



# 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 28<sup>th</sup> April 2014

### Present:

Cllr Keith Bennett  
Cllr Mike Lovell  
Cllr Janet Tandy

Cllr Tina Clark  
Cllr Mike O'Neill

Cllr Mike Darling  
Cllr Peter Page

(7)

There were 15 members of the public present. Complaints were noted from the public regarding - 1) the illegal encampment and associated works at Oaklands, Gravelly Bottom Road; also - 2) several children who live in Kingswood village has not been offered places at Kingswood Primary School.

Cllr O'Neill opened the meeting at 8.10pm

### Apologies for Absence:

Cllr Terry Baker – Family Commitments  
PCSO Richard Kirby – Other Commitments

Min No		Action
298	<b>Councillors Declarations (Regarding Agenda Items)</b>	
	Cllr Bennett – Declared a personal interest in item 309 – Handyman Job	
299	<b>Minutes of PC Meeting held 17<sup>th</sup> March 2014</b>	
	Councillors resolved that the minutes were a true record; signed by Cllr O'Neill	
300	<b>Minutes of Planning Meeting held 17<sup>th</sup> March 2014</b>	
	Councillors resolved that the minutes were a true record; signed by Cllr O'Neill	
301	<b>Actions &amp; Outcomes</b>	
	No actions outstanding	
302	<b>Kent County Council - County Councillor, Jenny Whittle, Maidstone Rural East</b>	
	Cllr Whittle informed Councillors that she was aware of the problems of children from Kingswood not being offered a place at the primary school and had been in discussions with the Head teacher, Emma Hickling. She would be supporting the parents in their appeals to KCC as it is her personal belief that parents should be able to choose to walk their children to school. She was in the meanwhile investigating funding for two extra classrooms whilst acknowledging that KCC had cut funding for education.	
	Councillors requested that the Clerk write to Cllr Whittle in strong terms confirming KCC of their concerns about lack of educational facilities at the point of need.	
	Cllr Whittle also informed councillors of KCC's objection to the MBC Local Plan.	
		Clerk
		Signature _____

<p>303</p>	<p>Cllr Whittle has also reported the terrible condition of Broomfield Road and requested immediate remedial work is carried out by KCC Highways.</p> <p><b>Maidstone Borough Council - Leeds Ward Councillor, Peter Parvin</b></p> <p>Cllr Parvin acknowledged the councillors concern with the lack of out of hour's service at MBC following illegal works being carried out during the Easter weekend break and would make enquiries.</p> <p>Cllr Parvin advised that MBC are expecting a lot of UKIP opposition at the Borough Council elections being held in May.</p> <p>Cllr Parvin has received a request from a resident to determine who is responsible for the maintenance of grass verges around the parish. He will make further enquiries.</p>	<p>Cllr Parvin</p> <p>Cllr Parvin</p>
<p>304</p>	<p><b>Policing</b></p> <p>Crime figures and Police report - PCSO Kirby</p> <p><b>Kingswood</b>, 02-04/04/14, Theft, Ashford Drive.</p> <p><b>Sutton Valence</b> - Criminal damage 2, Burglary other than dwelling 7, Arson 1, Theft 1; <b>East Sutton</b> - Attempt burglary 1, Theft 1, Criminal damage 1; <b>Ulcombe</b> - Theft 1; <b>Langley</b> - Theft 1, Burglary 2.</p> <p>Cllr O'Neill requested that the Clerk ask Kent Police for a poster with PCSO Kirby's contact details that can be displayed on the parish notice boards. Councillors agreed unanimously that this would be a good idea.</p>	<p>Cllr Parvin</p> <p>Clerk</p>
<p>305</p>	<p><b>Finances</b></p> <p>305.1 Responsible Finance Officer's report – the following items were agreed:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Payments were ratified and agreed</li> <li>ii) A donation of £50 was agreed to Victim Support</li> <li>iii) Following a request from the Clerk to service the parish computer it was agreed to investigate whether or not it should be replaced. Clerk to make further enquiries</li> </ul> <p>305.2 Bank reconciliation – March 2014 was agreed and signed by Cllr O'Neill</p> <p>305.3 The Annual Return has been received, the required notice has been displayed on the noticeboards and the internal audit will take place on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> May.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
<p>306</p>	<p><b>Kingswood Primary School</b></p> <p>See item 302.</p> <p>Parish Councillors offered their support in any appeal to KCC by the parents of the children who had not been offered a place at Kingswood Primary School.</p>	
<p>307</p>	<p><b>Neighbourhood Plan</b></p> <p>The latest contact with MBC informed the NPSG that they would not accept any NP without the inclusion of affordable housing, which is a change from their earlier agreement to class Broomfield and Kingswood as an exception site. There would be an emergency meeting of councillors and NPSG members to discuss this change.</p> <p>Councillors requested the Clerk to contact our MP, Hugh Robertson</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>308</p>	<p><b>Sports Field</b></p> <p>308.1 Annual Safety Inspection is booked with Playdale for July 2014.</p> <p>308.2 Portacabin – work has started on the Portacabin.</p> <p>308.3 Steven Waring has reported that he did start clearing the bramble at the sports field, but the cutting blade broke in the process, he will complete the work as soon as a replacement blade is delivered.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Signed _____</p>	

309

**Handyman**

Quotes for work have been received and an arrangement for trial sessions has been agreed.

310

**Twinning Group**

CLr Clark reported that dates originally agreed for the garden safari were subsequently found to conflict with other activities locally, therefore it has been decided to re arrange, new dates will be confirmed.

CLr Clark

311

**Highways**

311.1 Footpaths around the Village, the Clerk has received a letter from a resident expressing concern with traffic on unpaved areas of the village, also the danger to pedestrian with overhanging trees and shrubs. The clerk has responded and no further reply has been received to date.

311.2 A copy of Kent Highways Road Signs for Chegworth Road has been received for information.

311.3 A meeting has been arranged with KCC Highways for the Clerk and any councillor who may wish to attend, on May 21<sup>st</sup> at 10am, to go round the parish and identify any issues of concern. The Clerk will include the issues of overgrown hedges and potholes.

311.4 A replacement street plate for Ashford Drive has now been erected.

311.5 A Forward plan for road works has been received from KCC which shows that Gravelly Bottom Road is scheduled to be resurfaced along its entire length at the end of July 2014. The plan does not include any works on Broomfield Road.

312

**Pensioners Outing 2014**

Due to safety issues brought to the Clerks attention following the booking of the Pocahontas for the outing, the Clerk had to change the outing location; the trip will now be to the Bluebell Railway for a cream tea, with an ad hoc stop at the travellers' choice on the way.

313

**Mini Bus Service**

Due to resignation of the Clerk at Ulcombe no further actions or enquiries has taken place to date. Councillors agreed this should be something to revisit upon the outcome of the Neighbourhood Plan.

314

**Village Speed Limits**

CLr Baker would like to propose that the issue of a 20mph speed limit is investigated and suggests a consensus of opinion is sought at the APM with a tick form. CLr Baker believes this speed restriction would allow for more comprehensive safety and traffic calming measures to be instigated which would not be allowed within the current 30mph limits. Councillor Bennett agreed to make enquiries on behalf of the PC.

CLr Bennett

315

**Dog Warden**

315.1 Dog Fouling – The Clerk has received a letter requesting the PC to take more action in 'catching' people who allow their dogs to foul the footpaths. The Clerk has replied advising that the PC has no legal authority to take such actions, but advised that any evidence of dog fouling should be reported to the dog warden at MBC.

315.2 Posters and stickers are now available to anyone who would like one saying 'Pick up after your dog'. Clerk will make them available at the APM

CLr Tandy advised that MBC do not have a designated Dog Warden, but that dog control issues are managed jointly by the Environmental Services Department.

316

**Reports**

316.1 KALC Meeting 18<sup>th</sup> Match – CLr O'Neill

316.2 Village Hall Committee meeting 31<sup>st</sup> March – CLr O'Neill

316.3 KALC meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> April – CLr O'Neill

316.4 KALC/MBC Local Plan Meeting 7<sup>th</sup> April – CLrs Baker, Lovell & O'Neill

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

317

**Items for next Meeting's Agenda**

Councillors discussed and agreed to cancel the Parish Council Meeting scheduled for the 19<sup>th</sup> May due to the APM being held on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May. It was agreed that a brief meeting would be held at 1.30pm on the 17<sup>th</sup> May to approve the Annual Return which has to be submitted before the end of May.

318

**Any Other Information**

318.1 Email received from Stockbury PC regarding Affordable Housing.

318.2 Mr Luca Leonardi has been granted street trading consent for selling his wood fired pizza at the car park outside the village shop for 30 days, 4-9pm, Saturdays only from April 2014-15.

318.3 MBC has decided to trial a paperless process for non-major planning applications despite the outcome of a survey which indicates the difficulties that will be experience particularly by small parishes

318.4 Cllr Darling asked if emails could have a system attached which allowed discrimination between urgent and information mail. It was discussed and agreed that the Clerk would label in the subject box –URGENT- for emails that needed immediate response.

**The next full Meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2014 at The Village Hall, Gravelly Bottom Road, Kingswood at 7:30pm.**

There was no further business, Councillor O'Neill closed the meeting at 10.50pm

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Clerk

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