



# BROOMFIELD AND KINGSWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

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## Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held at the Village Hall, Gravelly Bottom Road, Kingswood,  
Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> May 2016.

### Present:

Cllr Christina Clark	Cllr Mike Darling (Chair)	Cllr Annette Friend	
Cllr Tom Hoy	Cllr Mike Lovell	Cllr Janet Tandy	(6)

Cllr Jenny Whittle – Kent County Councillor, Maidstone Rural East  
 Cllr Gill Fort – MBC Ward Councillor- Leeds  
 Cllr Patrik Garten – MBC Ward Councillor – North Downs  
 PCSO Tom Maybank- Kent Police  
 Dawn Riach-Brown – KCC Community Warden

Mrs G Gosden – Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer  
 Mrs C King – Deputy Clerk

There were 8 members of the public present.

Cllr Darling opened the meeting at 7.30pm

**There were no declarations of intent to record the meeting.**

### Apologies for Absence:

Cllr Peter Page – Family Commitments

Min No	Action
1	<p><b>Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 16<sup>h</sup> May 2015</b></p> <p>Were agreed to be a true record of the meeting and was signed by Cllr Baker at the Parish Council meeting on the 15th June 2015.</p>
2	<p><b>Chairman's Annual Report (2015/16)</b></p> <p>Cllr Darling (Chairman), read out his annual report which is retained on file and also available on the Parish Council website and in the Annual Reports document at the Post Office.</p>
3	<p><b>Responsible Finance Officer's Report (2015/16)</b></p> <p>The Finance Report was read by the Clerk/RFO and is retained on file, but is also available on the Parish Council Website and in the Annual Report document at the Post Office</p>
4	<p><b>Kent County Council Report 2015/16 (taken after item 8 )</b></p> <p>Cllr Jenny Whittle reported:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• KCC is having to make £80million of savings this year and expects to need to make a further £50million savings next year.</li> <li>• Kingswood Primary School was able to allocate places to all Kingswood children whom Kingswood was their first choice. However there is an increasing strain on availability of primary school places.</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: right;">Signed _____</p>

- There is concern at the increasing price of the Freedom Pass for 11-16 years old and although heavily subsidised by KCC is an extra cost for rural families. There is a statutory duty to provide a school bus service
- Cllr Whittle expressed her support of poorer children taking the Kent Test and attending Grammar Schools.
- There is concern over the growth of housing around the borough; there will be a new primary school open in September 2016 near Sutton Road.
- The Leeds/Langley Relief Road is being debated by the Joint Transport Board (JTB) as it is recognised that that something needs to be done as the traffic situation is at breaking point.
- Funding has been maintained for the Community Warden

5 **Maidstone Borough Council Report (2015/16)**

Cllr Gill Fort reported:-

- Her first year had been very busy and difficult for MBC, not least the Local Plan which has been furiously debated. The numbers of houses proposed, especially in the south and south-east of the borough are of great concern and the possibility of becoming part of the urban sprawl and changing the character of villages. All complaints and correspondence, as part of the consultation process, will be forwarded to the Independent Examiner.
- In December a petition requiring a Leeds/Langley Relief Road was submitted to the JTB asking that KCC & MBC work together as a matter of urgency. KCC is now working to develop routes and funding. There will possibly be 3 or 4 routes to be consulted on
- Is now a member of the Heritage, Culture & Leisure Committee and this year a study has taken place titled "Destination Management. The report looks at making sure Maidstone is an attractive place for all and securing a successful economy for the Borough. Maidstone attracts 4million tourist a year and they spend approximately £250m in the local economy.
- The new mayor for Maidstone is Derek Butler and the new leader of the council will be elected on 21<sup>st</sup> May. The Conservatives are still the largest party by one seat.

6 **Community Warden Report**

Dawn Riach-Brown reported:-

- Within Broomfield & Kingswood she is working closely with Trading Standards regarding scammers.
- She visits the Drop In/Lunchtime Club to offer advise
- She will deal with anything from potholes to antisocial behavior issues and works with all partners and agencies including Kent Police.

7 **For the Public to bring forward any Matters of Concern or Local Interest.**

7.1 Oaklands, Gravelly Bottom Road, the planning application is currently with MBC at a level 2 complaint and a response is awaited.

7.2 Concern was raised regarding bungalow being built on a traveller site at Orchard Nursery, Chartway Street, a planning application is with MBC but has yet to be determined.

8 **Any Other Information**

PCSO Maybank spoke about problems with anti-social behaviour being experienced in the Parish. It is hoped that the CCTV in the sports field will deter and/or identify the culprits. He requested the Clerk to pass on log-in details to Kent Police so they can access it when they receive calls.

PCSO Maybank confirmed that he can deal with which include anti-social behaviour issues. He also stressed the importance of reporting each and every cause for concern via 101, calls can be kept confidential if wished.

**Date of Next Annual Parish Meeting**

The next Annual Parish Meeting will be May 2017, the date to be determined.

There was no further business, Cllr Darling thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.05pm

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Clerk

1. **Reports requested– External Organisations (2015/16)**

- 1.1 Kingswood Primary School – Ms Emma Hickling, Executive Head-teacher - no report received
- 1.2 Neighbourhood Policing - PCSO Tom Maybank
- 1.3 Parish Footpaths Officer – currently there is no footpaths officer
- 1.4 Parish Tree Warden – currently there is no tree warden

2. **Reports requested- Parish Clubs and Organisations (2015/16)**

- |                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| *Art Club                     | Badminton                              |
| Book Club                     | CANS Youth Club                        |
| Coffee Shop                   | *Cynophobia                            |
| *Dog Training                 | Drop In                                |
| *French Club                  | Friends of Leeds & Broomfield Churches |
| *Karate                       | *Kingswood Church                      |
| Kingswood Model Railway Group | Kingswood Community Singers            |
| *Kingswood Pre-School         | *Kingswood Baby & Toddler Group        |
| Neighbourhood Watch           | Short Mat Bowls                        |
| *Scout Group                  | St Margaret’s Church                   |
| *Tuesday Lunch Club           | *Twinning Group                        |
| *Village Hall                 | Walkie Talkie Club                     |
| *Whist Club                   | *WI                                    |
| Yoga                          |  |

Reports that have been received from Clubs are marked with an \* asterisk and have been published in the APM Reports document.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_