners.

2023/130 HIGHWAYS/ LENGTHSMAN SCHEME

Cllr. S Hicks, lengthsman coordinator, reported on a recent meeting with the locality steward. Maintenance of drains in the parish is done on a reactive basis, responding to defects. Defects should be reported via the council website, where 'what3words' is felt to be most helpful in identifying the location of reported defects.

Sewage leaking from a manhole cover on the approach to the Coronation Hall car park entrance was highlighted during the meeting, and a defect report was raised by Balfour Beatty for Welsh Water to resolve. It was noted that the area manager of Welsh Water has indicated previously that the manhole cover might be sealed.

2023/131 SMARTWATER INITIATIVE

Deferred.

2023/132 COMMUNITY POLICING CHARTER

The priorities in the current Community Policing Charter were confirmed for the new period without amendment.

2023/133 NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Deferred.

[Cllrs. Harris and Saunders left the meeting. Cllr. S Morgan took the chair.]

2023/134 PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDER (PSPO)

The parish council agreed that there are no new areas to report for consideration for dog control orders and the protection order can be renewed covering the same areas as the existing public space protection order.

2023/135 MILLENNIUM GREEN TRUST

Deferred pending a formal request for financial support and provision of latest accounts.

[Cllrs. Harris and Saunders rejoined the meeting. Cllr. Saunders resumed the chairing of the meeting.]

2023/136 PROJECTOR SCREEN

It was agreed that a screen to display planning applications during meetings would be helpful. The parish council decided to approach the school in the first instance to see whether a surplus screen might be available.

2023/137 FINANCE

The following payments were agreed: Hitrees, lengthsman/ footpaths (£1,464.00); Coronation Hall, meetings September to 29 November 2023 (£80.00); CloudNext, domain name renewal, 2023-25 (£132.00); AVG anti-virus/ security subscription 2023-26 (£97.21); Herefordshire Council, election charges 2023 (£185.81); Clerk, planning charges for non-material amendment to 222381 (£298.00); Clerk, salary increment 2023-24 (£333.63) and HMRC, national insurance for period to 5 January 2024 (£9.08).

The standing order for payment of Clerk's wages was updated to reflect the new SCP24 rate.

2023/138 MATTERS RAISED FOR THE NEXT MEETING (no discussion)

Footpaths.

2023/139 INFORMATION ITEMS – Noted.

2023/140 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be at 7.30pm on Wednesday 10 January 2024.

The Vice Chairman closed the meeting at 9.10 pm.

Signed:

Date: