

KINGSWEAR PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Council Meeting held at the Sarah Roope Trust Rooms on
Tuesday 9 January 2018 at 7.00pm

Present: Councillor J Henshall – Chairman

Councillors: L Maurer (Vice Chairman), E Parkes, E Essex, E Jones, M Trevorrow, J Hawkins, L Payne, R Searle and District Councillor H Bastone.

Apologies: Councillor H Newcombe.
Police Constable A Vaughan and District Councillor R Rowe.

In Attendance: Mr David Edwards – Clerk to the Council
Mrs Melissa Trudgill – Assistant Clerk to the Council

There was 6 members of the public and 1 member of the Press present.

C/110/18 – Welcome from the Chairman

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. The representative from the Press recorded the meeting. There were no objections.

C/111/18 – Declaration of Interests

The Members were reminded that any changes to their Declaration of Interests should be notified to the Clerk.

Cllr Trevorrow reminded the meeting that those who had a mooring, would not be eligible to vote later in the meeting on the subject of moorings' fees.

The Council Meeting was suspended to allow members of the public to ask questions and make representations to the Council:

Questions from the public:

1. David Jones from Higher Contour Rd expressed his concern that the Council have not approached him over the strip of land which is being considered for residents' parking. Cllr Henshall responded that this issue was still in its early stages and the Council had been trying to explore who owned this land. Cllr Newcombe had enquired with the land agent of the Nethway Estate. It had originally been allocated for allotments. Mr. Jones asked if there was going to be a period of consultation. She reassured the meeting that all research was being undertaken for the benefit of the residents of Kingswear and the land would not be removed or used for a different purpose. This matter is ongoing, and no plans can be made until the ownership is confirmed.
2. Mr. Pudduck expressed concern about the state of Jubilee Park and also enquired what was the current position with the pontoon at Waterhead Creek and the perished floats underneath. He also asked if a letter from the Dartmouth Harbour Master had been received and whether the Council had responded. The Assistant Clerk responded that some time ago a letter from the Harbour Master had been received, discussed at this meeting and she had verbally discussed the issues since then with the Deputy Harbour master. The meeting agreed that the repair of

the pontoon and replacement of the floats was a priority and would be discussed later in the meeting.

3. There had been no correspondence received re the Peninsular Access Project. Cllr Henshall repeated that the Council had not been consulted nor asked to participate in this project. Cllr Hawkins disagreed and said that the Council had been asked to be involved.
4. A member of the public raised the issue of leaves blocking drains and drain clearance. Cllr Henshall had had a site meeting with Cllr Hawkins 6 weeks ago. One of the outcomes was that Higher Contour Road should be included in the road sweeping and drain clearance. However, until the works with the trucks on Upper Wood Lane bringing their own debris had finished, there would be little point in undertaking the drain clearance. Cllr Maurer added that she had a meeting with the lengthsman the following week to see how Kingswear could utilise this service.
5. A member of the public reported the incidence of an abandoned vehicle and Cllr Searle responded that she had looked into this matter as it was parked outside her house and had made an enquiry with the locality officer.

The Council will receive the following reports if available:

i. Devon County Councillor

Councillor Hawkins reported that despite negotiations, which had taken considerable effort and time, regrettably the progress over Riverside had stalled and the NHS had walked away from taking this over. DC have a responsibility for the care of the residents at the Riverview Care Home and Cllr Hawkins said the welfare of the residents and the staff was paramount. The nursing beds were still being provided at Beacon Court and there was another stakeholder meeting planned for early February.

Cllr Hawkins told the Council about the Brixham Community Bus and distributed some timetables. He told the Council of the essential service this provides to Kingswear and that it is a completely voluntary-run service with currently only one bus driver. He requested that the Council should consider including a grant to this community project and making allowance for this in the precept meeting this year.

