

PARISH MEETING – Kingston Seymour

Minutes of the 125th Annual Meeting of the Parishioners of Kingston Seymour held on

Thursday 6th June 2019

In the Kingston Seymour Village Hall

KSPC Councillors Present:

Mike Sewell (MS) - Chairman

Richard Barber (RB)

Paul Cox (PC)

Fred Malton (FM) – Vice Chair

Zoe Bartlett (ZB)

Ian Wariner (IW)

Bryony Cole (BC)

In attendance:

Steve Dixon (SD) Clerk & RFO,

KSPC

8 Parishioners

1. Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed the parishioners and his fellow councillors and offered his formal thanks for the service given by the three former councillors – Caroline Harris, Peter Harris and Michael Wallis who had given many years of service to the Parish. He hoped that the attendees would find the meeting interesting and informative.

2. Minutes of the 124th Annual Meeting

It was proposed by Nigel Coles and seconded by PC that the Minutes were a true record of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 30th April 2018.

3. Matters Arising from the 124th Annual Meeting

MS stated that any relevant areas would be picked up during this meeting.

4. Introduction to the new Parish Council

The recent election had seen the Parish Council welcome three new members – Richard Barber, Zoe Bartlett and Bryony Cole. Each of the Councillors introduced themselves to the meeting.

5. Parish Report

Summarising the activity of the Parish Council over the preceding year, the Chairman noted:

- Road Safety. There is an agreed portfolio of improvements and NSC are scheduling these for implementation from September. These specific changes will be funded by the Parish Council.
- The War Memorial was fully restored last year in advance of the commemorations in November. These commemorations were well executed and very much appreciated. Peace roses have been planted in the War Memorial compound.
- Funding had been given in support of Churchyard maintenance, the Village Magazine and the village hall wi-fi installation.
- The chairman has worked to ensure that sixth formers in the village have a way of getting to Yatton station and is fully involved in discussions concerning the new free school which is planned to open in Yatton in 2020.
- The website had been visited 4,470 times during the year and 12,748 pages had been viewed.
- In terms of the activities which the Parish is monitoring, the Chairman remarked:
 - Cycle Route. Whilst the Parish had objected to the proposals, planning permission has been granted. Funding is being sought and NSC hope that the project can get underway in March 2020.
 - Coastal Footpath. Detailed proposals are expected to be published in late July for comment.
 - Hinkley Point – Whilst construction of the link between there and Avonmouth has commenced, it seems that the replacement of the pylons over Lampley Road is still some years away.

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- Fracking. The Parish has declared itself “frack free” but there has been activity by the licence holder in Bleadon and we must remain aware of the threat.
- Bristol Airport. The major planning application has not yet been determined by NSC and there has been much debate throughout the region about it. We continue to engage and monitor developments.

Delivering the Financial update, SD reported:

- That the figures were currently “unaudited” but that process was underway. There would be a statutory period (17th June to 26th July 2019) when the accounts could be formally examined by members of the public and notice of this would be posted in due course. He would also be happy to answer any questions outside this period.
- That the Council’s financial assets had increased this year by £340 and stood at £12,682 at the end of March 2019.
- All areas of expenditure were in line with expectations and the biggest item of expenditure this year had been on the War Memorial repairs which had cost a net £2,700.

Looking to the 2018/19 financial year, SD reported:

- The Council had slightly increased the Parish precept – principally to fund the - well-received - hedge and verge trimming exercise.
- The Council expects to fund the specific and agreed road safety improvements to a cost of some £3,300.
- Other items will be broadly as in previous years

6. Open Forum

The following comments were made:

- Should there be bike racks at the village green for young people who cycle to the bus stop? Currently, the racks at the Village Hall are available to use.
- Should a play field be available for the younger people in the Parish? This was mentioned in the 2011 parish plan but it had so far not proven possible to progress this.
- Should the AGM of the Village Hall be combined with this Annual Parish Meeting?

The matters raised would be discussed by Councillors at their next meeting.

- A parishioner raised an enquiry about the traffic calming measures and the Chairman stated that the question had already been addressed separately.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their participation and, there being no other business, the meeting formally closed at 8.35pm.

S C Dixon

Steve Dixon,
Clerk, KSPC
21 July 2019