

PARISH MEETING – Kingston Seymour

Minutes of the 129th Annual Meeting of the Parishioners of Kingston Seymour held on

Wednesday 21st May 2025

In the Kingston Seymour Village Hall

KSPC Councillors Present:

Mike Sewell (MS) - Chairman
Paul Cox

Richard Barber - Vice Chair
Andy Gillam

Zoe Bartlett
Fred Malton

In attendance:

Steve Dixon (SD) Clerk & RFO, KSPC

9 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 for participating in the joint evening. Unfortunately, the Friends of All Saints chair had been unable to attend and they would carry out their AGM at a future date

2. Minutes of the 128th Annual Meeting

It is not necessary to vote on the draft minutes of the 2024 meeting, but MS will sign them and they will be placed on the website for viewing.

3. Parish Council Report 2024/25

Summarising the activity of the Parish Council over the preceding year, the Chairman noted that the most significant event had been the unwelcome actions by EDF to potentially create saltmarsh in our parish. He praised the combined and intensive efforts by the parish council, the action group, our MP and many concerned citizens that eventually, forced EDF to look at alternative proposals. 176 days after we were first notified, EDF called a "pause" on their saltmarsh plans whilst they research these alternatives.

A parishioner raised a vote of thanks on behalf of the parish to all those who had been involved in protecting the village.

MS noted that we had worked closely with NSC to make the Pier to Pier route as safe as possible and that we were pursuing improvements to the Mud Lane, New Cut Bow and Duck Lane junctions.

We have maintained our footpaths and invested in the maintenance and safety of the lanes through ordered cutting and strimming initiatives. We have given grants to the Village magazine, for a Christmas tree and for the maintenance of the churchyard. We have also purchased a new bin for the triangle and we are fortunate enough to have a volunteer who empties the three village bins for us. A parishioner raised a vote of thanks to our volunteer who performs this service and who also checks the village defibrillator.

The defibrillator has been made more accessible by removing the need for a code and we have added a bleed kit to the unit in case that is required. It is planned to offer a course later in the year to help maintain residents' confidence in using this equipment.

The clerk advised that the parish council had cash assets of £4.2k in general funds and a further £6.1k that had been "ring fenced" for future maintenance of the - Grade 2 listed - War Memorial. All of the details of the finances are always on the website and parishioners have a formal period of rights to examine "the books" should they wish to do so. This period starts at the beginning of June and runs to the middle of July.

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4. What is the Parish Council doing for us?

MS explained that the immediate focus was on securing improvements at the Duck Lane/Lampley Road junction. We are also closely monitoring the iterations of the NSC local plan to ensure that unsuitable land is not put forward for development.

We continue to monitor the EDF position and, looking ahead, when this is finally resolved, we will need to commence discussions with the Environment Agency about the long term Shoreline Management Plan.

5. Open Forum

There were no further comments or questions.

In closing, MS 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 8.10pm

S C Dixon

Stephen Dixon,
Clerk & RFO, Kingston Seymour Parish Council
22nd May 2025