Cllr Hawkins had attended the ANOB meeting at Follaton House in his role as County Councillor. They were pushing forward for their idea to have plastic free areas and the Council should consider how it can support this in Kingswear. In the meantime, he suggested regular clean ups around the village could be undertaken once a month. There had been excellent support from the pupils of Kingswear Primary School and their parents in contributing groceries over the festive period which was then delivered to the food bank.

He enquired whether the Sarah Roope rooms might be considered in the NP proposal of trying to introduce new start-up businesses into the village. The meeting believed that this might not be compatible with the Trust's constitution.

He also told the Council he was considering holding monthly surgeries in Kingswear where residents could come and voice their thoughts and ideas.

ii South Hams District Councillors

Councillor Hawkins – included in above

Councillors Bastone spoke about the following:

- A community lottery had been approved for Devon and South Hams.
- There are government funds available for low cost, self-build accommodation for local people.
- The computer systems are already out of date at South Hams and new computers being installed, will bring the council up to date.
- Cllr Parkes asked Cllr Bastone if South Hams would be supporting Tom Jones in his application for additional funding for an extra planning officer to work on the Neighbourhood Plans. Cllr Bastone responded that they would be supporting this and that there was allocated government funding set aside. He also reported that planning fees were due to rise by 20% and that there would be extra revenue set aside for planning issues.
- Cllr Bastone requested that his attendance to these meetings should be shared alternately with Cllr Rose Rowe in future.

iii Police Report:

No report.

The Council reconvened to discuss the following items:

C/112/18 - To resolve to approve the following minutes subject to any amendments:

- Full Council Meeting – 12 December 2017
- Full Council Meeting – 12 December 2017 (Confidential)

It was resolved to approve the Minutes subject to the following amendments:

- Page 4 – i) Report from Cllr Payne re a meeting with Devon Highways 5/12/17.
 ii) Cllr Payne reported that South West Water had agreed to inspect the old reservoir near the junction of Higher and Lower Contour Road due to safety concerns.
 iii) Cllr Payne gave feedback on the Highways Conference on 16/11/17 that she and Cllr Newcombe had attended.
 iv) Page 5 If the council pays a subcontractor for some of the maintenance work then 50% can be applied for from a Highways Fund.
 v) Page 6 Orchard Link course was held on 2/12/17.

C/113/18 – To receive an update on the proposed Composting Scheme in Six Acre Field Kingswear

Cllr Payne reported that the next step would be a site meeting on the 20th January with some of the volunteers who had specialisms in design and planning. They might be able to advise on the best path with Devon County Council re planning permission and even if it would be necessary.

There are 32 volunteers so far for the scheme which is very positive.

C/114/18 – To discuss and receive the Report from the Resident’s Parking Working Group (Cllr Payne) and to resolve any action to be taken by the Council.

The Clerk had written to Rendell’s, the Agent of the Nethway Estate regarding the section of land at Higher Contour Road, but had not yet had a response.

There had been no return of the officers from South West water to the abandoned reservoir.

Highways are due to write a proposal about introducing residents parking into

Kingswear.

The Assistant Clerk had asked Cllr Jones if he required salt or training for his role as snow warden which he has declined.

C/115/18 – To receive the Neighbourhood Plan Report from Councillor Parkes (General) and to discuss and approve the actions and any expenditure detailed in the following report.

(Please see report at the end of the minutes – Appendix 1).

Cllr Parkes repeated the proposal which she had mentioned in the previous meeting.

Proposal

The inhabitants of Kingswear are predominately retired and a significant number of houses are holiday lets or second homes. Both later contribute to the economy of the area, but a more balanced population in terms of age group and residency would help to protect the viability of the village school, pubs, stores, playing fields and church, and help to prevent their possible future closure.

One argument is that affordable housing would attract a younger population. This may be part of the solution. However, another way to help might be by adding good quality jobs in the immediate area. Creating jobs so that families are able to live here.

If the Parish Council were to be proactive in attracting younger population to the village by offering incentives for business start-ups especially in the environmentally clean HI Tech, Internet, and AI- based businesses, then progress could be made to rebalance the village.

