

KINGSTON SEYMOUR PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Kingston Seymour Parish Council held on
Wednesday 6th July 2022 at 19.30
At the Kingston Seymour Village Hall, Ham Lane, Kingston Seymour

Councillors Present:

Richard Barber (RB)
Vice Chairman
Fred Malton (FM)

Zoe Bartlett (ZB)

Paul Cox (PC)

In attendance:

Steve Dixon (SD) Clerk & RFO

1 Member of the Public

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies had been received from Councillors Cole, Sewell & Wariner and from District Councillors Bridger & Griggs. Apologies also received 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

The member of the public contributed to the following discussion.

4. Pier to Pier Route Update

Unfortunately, the NSC Project Manager was unable to attend due to COVID. He had given a brief update to the clerk and a resident who is a stakeholder in the project also contributed to the discussion.

It had been announced in the press that the project had restarted following receipt of the necessary licence and some essential replanning of the tasks. The route is now set to open at the beginning of 2023.

Construction of the bridge will now mean that stone will now start to be brought to the site along Lampley Road, Ham Lane and Yeo Bank Lane and this phase could last throughout July. Contractors have been told to avoid school bus times. After the stone is in place, the piling work for the piers will commence and large quantities of concrete will also have to come through the village. This phase is likely to go on from mid-August until mid-September.

Work on preparing the route through the village lanes (signage, road markings etc.) and onward to Clevedon will take place in the autumn. The NSC PM will submit their plans to the Parish Council in late August and will attend the Parish Council meeting on 8th September to discuss and agree.

The meeting chairman thanked the resident for their contribution.

5. To confirm the minutes of the following meeting

- Annual Meeting of the Parish Council – 12th May 2022

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

- Meeting of the Parish Council – 12th May 2022

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

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6. Police and Neighbourhood Watch

Unfortunately, and due to operational commitments, the newsletter will probably only now be issued every two months. The PCSO team is facing an upcoming shortfall as one of their number will be leaving to become a full PC.

The team were grateful that the RTC that happened in Middle Lane had been publicised on Facebook and therefore they were not inundated with calls about it. It was also reported that a large theft of diesel had occurred on one of our farms in late May and that anyone legally storing fuel outside must remain vigilant. It had been reported elsewhere that there had been a large number of recent burglaries in Yatton.

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

7.1 Village Railings

NSC had completed the agreed work at the corner of the Triangle and Middle Lane, outside the Old Post Office and had also replaced the railings further along Middle Lane where they were in a particularly bad condition. The work had been done quickly and efficiently and a note of thanks had been sent to NSC.

Councillors discussed whether more work should be commissioned and the stretches around the Church and in Back Lane (near Rookery Close) should be considered. In addition, the bottom rails near the Old Post Office were in very weak condition. Councillors felt that it may be appropriate to consider repair in some areas as well as understanding the cost of full replacement.

Action: Clerk to contact NSC Highways to establish what might be possible and the estimated cost and timescales.

7.2 Bus shelter refurbishment

The clerk had contacted a professional and had described what Councillors felt needed to be done. The contractor suggested that the building was in a worse state than had been considered and that maybe Council should consider replacing it fully.

To give the opportunity for a full discussion on this, it was agreed that an item would be put on the next agenda and that a pre meeting visit to the bus shelter would take place at 19.20 on that evening.

Action: Clerk to place item on the next Agenda

7.3 Roads

The clerk reported that Back Lane is to be closed for work by Bristol Water from the 18th July to the 22nd July. This had already been posted on the website and on Facebook.

The clerk had chased NSC Highways about Bullocks Lane and had been advised that 2.5 cubic metres of asphalt had been deployed on this road to repair potholes and strengthen the edges. A commitment is being sought to repair Yew Tree Lane and NSC have advised that they are trying to schedule it into this year's priority items.

Action: Clerk to update on NSCs latest position at the next meeting

RB offered to repaint the "finger post" sign at the village green and asked for Council support to purchase the specialist paint required. It was proposed by FM, Seconded by PC and supported unanimously that this should be done. Councillors thanked RB for his offer.

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7.4 Annual Hedge and Verge Cut

Quotations had been sought from two contractors for this work to be done at the beginning of September but only one had been forthcoming. After discussion, Councillors agreed to a quote of £695 + VAT from A C Harris. Proposed by PC, seconded by FM and carried unanimously.

Action: Clerk to advise both contractors of the outcome

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

8.1 Queen's Platinum Jubilee

A range of events were held across the Jubilee weekend and these were appreciated by many residents.

The Parish Council had purchased commemorative mugs to give to our young people and these had proved popular with many being requested for purchase by others as well. The purchase of some additional mugs is being considered and this will be dealt with separately.

8.2 Climate Emergency & Sustainable Travel

The clerk noted that a further section of the Coastal Footpath had been opened on the south side of the Congresbury Yeo to join up with the section at Brean. The "missing section" from Clevedon, through our Parish and across the Yeo was still in the hands of the Planning Inspectorate.

9. Administration and Communication.

9.1 To review and adopt the Parish Councils' Complaints policy

The clerk had compared the current policy with sources of professional advice and declared that the current policy included the latest thinking. Therefore, he proposed that the Council readopt the current wording. It was proposed by FM, seconded by PC and supported unanimously that the policy be readopted

Action: Clerk to publish readopted version on the website

10. Finance.

10.1 To receive the current Financial Report

The clerk reported that the Parish finances were sound with a total of £18.3k available overall and following receipt of the first half of the annual precept. Councillors are considering how best to invest available funds.

Other than the clerk's net monthly salary (£360), a cheque in excess of £100 was only due to be issued for Village Maintenance (£250).

11. External Meetings. Reports and nominations

RB advised that there had been a PCAA meeting and that the long standing Chairperson, Hilary Burn had resigned from the position. It had been agreed that the new Chair would be Louise Leader and that the role would be changed annually in future and with more sub committees being established to undertake specific roles. RB also advised that the Judicial Review against the granting of the planning permission will be heard in Bristol on the 7th/8th November 2022.

It was also noted that since the airport had become active again, more flights seemed to be turning across the village rather than waiting until they are over the estuary as is the agreed protocol.

Action: Clerk to revisit the paper he created and establish that the departure protocol had not been changed.

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

There had been no very recent communications to discuss

13. To agree any items that are to be placed on the next regular meeting Agenda, scheduled for Thursday 8th September 200 in the Church

In the regular meeting, there will be an update on the Tutshill project and on existing outstandings. A specific item will discuss the bus shelter. The ongoing confidential item will be reviewed, and the Council's formal Standing Orders will be discussed. 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 20.45

Steve Dixon

Steve Dixon,
Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer,
7th July 2022