

**KINGSWEAR PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held at the Village Hall (Lower Room)**  
**on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at 7.00pm**

**Present:** Cllrs L Maurer (Chairman), J Hawkins, G Webber, P Pudduck, E Jones, S Pearson, P Burnell, T Burnell, H Newcombe

**In Attendance:** Sue Balsdon (Clerk)

Members of public present: 3

**C/170/22 – Welcome from the Chairman**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**C/171/22 – To receive any apologies for absence from the Meeting.**

Cllr B Longland, District Cllr R Rowe, H Bastone

**C/172/22 - To receive any Declaration of Interest. [Councillors are also reminded that they must register any new interest or change in any interest already registered within 28 days of that new interest or change].**

There were no declarations of interest noted.

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

None.

***The Council will receive the following reports if available:***

**i) Tim Bumby (National Trust) – Installation of Car Parking Meters**

Mr Bumby attended to provide further information regarding the installation of car parking meters in local National Trust car parks. He advised that applications for meters at Coleton Camp and Mansands had already been approved by the Planning Authority and two further applications for Scabbacombe and Higher Brownstone Farm were awaiting approval. The installation of these car parking meters will ensure consistency with other National Trust properties and the car park money collected will enable the Trust to raise further funds to support its conservation work. Visitors on foot and bicycles will not be expected to pay and parking will be free of charge for National Trust members.

The following concerns were raised by Councillors:

- Urbanisation of rural car parks
- Local residents who have lived in the area for many years now having to pay car parking charges
- Increasing costs for family days out
- The car parking meters will encourage people to park on nearby roads and verges to avoid car parking charges.

Cllr Pudduck asked whether the Trust might consider a National Trust car parking membership, so that locals could pay a reduced price to use car parks only. Mr Bumby advised that the Trust had previously piloted a countryside membership and that he would try to obtain the outcome of this.

**ii) Devon County Councillor**

'Devon County Council and South Hams District Council set their budgets last month. Devon County Council increased children and adult social services budget by 19% and 9% for the forthcoming year and are putting two million pounds extra in a pothole fund.

Last week a Beacon Road / Lighthouse beach working group meeting. The stabilisation works to the cliff have stalled, as additional works have been identified and Devon County Council are now in contact with the landowners to resolve this issue.

A fortnight ago, I met Les Pym, who is a Devon County Council Street Lighting Officer. Due to a structural problem of the cantilevered footpath, replacement lamp columns are due to be installed on the housing side of Fore Street in the next couple of months. Each column will have a socket to allow for Christmas decorations to be plugged in. Bespoke brackets are to be made for the existing cut down lamp posts, so they can be utilised for hanging baskets.

The handover for the Health and Wellbeing centre in Dartmouth should be in mid to late April and the official opening will be held in early May.

The 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Railway is taking place on 19<sup>th</sup> May and the company are hoping to contact the original employees from 1973 from the operating, maintenance and commercial departments to host them all at this special anniversary.

An organisation called Wanderlust has applied to Natural England for two Glamping sites, one is at Jawbones Dartmouth and one at Waterpoole lane in Dartmouth. It appears that if Natural England award the license it is only for a year, there is very little that South Hams District Council can do to stop it. Their Officers are very concerned about this, as both sites are in prominent positions. The AONB have been in contact, as well as the Kingswear and Dartmouth Society and representation has been made by many local residents.'

### **iii) South Hams District Councillors**

Please see Kingswear Parish Council website (Full Council Minutes) for District Councillor reports.

### **iv) Police**

None.

### **v) Sustainable Kingswear**

'We have had a manageable flow of interest in regard to our thermal imaging camera and have undertaken a survey of 10 different homes.

The Power Allotment group have responded and advised that the nearest primary substation is just outside Brixham. The power lines are too low in their capacity and unfortunately it would be too expensive to install the infrastructure to put this right. The alternative is to see if the Community are interested in putting money together and creating and leading a project to have our own community energy scheme. At Noss, they are coming up with their own private power system and we wondered about whether there might be an opportunity for the Kingswear Community to join them. If the Council are interested, we could arrange for a speaker to attend a future meeting to give a presentation regarding Community Energy.' It was agreed for the Clerk to invite the speaker to attend the Annual Parish Meeting in May.