The Kingswear Neighbourhood Plan questionnaire in its Economic Development section received positive responses to the questions of having small commercial units in suitable locations, live work units and allowing change of use to existing unused premises.

Kingswear already has high speed broadband, a pleasant working environment and a possible source of experienced business mentorship from the retire village community. By providing initially a small business hub (for example the lower floor of the modernise Royal Dart would have been ideal) a moderate start could be

Cllr Parkes invited the meeting to respond and make comment on the proposal. The main thought was that if the Council support the idea in theory, how could they move forward to make it happen. Cllr Parkes suggested that a small group could be set up and research undertaken into how to make it happen. Retired, local businessman David McIlwraith has shown an interest in exploring the idea further as did Cllrs Hawkins, Bastone, Maurer and Henshall.

It was RESOLVED that the Council agreed with the proposal in principal and supported the idea being explored further.

Cllr Parkes said that the Neighbourhood Plan Group needs clear guidance re the Brixham and Kingswear Peninsular Project and asked for it to be an item on the next agenda. She raised the question whether the Council could work with the Peninsular Project on the aspects which relate to Kingswear i.e. the footpaths. Cllr Parkes asked if the Members would like to have a copy distributed prior to the next meeting so that they could consider it and be informed ready to discuss it. Cllr Henshall, said that the document is not the full length one with all the details but a wish list and so it could be

problematic to review it in a shortened version.

It was RESOLVED to accept distribution of the report from Cllr Parkes to consider and to place the Brixham Peninsular Project on the next agenda.

C/116/18 – To receive the initial report from the Mooring Working Group with regard to:

- the drawing up of a Moorings Allocation Policy
- the delegation to a Moorings Working Group or named Councillors to undertake weekly inspections of the moorings and pontoons.
- A review of the fees for 2018/2019
- A review of the current Moorings Policy
- The removal of unauthorized boats from Council moorings

The Assistant Clerk reported that the Moorings Working Group had not met again since the last meeting.

She had researched other regions' allocation policies/waiting lists which will be discussed at the next working group meeting on Monday 15 January and the options can be brought forward to the full Parish Council meeting.

It was resolved to approve the rise of 2% in moorings fees.

Repair of the Pontoon on Jubilee Park

The Assistant Clerk reiterated how difficult it had been to find specialist builders who would consider and quote for the repair of the pontoon.

Cllr Trevorrow reported that after inspection from some engineers from Darthaven Marina, there really was hope that the pontoon could be repaired and the floats replaced. There is urgency about this project due to the environmental concerns of the polystyrene floats discharging into the river. DHNA cannot undertake the work but can order the floats and Darthaven can lift the pontoon up so the floats can be accessed and repaired.

It was resolved that Cllr Trevorrow would obtain a quote for the replacement of the floats and the repair of the pontoon. If the costs did not exceed £2500 (floats) and repair (£2000) then the Clerk could proceed and order the repair.

The next Non-Bens meeting is planned for 6/2/18 at the Sarah Roope Trust Rooms and Cllr Maurer is hoping to attend.

C/117/18 – To Resolve to approve the Expenditure of the Council for the period 06 December 2017 to 05 January 2018 – see attached.

It was RESOLVED to accept and approve the items of expenditure.

C/118/18 – To receive a report from Councillor Payne on the plans for a new Orchard.

A discussion on the plans for a community orchard would take place at the next General Purposes Committee. In the meantime, the Assistant Clerk would check with SHDC solicitor holding the amount of £1152, which had been granted to the Parish Council to spend on trees in Jubilee Park, that it could be spent on the proposed Orchard. They had confirmed that the Council had until December 2018 for the monies to be spent.

C/119/18 – To confirm that a S137 payment is made to The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. (The Council set aside a budget of £150 for this purpose).

It was RESOLVED to agree this expenditure.

