

KINGSLAND PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT 7.30PM ON WEDNESDAY 10 JANUARY 2024 AT THE CORONATION HALL

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Ward Cllr. D Hurcomb; and Mr R Hewitt, Parish Clerk. Seven (7) members of the public were present including two members of the traffic management plan working group.

- 2023/141 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** were accepted from Mrs C Sawyers (Chairman), Mr D Fordham and Mr D Thompson.
- 2023/142 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION**
There were no declarations made by the members present.
- 2023/143 CO-OPTION OF NEW MEMBERS**
Deferred.
- 2023/144 MINUTES OF MEETINGS**
The Minutes of the Meetings held on 15 and 29 November 2023 were agreed and signed.
- 2023/145 LOCAL RESIDENTS' DISCUSSION**
A member of the public highlighted public domain records for sewage spills into local rivers 2021-22 and asked that action is taken to address the frequency of spills in the parish reported by the water authority. Fluctuating water pressure in the mains supply was raised by another member of the public.
- Several members of the public raised objections to planning application 233312 Luctonians Rugby Football And Cricket Club.
- 2023/146 CLERKS REPORT**
A member of the public has written to ask about proactive maintenance by the highway authority and to thank the parish council's footpath officer and the Ward Cllr. for their informative reports at a recent meeting. The parish council has received a refund of £117.00 on the fee for the non-material amendment planning application. The defibrillator status has been updated with The Circuit. Balfour Beatty have been asked to provide the survey and design for the signs at St Michael's Avenue and Cobnash. The in-house training requested from HALC will be on Thursday 8 February 2024 and will cost £250.00 plus travel expenses.
- 2023/147 PLANNING**
233312 Luctonians Rugby Football And Cricket Club, Kingsland, HR6 9SB –
Proposed change of use of land for the siting of a catering trailer to be used on site to serve the public and Luctonians Rugby Club events.

The parish council objected to the planning application for a catering trailer on the following grounds:

- *Unacceptable noise and disturbance: Opening hours are proposed to be 7am to 2am, Monday to Friday, which is unreasonable due to the location shown in the application at the northern edge of the village being adjacent to residential houses at the top of North Road, along the A4110 and Parhelion Close. The hours of opening will mean increased noise from traffic at anti-social hours, disturbance from cooking smells, increased litter and light pollution in this area of the village.*
- *The limited access to the club house (which has many fewer hours of opening) will mean customers will not have access to toilets for considerable periods of time, inviting anti social behaviour at Lucs or in the vicinity as some customers are likely to need to relieve themselves.*
- *The proposed main location will hinder access by the fire service in the event of an emergency.*
- *The club house already offers extensive catering services, and the village has two pubs and shop/ tearoom all offering a wide range of services.*

233364 Mortimers Cross Farm, Mortimers Cross, HR6 9PD – Proposed sprayer store. *The planning application was supported.*

233567 High Field, North Road, Kingsland, HR6 9RZ – Remove small hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*) by coppicing. Tree is unpruned growth from the existing hedge that was laid in Winter 2022 and causing unnecessary shading on laid hedge and will outgrow its space at the front of the property. Regrowth from coppiced stump will be woven into existing hedge. Additional Spindle (*Euonymus europaeus*) to be planted near hedge line. *The proposed tree work was supported.*

Herefordshire Council have granted planning permission for 232962 Luctonians Rugby Football And Cricket Club and 233030 Brick House. Listed building consent is granted for 233031 Brick House and 233394 The Garth. Planning application 232929 Upper Brook Bridge Farm is withdrawn. Prior approval is not required for 233279 Barns South of Longford. An update from planning enforcement was noted. The Planning Inspectorate have dismissed appeal W1850/C/23/3323354 2 Hazeldene.

2023/148

REPORT ON HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

Ward Cllr. D Hurcomb's written report was noted. The budget planning for 2024-25 is underway. The PROW network will require funding. The swing bridge across the Lugg is a priority. Welsh Water have said it will not be possible to seal the manhole cover on Harbour Lane by the entrance to the Coronation Hall car park. The pumping station is to be upgraded by the water authority. Ward Cllr. Hurcomb kindly offered to schedule a meeting with Welsh Water to discuss ongoing concerns. A problem with the centre seam of tarmac laid on the newly resurfaced Cobnash road will be addressed shortly.