'On the 18<sup>th</sup> of March (10.30 to 14.00) there is a Rivers Assembly which is to be held at Kingsbridge Community College and is open to passionate people, groups and organisations who are wanting to work out how to make the South Hams' rivers amongst the cleanest and most wildlife friendly in the country.'

### **The Council will reconvene to discuss the following items:**

#### **C/173/22 - To make comment to the Planning Authority with regards to the following planning applications (Hector).**

Cllr Hawkings did not participate in any discussion or vote in regard to all planning applications.

- i) Ref: 4208/22/FUL Proposal: Installation of car parking meter Site Address: Scabbacombe Lane Car Park, Kingswear, TQ6 0AD**
- ii) Ref: 4207/22/FUL Proposal: Installation of car parking meter Site Address: Higher Brownstone Farm, Kingswear, TQ6 0EH**

OBJECT (i & ii) – Kingswear Parish Council strongly object to the installation of a car parking meters at Scabbacombe and at Higher Brownstone Farm. This will encourage people to park on nearby roads and verges to avoid car parking charges, which will be detrimental to local farms and homes and restrict access.

- iii) Ref: 4303/22/FUL Proposal: Demolition and replacement of conservatory with summerhouse Site Address: Kingsliffe, Beacon Lane, Kingswear, TQ6 0BU**

SUPPORT

- iv) Ref: 0399/23/FUL Proposal: Dismantling of the curved cob to make safe (retrospective) Site Address: Greenway House, Greenway, TQ5 0ES**

SUPPORT

**Ref: 0510/23/TPO Proposal: T510: Monterey Pine – Fell to minimise risk of failure & T511: Monterey Pine – Fell to minimise risk of failure. Site Address: Warren House, Castle Road, Kingswear, TQ6 0DX**

SUPPORT

Cllr Jones declared an interest in planning application 0510/23/TPO and therefore did not participate in any discussion or vote.

- v) **Ref: 0632/23/TPO Proposal: T1: Monterey Pine - Remove 4 lowest primary branches that grow in a SW direction towards & all major deadwood, T2: Holm Oak ? removal of 2 x lowest primary branches that in a SW direction back to stem, Crown height reduction by 2 mtrs from branch tips while retaining the main framework & shape of the crown & a high proportion of the foliage bearing structure, to Form part of an ongoing cyclical tree management plan To reduce excessive shading & increase light levels into & over the garden area & neighbouring property garden area. To improve the aesthetics of the tree, reduce the risk of branch failure & reduce branch failure due to exposed position Site Address: Thiptara, Redoubt Hill, Kingswear, TQ6 ODA**

SUPPORT subject to the Tree Officer's recommendations.

Cllr Pearson declared an interest in planning application 0632/23/TPO and therefore did not participate in any discussion or vote.

**C/174/22 - To resolve to approve the following minutes subject to any amendments:**

**i) Full Council Meeting – 08/02/23.**

The minutes were approved without amendment.

**C/175/22 - Financial Matters (Clerk).**

**i) To resolve to approve the expenditure of the Council for the period 01/02/23 – 28/02/23.**

It was resolved to approve the expenditure of the Council for the period 1<sup>st</sup> February 2023 to 28<sup>th</sup> February 2023.

**ii) To present for review the month end finance report and bank reconciliation as at 28/02/23.**

The finance report and bank reconciliation for month ending 28<sup>th</sup> February 2023 was reviewed by Councillors. All receipts and payments have been reconciled against the Council's bank statements and no differences have been identified.

**C/176/22 - Chairman's Report.**

None.

**C/177/22 - To resolve to approve Scheme of Delegation decisions made 04/2/23 to 03/03/23 (Clerk).**

It was resolved to approve the Scheme of Delegation decisions for the period 4<sup>th</sup> February 23 to 3<sup>rd</sup> March 23.