C/120/18 – To discuss the option for the Council to implement the Road Warden Scheme and to investigate how the scheme will be financed and resourced to ensure sustainability of the scheme.

There would be a forthcoming course which Cllr Maurer would attend to enable her to undertake pot hole repairs etc.

It was RESOLVED that Cllr Maurer would be the Road Warden and would attend the training course.

C/121/18 – To discuss the replacement of a speed activation sign to be installed on the Brixham Road between the entrance to Darthaven Marina and Jubilee Park.

Cllr Maurer had recently attended a meeting at Follaton House where they had suggested that mobile speed signs work well and can be utilised in various speed hot spots.

The Clerk reported that the quotes he had obtained for a simple static speed sign had come in at £2100.

The County Council had purchased the last one and it was now this Council's responsibility to replace it. A discussion ensued about the preferred options and which would be best value for money re their longevity and the advantages of an interactive sign which reacts to the passing vehicle and if they were more effective.

It was RESOLVED that different options would be considered at the next General Purposes Meeting and options brought back to the full Parish Council Meeting.

C/122/18 – To agree the date of the Precept Meeting to take place before the end of January and to discuss any additional items of expenditure that should be included that have not previously been discussed.

The Precept Meeting was set for: Tuesday 23rd January at 7pm in the Sarah Roope Trust Rooms.

Cllr Hawkins repeated his request that a grant for the Brixham Community Bus Project should be included in the precept figures for this year.

C/123/18 – To discuss the Kingswear Award procedure and discuss the criteria/Eligibility for those receiving the award.

The Clerk reminded the meeting that many parishes do not give an award every year. The Members will consider suitable recipients for this year and the criteria which should be considered in selecting someone.

C/124/18 - To discuss items of a confidential nature and resolve that in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 Sub section 2, and the Local Government Act 1972 Section 100A sub sections (2) and (4) that the public and press be excluded from the Meeting in view of the items to be discussed. (Staff matters)

The Meeting ended at 20.55

Minutes Approved:

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Councillor J Henshall – Chairman

**Appendix 1.
Cllr Parkes Neighbourhood Plan Report January 2018**

Kingswear Neighbourhood Group Report to the Parish Council for 9th January 2018

Due diligence for the grant application has been completed and the grant money should now have arrived in the Council Bank account of £3600. We are having a meeting next Monday to decide which consultant to use. Liz Betts a consultant used by the Brixham Neighbourhood Plan Group has also given a quotation. A fixed fee basis of a day rate of £450. Hourly rate £50. To review our work to date the quote is for 2 days and half to include making a project plan with an itemized quote for further work by task total £1,125. She is familiar with the area and was recommended by BNPG.

The grant application was based on the quotation given by Mr Weston if we decide to appoint a different consultant I will obtain permission in writing from the grant issuing body. This grant must be spent by 31st March 2018.

I circulated a copy to you all ref. the proposal concerning job creation that I put forward in the last meeting. Can I have your comments please. Can this be put on next month's agenda for the PC to vote on whether to support it or not.

An initiative was circulated by Mr Tom Jones of SHDC to apply for government funding for an extra planning officer to be involved with planning in the AONB areas. The KNP group was asked if it would support this. We felt that it was not clear enough what the remit of this would be also we feel that we have to concentrate on our own plan. We therefore have replied that we could not be involved with this at the moment but would like to be kept informed of the progress of this application and that the protection of the AONB is important to us.

Regarding the Brixham Kingswear Peninsular Project discussed last meeting, I would like to send all councillors a copy and I would like to have it as an item on the next agenda. To discuss support for working with the BKPP to take forward the paths concerning Kingswear. To include the question of combined or separate walking/riding routes. On the matter of funding any 106 money to be decided on a case by case basis by the PC. So that the KNP has a clear guidance on this matter.

Has there been any information regarding who is responsible for maintaining the footpaths in the parish?

Expenditure;

There has been no expenditure this month

