



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 18th November 2013.

Present:

Cllr Terry Baker (Chairman) Cllr Christina Clark Cllr Peter Forster Cllr Mike Lovell
Cllr Mike O'Neill Cllr Peter Page Cllr Janet Tandy (7)

Mr M Darling

Mrs G Gosden – Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer

There were three members of the public present.

Cllr Baker opened the meeting at 8.05pm

Apologies for Absence:

Cllr Paul Beaney – Family Commitments
Cllr Justin West – Work Commitments

Min No	Action
160	Councillors Declarations (Regarding Agenda Items) Nothing Declared
161	Minutes of PC Meeting held 21st October 2013 Councillors resolved to accept these minute as a true record, signed by Cllr Baker
162	Minutes of Planning Meeting held 21st October 2013 Councillors resolved to accept these minute as a true record, signed by Cllr Baker
163	Minutes of Planning Meeting held 24th September 2013 Councillors resolved to accept these minute as a true record, signed by Cllr Baker
164	Minutes of Sports Field Meeting held 4th November 2013 Amendment: Cllr M Lovell had been omitted from attendees, minutes amended. Councillors resolved to accept these minute as a true record, signed by Cllr Baker
165	Minutes of Finance & General Purposes Meeting held 4th November 2013 Amendment: Cllr M Lovell had been omitted from attendees, minutes amended. Councillors resolved to accept these minute as a true record, signed by Cllr Baker
166	Actions & Outcomes <p style="text-align: right;">Signed _____</p>

Clerk has received a response from Ann Barnes, Police Commissioner, retained on file
All outstanding items have been completed

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

No report received.

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

Cllr Parvin reported that new regulations are now in place for scrap metal merchants whereby they require a licence from the Borough Council. A planning application has been submitted from Notcutts to expand the existing site at J7 of the M20. MBC has had an independent inspection as a result of their agreement of inter-co-operation with other borough authorities to check whether there have been any adverse effects to mainstream services. MBC will be organising a World War I centenary celebration next year. The lower High Street works are now completed and the road re-opened, the Christmas lights have been switched on. The Planning Department has made no decisions as yet regarding any development at J8 of the M20. Cllr Parvin confirmed that MBC have received legal advice, which confirms that they have acted legitimately when considering windfall sites in their Local Development Plan.

169 **Policing**

169.1 Crime figures and Police report

PCSO Kirby reported the following crime figures for:- **Kingswood** - 03-04/11/13, Theft, Upper Street, 23-31/10/13, Theft Of Motor Vehicle, Ashford Drive, 01/09-26/10/13, Theft From Motor Vehicle, Gravelly Bottom Road.

Leeds - Burglary Other Than Dwelling ,2, Theft From Motor Vehicle, 1; **Sutton Valence** - Burglary Other Than Dwelling 1, Burglary 1, Attempt Burglary 1; **Ulcombe** - Criminal Damage 2, Theft 1, Attempt Burglary 1; **Langley** - Criminal Damage 2.

170 **Finances**

170.1 Responsible Finance Officer's report was read to Councillors and retained on file, payments were agreed

170.2 Bank reconciliation for October 2013 was agreed and signed by Cllr Baker

170.3 Clerks Pay and Expenses 2014/15 – Cllr Baker reported that following the meeting of the Staff Committee and the Clerks Annual Review, the committee recommended that there is an increase of Clerks pay by 2% and increase the room allowance to £50pcm. There has been no increase in the Clerks pay and expenses for two years. Cllr Page proposed that the increase is agreed, seconded by Cllr Clark and agreed by all, to come into effect from 1st April 2014.

170.4 Precept 2014/15 – The Clerk raised additional items for consideration for the precept. 1) Mini bus service and 2) Replacement of the damaged Village Signs.

(Councillor Page declared a personal interest in the Village Signs item and abstained from the discussion and voting.)

Councillors decided that the Mini Bus would not be included in the precept at this time, but should a decision be made to pursue the idea funds could be transferred from the contingency.

Councilors concluded that the Broomfield Village sign should be replaced; the Kingswood sign would need to be re-located as it is currently obscured by trees and it would be replaced when an alternative location is agreed.