Housing guidelines under the emerging local plan suggest that there will need to be significantly more houses in the village less recent building. The roads at Hereford Lane and Basket Gate will both be surface dressed. The section of road in the village between Longford and North Road and between Cobnash and Kingsland village have been raised with the highway authority, and a request made for white lining on the B4362 to be renewed. Ward Cllr. Hurcomb said defects should be reported as many times as is possible.

2023/149 TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT PLAN

Mr E Wallington, traffic management group coordinator, kindly provided a report on the activities of the working group in the past year. An update on enforcement action is expected by the end of January 2024. The survey has been prepared, including comments made by the parish council, and is ready for distribution.

2023/150 PLAYGROUND FOR OLDER CHILDREN

The Clerk reported that the non-material amendment for the updated layout of the playground (22920rev8/HER) at the Coronation Hall has been granted by the planning authority. The contractor has accepted the payment schedule agreed at the previous meeting and a 25 percent deposit paid (£6,876.37). The installation of the playground is scheduled to begin on 25 March 2024, and should be completed in time for the new school term after Easter.

Additional funding is expected from s106 monies held by Herefordshire Council (£4,000.00). It was agreed to support fund raising in the community by Cllr. Saunders.

2023/151 FOOTPATHS (PROWs)

Cllr. S Morgan, footpath officer provided a verbal report. An article has been published in Kingsland News. Several people have responded to the invitation for expressions of interest in either walking the PROW regularly, and reporting issues, or assisting with maintenance and clearance with the permission of the landowner. A footpath officer from a neighbouring parish has offered their skills to assist with slightly heavier tasks, at cost. Contact has been made with the 'Leominster Walkers are Welcome' group.

Quotations have been sought for stock proof galvanised kissing gates and self-closing pedestrian gates. The neighbouring parish of Eardisland is to renew and modify gates, stiles and pathways to help the disabled and those less able to access the countryside.

Information has been circulated on the role of footpath officers by Herefordshire Council and Cllr. Morgan asked members to look at these guidelines, which will be circulated after the meeting.

2023/152 HIGHWAYS/ LENGTHSMAN SCHEME

i) Report on lengthsman activity: Cllr. S Hicks, lengthsman coordinator, suggested that the lengthsman is commissioned to clear gutters in Kingsland village, and regular clearances should help keep the drains clear. It was agreed to consider a quotation for the work.

ii) Highway matters to bring to the attention of the highway authority: Poor road surface on the A4110 by Border Oak will be reported. Members of the parish council and public were encouraged to report defects and if possible, to provide an exact location using an application such as what3words.

iii) Lengthsman programme 2024-25: The parish council agreed to participate in the lengthsman scheme 2024-25, to submit an expression of interest to this effect, and to contribute £990.00 from parish council funds on the understanding that this will be matched by the highway authority.

[Cllr. B Watkins left the meeting.]

- 2023/153 SMARTWATER INITIATIVE**
Deferred.
- 2023/154 NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN**
Deferred.
- 2023/155 SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS 2024-25**
The schedule of meetings for 2024-25 was agreed and will be available on the Diary page of the parish council website.
- 2023/156 FINANCE WORKING GROUP**
The members of the finance working group were confirmed as Cllrs. Saunders, Fordham, and Watkins. No members present expressed an interest in joining the working group.
- 2023/157 FINANCE**
i) The following payment was ratified: Playdale, 25% deposit for playground (£6,876.37).
ii) Mid-year accounts, 2023-24, were noted. The 2024-25 budget and precept proposed by the finance working group was considered. The 2023-24 budget was agreed, and the precept set at £18,500.00.
iii) Internal financial controls are considered to be good.
- 2023/158 MATTERS RAISED FOR THE NEXT MEETING (no discussion)**
There were no matters raised.
- 2023/159 INFORMATION ITEMS – Noted.**
- 2023/160 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**
The next meeting will be at 7.00pm on Wednesday 11 January 2024 at Cawley Hall, Eye.
The next full scheduled meeting is at 7.30pm on Wednesday 14 February 2024 at the Coronation Hall, Kingsland.

The Vice Chairman closed the meeting at 9.33 pm.

Signed:

Date: