

KINGSTON SEYMOUR PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Kingston Seymour Parish Council held on
Thursday 12th May 2022 at 20.00
At the All Saints Church, Kingston Seymour

Councillors Present:

Mike Sewell (MS) Chairman
Zoe Bartlett (ZB)

Fred Malton (FM)
Paul Cox (PC)

Richard Barber (RB)
Ian Wariner (IW)

In attendance:

Steve Dixon (SD) Clerk & RFO

Wendy Griggs, District Councillor

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies had been received from District Councillors Bridger & from the Police team

2. To record declarations of interest in items on the agenda

None

3. Members of the public are invited to address the council

No members of the public were present.

4. To confirm the minutes of the following meeting

Regular Council Meeting – 9th March 2022

The minutes were confirmed as a true record. Proposed by IW , seconded by RB and supported unanimously.

5. Police and Neighbourhood Watch

Unfortunately, and due to operational commitments, a monthly newsletter had not been produced and members of the Police team had been unable to attend. However, the only incident noted by the Police and by the NW coordinator was an incident where a trespasser was spotted in a garden at 4am. Parishioners are reminded to lock their doors and outbuildings securely.

A drone – apparently equipped with a searchlight - had been spotted over the village in the late evening recently. Councillor Griggs reported that Kenn had also seen such an object and suggested it be reported to the Police

Action: Clerk to lodge a report

6. Infrastructure. To receive updates and to agree the next actions.

6.1 Village Railings

The clerk reported that NSC had earmarked the week commencing Monday 6th June for replacing the railings on the Triangle/Middle Lane corner. This would require closure of Middle Lane and the short stretch alongside the War Memorial railings.

Whilst NSC will write to those households immediately affected, the clerk will ensure that this closure is publicised and will notify NSC of the potential issue of turning the school bus, and Wessex Water because of the use of Middle Lane as the outward route to the treatment works.

Action: Clerk to advise Parishioners via the website and Facebook, NSC and Wessex Water.

6.2 Other Items

The clerk advised that he had stood down the Pier to Pier Route PM (who was to have attended), because the EA had still not granted the “Flood Risk Activity Notice” which is needed to start

KINGSTON SEYMOUR PARISH COUNCIL

construction of the bridge. Work has effectively come to a halt and will be rescheduled when the necessary notice is issued.

The clerk noted that the “No Through Road” sign at the head of Bullocks Lane had been re-concreted in but that the hedgerow was now growing over it.

Action: Clerk to refer to the parishioners who raised the issue to understand the currency of the problem.

Councillors stated that the condition of Bullocks Lane and Yew Tree Lane had not been addressed and the clerk advised that he had notified NSC of the issues with both of these roads and had been told that the officer responsible was scheduled to visit to assess. Yew Tree Lane – in particular – is in a very bad state and now that there was a thriving retail business situated along there, the need for repairs was even more urgent.

Action: Clerk to chase NSC for a commitment to repair these roads.

The clerk advised that he and Councillor Barber had met and toured the village with the Senior Area Highways Officer to discuss the NSC verge cutting programme which had been incorrectly described on an NSC map. Subsequent to that meeting and after discussion with the contractor, more clarity had emerged over what was actually done (rather than what the map had said). It has been agreed that we would wait and see the results of the first cut (there are two in the year) and review again.

Action: Clerk and RB to revisit after the first cut

RB and IW noted that actions to refurbish the Bus Shelter and Noticeboards were being progressed

7. Services, Resilience & Community. To receive updates and agree any necessary actions

7.1 NSC Local Plan Preferred Options & Local Properties Planning

Having studied the proposals and noted that there were no developments proposed within the Parish, Councillors had decided not to submit a comment to the current consultation. As the plan progresses, close attention will be made to future documents.

The clerk advised that every planning application in which the Council had been consulted was now determined. Councillors noted that an application had been submitted to establish sports facilities near Kingston Bridge and are aware that significant feedback is being given to the authorities about these proposals.

7.2 Climate Emergency & Sustainable Travel

The clerk had attended a workshop on Climate Change and will share his learnings with MS who has accepted responsibility for progressing this topic.

8. Administration and Communication.

8.1 To discuss the content for the Annual Parish Meeting

The clerk advised that a joint meeting had been arranged for the 25th May which would feature a section for the Annual Parish Meeting (APM) and then annual meetings for the Friends of All Saints Church and the Village Hall Trust.

The event would be advertised by all but formal notice has to be given for the APM with 7 clear days notice. An Agenda for the APM piece was agreed.

Action: Clerk to issue the Agenda on Friday 13th May.

...continued

KINGSTON SEYMOUR PARISH COUNCIL

9. Finance.

9.1 To receive the current Financial Report

The clerk reported that the Parish finances were sound with a total of £19.6k available overall and following receipt of the first half of the precept.

Other than the clerk's monthly salary (£360), cheques in excess of £100 had been issued for the subscription to ALCA (£101), Annual Web Support and service (£316), Village Maintenance (£350) and the Annual Insurance Premium (£510).

10. Queen's Jubilee Celebrations

The organisation of events has been progressing well and a detailed Web page had been set up to cover the specific events over the 4 days and the specific of the Commemorative Mugs. Publicity will continue until the weekend.

Reservations of the mugs are trending strongly and a number of offers to buy spares were being held – pending certainty about how many will be needed for the young people.

11. External Meetings. Reports and nominations

The clerk noted that he had attended a Climate Change workshop on the 22nd March and is attending an NSC Planning briefing on the 19th May. There are no other external meetings scheduled.

12. To receive information about very recent correspondence and to agree any further action

There had been no very recent communications.

13. To agree any items that are to be placed on the next regular meeting Agenda, scheduled for Wednesday 6th July in the Village Hall

In the regular meeting, there will be an update on the Tutshill project and existing outstandings. The Complaints policy will be reviewed and a decision will be needed regarding this year's Hedge and Verge contract. The draft agenda will be circulated nearer the time for Councillors to add any additional items before formal issue.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 21.15

Steve Dixon

Steve Dixon,
Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer,
14th May 2022