



# BROOMFIELD AND KINGSWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

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## Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held at the Village Hall, Gravelly Bottom Road, Kingswood.  
Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2015

### Present:

Clr Mike Darling  
Clr Tom Hoy  
Clr Patrik Garten  
Clr Mike O'Neill (Vice- Chairman)  
Clr Mike Lovell  
Clr Janet Tandy (6)

Gail Gosden – Parish Clerk

There were three members of the public in attendance

Clr O'Neil opened the meeting at 7.35pm

Apologies for Absence:

Clr T Baker – Family Commitments  
Clr T Clark - Illness  
Clr P Page – Family Commitments  
PCSO Ryan Waring – Other Commitments

Min No	Action
232	<p><b>Councillors Declarations (Regarding Agenda Items)</b></p> <p>232.1 Lobbying 232.2 Personal Interest 232.3 Prejudicial Interest (Councillor to leave meeting table whilst such item is under discussion)</p> <p>There were no declarations.</p>
233	<p><b>Approval of Minutes</b></p> <p>233.1 Minutes of the Planning Meeting held 19<sup>th</sup> January 2015 233.2 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 19<sup>th</sup> January 2015</p> <p><i>The above minutes, were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman</i></p>
234	<p><b>Actions &amp; Outcomes – Clerk</b></p> <p>Item 185 – The Clerk has received a reply from Robert Patterson, Arriva re enquiries surrounding the no.59 bus service – Arriva have only responded to specific written questions from Boughton Monchelsea regarding adding additional bus services, Arriva state this is difficult to achieve in the current financial climate. Item 195 – The Clerk received a response from Bill Lash, CEO, Leeds Castle regarding buildings in disrepair, Mr Lash stated that there is no intention for the buildings in question to fall into any worse condition, but previous repairs have culminated in peg tiles being re-stolen. Survey reports have been commissioned for all properties across the estate. Item 215 – A response to Leeds PC was forwarded as requested, Leeds PC subsequently advised that they have received no further information, regarding the bypass proposal from KCC.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Signed _____</p>

**Outstanding Actions –**

80/105 – Enquiries re Clerks phone and broadband costs – Clerk/Cllr Garten  
112.1 – Actions re defibrillator – Cllr Baker & Clerk  
161 – Emergency Planning - apologies received from Cllr Clark  
180.5 – HGV’s for JPG agenda - Clerk

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**Kent County Council - County Councillor, Jenny Whittle, Maidstone Rural East**

No report received

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**Maidstone Borough Council - Leeds Ward Councillor, Peter Parvin**

It was with much sadness that Councillors were informed of the death of our Ward Councillor Peter Parvin, who had served this community for some 20 years. His funeral was held on 13<sup>th</sup> February at All Saints, Maidstone and Cllr Mike O’Neill attended on behalf of this Parish.

Councillors agreed that a donation of £50 should be made to the Air Ambulance in memory of Peter

Clerk

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**Policing**

237.1 Crime figures and Police report from PCSO Waring

**4 crime reports were created for Kingswood and Broomfield between 17<sup>th</sup> January – 15<sup>th</sup> February 2015**

- 18/01/2015 – Theft From Motor Vehicle – Gravelly Bottom Road
- 30/01/2015 – Burglary Other Than Dwelling – Holly Tree Close
- 02/02/2015 – Criminal Damage – Gravelly Bottom Road
- 13/02/2015 – Theft From Motor Vehicle – Gravelly Bottom Road

**0 Non-crime incidents were reported**

Following reports of nuisance youths, at Kingswood Village Hall, I have attended the village hall several times over the past few weeks around 7pm to see if there are any youths hanging around, and have been in and spoken to people attending the dog training session. I have not found anybody in the area on my patrol, but will continue to pay passing attention to the Village Hall when possible to deter any future anti-social behaviour.

Local crime figures were not included in the report from PCSO Waring.

237.2 Dog fouling - There has been a considerable rise in complaints about dog fouling on the pavements and in the sports field in recent weeks. Councillors requested that the Clerk print posters and erect them around the village and sports field asking for dog owners to clean up after their dogs.

Residents have complained to the PC that the MBC website which is intended for people to report problem areas have encountered problems when attempting to do so. Assurances have been received from Martin Jeynes, Environmental Operations Manager, MBC that the current teething problems being experienced will be resolved at the earliest opportunity.

Clerk

237.3 Parish Policing – Councillors discussed and requested the Clerk to write to senior police officers regarding their disappointment in the lack of action following input regarding a new initiative called Country Eye and to forward the letter to neighbouring Parish Councils.

Clerk

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**Finances**

238.1 Responsible Finance Officer’s report was read and retained on file - the following items were resolved:-

(i) Payments were agreed.