171 **Sports Field**

The Clerk, as requested, has made enquiries of the PC Insurers Came & Co., regarding the concerns

Signed _____

raised about the Levercrest play area, Councillors were happy that at this time no further action is required.

Cllr Page reported that he will be able to get some sticker 'No Dog Waste' signs for the new rubbish bin.

Councillors requested the Clerk obtain further details regarding the all-weather table tennis equipment.

Clerk

172 **Neighbourhood Plan**

Cllr Baker advised that the meeting with landowners involved in the Neighbourhood Plan went well and they were happy with the plan details to date.

173 **Handy Man**

Cllr Baker had proposed that the cost of a handy man for the parish is considered as part of the precept for 2014/15. Councillors agreed that there are certain areas of the parish that would benefit from regular maintenance. It was decided to include an article in the forthcoming Village News and ask parishioners for their opinions.

The Clerk has already received a phone call from a long term resident of the parish who has heard of the possibility that the PC are looking for a handy man and would like to offer his services. Councillors agreed that we should ask potential applicants (if the proposal goes ahead) to carry out some work on a trial basis.

174 **Road Signs/Traffic Calming**

Cllr Lovell and the Clerk met with Cllr Jenny Whittle, County Councillor (JW), Andy Padgham, KCC Highways Traffic Engineer (AP) and Amanda Murdoch, KCC Highways Technical Support Manager (AM) regarding the 'No Lorry' signs for Broomfield Road. The Clerk advised Councillors that Highways were concerned that there would be too many signs at the A20 junction of Broomfield Road, but they were happy to carry out a survey of requirements. However it was advised that despite advisory signs being placed a width restriction could not be included unless there was a 'Statutory Consultation' carried out. JW offered to fund such a consultation from her Highways Members Fund as she considers Broomfield Road and this part of the A20 to be very dangerous.

Cllrs requested the clerk to ascertain who owned the grass verges that abut the A20 carriageway.

Clerk

175 **Mini Bus Service**

Clerk has received some initial information from Ulcombe:-

- i) Quotes of £25 each way for an 8 seater mini bus or £20 each way for a people carrier which would carry 6 people.
- ii) Lenham have set up their own scheme 'Lenbus', they could be contacted with a view to become an operator on the parishes behalf.
- iii) Licencing our own bus in the short term would be costly and complicated dependent on service to be supplied.

Councillors concluded that this item would be discussed again at the February meeting

Clerk

176 **Reports**

No reports received

177 **Items for next Meeting's Agenda**

Nothing requested

Signed _____

Any Other Information

- 178.1 Kingswood & Broomfield Village Hall Committee AGM will be held on Monday 2nd December at 8pm in the Parker Room. Members of the public are welcome.
- 178.2 KALC Branch meeting – 18/11/13 – Clerk forwarded apologies due to PC Meeting clashing.
- 178.3 Letter of thanks for donation received from the Heart of Kent Hospice
- 178.4 Harrietsham Neighbourhood Plan Consultation is open from 1st November to 14th December, with an open event on Friday 29th & Saturday 30th November at Harrietsham Village Hall.
- 178.5 Road Closure of Broomfield Road for culvert repairs from 9th December for 10 days, although the Clerk has queried if this will still happen if the road through Leeds village is still closed due to emergency repairs.
- 178.6 The Chairman and Clerk have received further emails regarding the poor mobile phone signal in the village. Cllr Baker has contact O2 who have said they will investigate.
- 178.7 Police Forum meeting being held at Headcorn on 21st November, Cllr O’Neill attending
- 178.8 JPG meeting being held at the Tudor Marriot, Bearsted on Thursday 21st November, Cllr Baker attending.
- 178.9 Cllr Forster confirmed that he was resigning as a Councillor with immediate effect due to family commitments, but would like to continue as a committee member, he would continue to carry out the weekly safety checks and reports at the Sports Field. The Chairman expressed the thanks of the Parish Council for all his work but looked forward to seeing him as a committee member whenever he is available. The Clerk will inform the Monitoring Officer at MBC.

Clerk

Parish Council Meetings

The next full Meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 16th December 2013 at The Village Hall, Gravelly Bottom Road, Kingswood at 7:30pm.

There was no further business; Cllr Baker closed the meeting at 10.20pm.

Signed _____