**C/178/22 - To consider response to the SWW Draft Water Resources Management Plan 2024 (Clerk).**

The Clerk advised, that as part of the long-term management and planning for public water supply, water companies are required to produce a Water Resources Management Plan and to update it every five years. SWW's WRMP24 sets out their long-term plan to maintain and secure sustainable water supplies to their customers in the future, whilst also protecting and enhancing the environment. DEFRA have approved the publication of SWW's draft plan for public consultation.

The Clerk to forward the draft plan to all Councillors for comment.

**C/179/22 - To consider maintenance requirements – Cemetery Lodge (Gary/Clerk).**

The Clerk to obtain quotes for:-

- i) Replace bath with shower.
- ii) Roof Insulation

**C/180/22 - To receive an update – Beacon Road Working Group Meeting 28.02.23 (Jonathan).**

Please see Devon County Councillor Report above, for update regarding Beacon Road.

**C/181/22 - In regard to the celebrations for the Coronation of King Charles III (Jonathan):**

**i) To receive an update in regard to the events planned.**

Cllr Hawkins provided an update to Councillors regarding the following planned events to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III:-

- Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May 23 – BBQ & Music (Fountain Violet Farm)
- Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May 23 – River Dart Boat Trip (Dart Explorer)
- Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May 23 – Songs of Praise (St Thomas of Canterbury Church)
- Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May 23 – Coronation Tea Party (Village Hall)
- Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May 23 – Coronation Street Party (Higher Street)

Posters advertising the planned celebrations will be uploaded to Facebook and to the Parish Council's website and a programme of events delivered to all residents.

**ii) To approve updated schedule of costs.**

The Clerk to forward an updated schedule of costs to Councillors for consideration, to include amendments proposed at the Coronation Events Working Group meeting held prior to this Full Council meeting. Costs to be approved via the scheme of delegation.

**C/182/22 - To consider the possibility of the Council hosting a beer festival event in Kingswear (Tom).**

Cllr Tom Burnell put forward a proposal to hold an annual family event in Kingswear, which would be hosted by an events committee made up of residents within the Parish. The council agreed to support the event and a grant made available towards costs. Quotes to be obtained for a Council owned marquee, which could be used for future events.

**C/183/22 - To consider an official name for the strip of land in between Castle Road and Beacon Lane (Lynne).**

The Council agreed for the strip of land in between Castle Road and Beacon Lane to be named Castle Road Garden.

**C/184/22 - To consider resident request to install plaque on Cinder Path bench (Clerk).**

It was agreed to allow for memorial plaques to be placed on specifically identified benches owned by the Parish Council. The cost will be £100, which will include the plaque and engraving.

**C/185/22 - To receive an update in regard to the arrangements for the Annual Parish Meeting (Clerk).**

The Annual Parish Meeting is to be held on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2023. All speakers have been invited to the event and refreshments will be served. A budget of £150 has been set within the 23/24 budget for this event.

**C/186/22 - To note comments - Interim Internal Audit report (Clerk).**

The 23/24 interim audit report compiled by Microshade VSM, was reviewed by Councillors. The points raised in the action plan by the Auditor were noted by Councillors and will be actioned by the Clerk where required.

**C/187/22 - To consider 23/24 membership to the Society of Local Council Clerks and the Devon Association of Local Councils (Clerk).**

The Council approved for the renewal of the 23/24 membership to the Society of Local Council Clerks and the Devon Association of Local Councils. The Clerk to ensure the renewal fees are paid when due.

**C/188/22 - To propose agenda items for the next Full Council meeting.**

Councillors to notify the Clerk if they wish to add any items to the April 23 agenda.

**C/189/22 - Urgent Items – For information**

None.

**C/190/22 – To consider and agree Kingswear Award nominee.**

A recipient for the Kingswear Award 2023 was considered and chosen by Councillors. The award to be presented at the Annual Parish Meeting.

*Sue Balsdon*

Sue Balsdon  
Clerk to the Council

***The Meeting ended at 8.30pm.***

**Minutes Approved:** ..... Councillor L Maurer – Chairman