

PARISH MEETING – Kingston Seymour

Minutes of the 128th Annual Meeting of the Parishioners of Kingston Seymour held on

Wednesday 22nd May 2024

In the Kingston Seymour Village Hall

KSPC Councillors Present:

Mike Sewell (MS) - Chairman

Andy Gillam

District Councillor Steve Bridger

Richard Barber - Vice Chair

Susie Humphries

District Councillor Wendy

Griggs

Paul Cox

Zoe Bartlett

In attendance:

Steve Dixon (SD) Clerk & RFO, KSPC

24 Parishioners

1. Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman of the Parish Council (MS) welcomed the parishioners and his fellow councillors.

He thanked the Village Hall for facilitating the use of the Hall and to the Hall Trust and the Friends of All Saints for participating in the joint evening.

2. Minutes of the 127th Annual Meeting

It is not necessary to vote on the draft minutes of the 2023 meeting, but MS will sign them and they will be placed on the website for viewing.

3. Parish Council Report 2023/24

Summarising the activity of the Parish Council over the preceding year, the Chairman noted that the village had celebrated the Coronation of the King.

The largest expenditure for the year was the refurbishment of the railings around the church and opposite the Village Hall. The parish council had been pleased with the work undertaken and felt that the railings now added to the overall vernacular of the village. We also funded frequent maintenance of the roadside verges and hedges in the village – thus supporting road safety in our narrow lanes.

The parish council had provided financial support for the village magazine, for maintenance of the churchyard and for the village Christmas tree. We had also provided support for the Village Post Office, a facility which we lost upon the sad passing of our Postmaster – John Allday. It seems unlikely that Post Office management will want to continue with this service.

We maintained pressure on NSC in an effort to make the pier to Pier Way as safe as it can be and have challenged the Duck Lane Link and its implications. We have responded to planning applications and to NSC strategy documents on behalf of the village.

The parish council actively maintains our own website and supplements this with information updates via the village Facebook group and contributes an article to each Village Magazine.

4. Parish Council Financial Report 2023/24

Financially, the parish had an income of £14,037 and outgoings of £20,598. This left the council with balances totalling £10,215 at the end of the financial year (31st March 2024). The significant – unusual – spend was for the refurbishment of the railings as mentioned above.

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5. Village Defibrillator

The parish council will remove the need for a code with which to access the defibrillator and instead use a breakable strap to secure the door. We propose to add an Emergency Bleed Kit to the side of the unit.

6. What's the Parish Council doing for us?

The Chairman reported on the activities that the Parish Council had been running.

Numerous meetings and exchanges with NSC had taken place in order to mitigate the impacts of the Pier to Pier route – due to open in June 2024 – on the village. We are also engaged in mitigating the impacts of the Strawberry Line being connected to the Lampley Road via the “Duck Lane Link”. The long planned Coastal Footpath has just been approved. We will engage during its development.

The NSC Local Plan is being monitored. There are pressures on land for mass house building but our area is generally in a Flood Risk area which makes it unattractive for developers. With changing climate, we need to review the current size of the flood defences.

6. Open Forum

The Chairman thanked all of the members of the community for their work in various areas and in making Kingston Seymour the place we like to live in.

Parishioners remain strongly in favour of creating a lasting commemoration of her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II in the village. There were no other questions or comments

In closing, the Chairman thanked everyone for their participation and thanked the Village Hall Trust for hosting the evening. There being no other business, the Annual Parish Meeting formally closed at 7.45pm.

S C Dixon

Stephen Dixon,
Clerk & RFO, Kingston Seymour Parish Council
22nd May 2024