238.1 Bank reconciliation – January 2015 – was agreed and signed by Cllr O’Neill

238.3 The Parish Service Scheme Year End Certificate for 2014/15 was agreed and signed by Cllr O’Neill

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

239	<b>Proposed Leeds Bypass</b>	The Clerk received a response from Leeds Parish Council regarding the planning progress of a bypass/spur road for Leeds Village, which stated that to date Leeds PC have received no further information. Following discussion Cllrs requested the Clerk to see if a meeting could be arranged between the Parish Councils that would be most affected by this proposal.	Clerk
240	<b>Neighbourhood Plan</b>	Hopefully the very final draft has now been submitted to MBC for them to commence their consultation process. However MBC has subsequently requested a further meeting which has been arranged for the 9 <sup>th</sup> March. Councillors requested that representation is made at the coming KALC Branch meeting on Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> February that consideration is given to KALC representing the parishes in reporting to the Local Government Ombudsman the difficulties being experienced with Neighbourhood Planning in the borough, alternatively, consideration is given to a Judicial Review.	Cllrs Lovell & O'Neill
241	<b>Village Speed Restrictions</b>	Cllr Page was unavailable; this item to be carried over.  <i>Councillors paused for a brief refreshment break at 8.30pm.</i>	
242	<b>Sports Field</b>	Cllr Lovell reported that the handyman had cleared the car park drains. The Clerk reported that the replacement goal nets had arrived and she has requested Steven Waring to move the goal posts and replace worn nets. A meeting of the sports field committee was agreed for 7.30pm, Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> February to discuss the Levercrest play area and additional equipment.	Clerk
243	<b>Emergency Planning</b>	Due to illness Cllr Clark was unavailable; this item to be carried over.	
244	<b>Clerks Work Station Risk Assessment</b>	Cllr Darling forwarded a work station risk assessment which the Clerk completed. Following discussion it was recommended that the Clerk purchases a larger monitor for the computer. The Clerk was also given an ergonomic kneeling chair to trial. Councillors requested this is an agenda item for the next meeting.	Clerk
245	<b>Electoral Review</b>	Councillors requested that the Clerk ascertain exactly what is required from the review and if appropriate forward their comments that this Parish Council would feel that it would be beneficial if the boundary of this parish was enlarged slightly to include land up to Chegworth Road which would then encompass the Broomfield & Kingswood sports field into this parish.	Clerk
246	<b>Village Enhancement</b>	The Manchester planter has been ordered and the plaque for the front of the planter. The handyman is very happy to manage the planters.	
247	<b>Reports</b>	247.1 Village Hall AGM – Mike O'Neill – report retained on file	
248	<b>Items for next Meeting's Agenda</b>		

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

1. Clerks Work Station
2. Emergency Planning
3. Village Speed Restrictions

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#### Any Other Information

249.1 A meeting with KCC Highways has been arranged to discuss parish issues, on 10am, 12<sup>th</sup> March at Charlesford Avenue

249.2 KALC continue to question MBC regarding the proposed development numbers of 18,600 new homes as part of the emerging Local Plan, KALC propose that something nearer 10,000 is more appropriate and achievable.

249.3 The Quality Council status expired for qualifying parish and town councils on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2015.

249.4 A meeting with the landowner of the woodland abutting the sports field, a KCC ProW officer and the PC is organised for 17<sup>th</sup> February.

249.5 The next meeting of the Maidstone area KALC Meeting will be held on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February at the Town Hall. Cllrs Lovell & O'Neill are attending

249.6 KALC are encouraging parishes to develop a Learning & Development programme and policy to help councillors and clerks with continually changing legislation and new powers being devolved down from central government to local government.

249.7 Central Government has now confirmed that NO Parish or Town Councils have been made subject to the referendum threshold that would limit any rises in precept to under 2%.

249.8 The law on workplace pensions now includes every employer with at least one member of staff. The law now requires, Councillors as the employer, to provide a workplace pension for certain staff.

249.9 Annual Councillors Conference, run by KALC is on 24<sup>th</sup> July at Lenham Community Centre.

249.10 There has been four enquiries regarding the position of A/Clerk, having supplied a job description and 'to do' list of the role of Clerk two people have dropped out, there are now two firm applications.

249.11 Cllr Garten advised councillors that he had been selected to stand for election as a ward councillor for the Lenham Parish.

249.12 Cllr Tandy announced the start of a new group starting at the Village Hall on Monday evenings in the very near future. A group of volunteers were training dogs to help children deal with their morbid fears of dogs, called Cynaphobia. Cllr Tandy would provide more information to be included in the next edition of the Village Magazine.

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#### Parish Council Meetings

**The next full Meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2015 at The Village Hall, Gravelly Bottom Road, Kingswood at 7:30pm.**

There was no further business; Councillor O'Neill closed the meeting at 10.10pm

Signed \_\_\_\_\_