

KINGSWEAR PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held at the Village Hall (Lower Room)
on Wednesday 12th July 2023 at 7.00pm

Present: Cllrs L Maurer (Chairman), J Hawkins, G Webber, H Newcombe, S Pearson, P Burnell, T Burnell, C Dawes, A O'Rourke, M Bentley

In Attendance: Sue Balsdon (Clerk)

Members of public present: 3

C/048/23 – Welcome from the Chairman

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

C/049/23 – To receive any apologies for absence from the Meeting.

None.

C/050/23 - 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) Mike Hodges – Renewable Energy Generation

Mike Hodges from Sustainable South Hams gave a presentation in regard to how Parish Councils can support the community in regard to local and community energy generation and sale.

ii) Devon County Councillor

'Representatives from the Health and Wellbeing Centre came to the first executive meeting of South Hams District Council. Cllrs Ged Yardy, Ben Cooper and myself requested 20 free spaces for visitors and patients to the Centre, however only 8 free spaces were agreed with a review in six months.

Road sweeping has been an ongoing issue in Kingswear and Dartmouth for quite a long time. The road sweeper is currently based in Torre Quarry in Kingsbridge and we have proposed that this is moved to Dartmouth, if the Depot can be upgraded to meet environmental standards.

iii) South Hams District Councillors

Apologies received from District Cllrs Ben Cooper and Ged Yardy. Please Cllr Hawkins Devon County Council report above.

iv) Police

None.

v) Sustainable Kingswear

Following Mike Hodges presentation in regard to renewable energy generation, Sustainable Kingswear asked whether the Council are looking to pursue the idea of community energy generation. Cllr Dawes expressed an interest in this role and said that this is an opportunity for us to come together as a community to put together a feasible plan to generate our own power.

The Council will reconvene to discuss the following items:

C/051/23 - To make comment to the Planning Authority with regards to the following planning applications (Hector).

Cllr O'Rourke declared an interest in application 3987/22/HHO and did not participate in any discussion or vote. Cllr Hawkings did not participate in any discussion or vote, in regard to all planning applications.

**a) Ref: 1027/23/HHO Proposal: Householder application for landscaping works to rear garden including new external side access with platform lift and replacement boundary treatments
Site Address: Armorel, Wood Lane, Kingswear, TQ6 0DP**

SUPPORT

b) Ref: 3987/22/HHO Proposal: Householder application for alteration & extension of existing house & external terrace, construction of external pool, new boat house & gym & equipment store & garage (resubmission of 2044/20/HHO Site Address: Yarrow Bank, Beacon Road, Kingswear, TQ6 0BS

SUPPORT

c) Ref: 2145/23/TPO Proposal: G1: Sycamore - x4 stems, coppice to near g/l, to allow light and room for feature trees, T1: Goat Willow - coppice at a height of 500mm from g/l, open corner for other trees, dieback, T1292: Wild Cherry crown lift to 5.2m for highway clearance, T1293: Wild Cherry remove primary branch to W at 1m above g/l, dominates other tree, T1294: Wild Cherry - crown lift to 5.2m from g/l for highway clearance, T2: Goat Willow - coppice retaining stump to 500mm from g/l, collapsed tree, T3: Red Oak ? sectional dismantle and fell, to benefit Oak, T4: Red Oak - sectional dismantle and fell, to benefit Cherry trees, T7: Hazel- remove dead primary over highway Site Address: Dart Marina, Brixham Road, Kingswear, TQ6 0SG

SUPPORT

C/052/23 - To consider whether to write to the Planning Authority to ask whether construction works in Kingswear can be phased, to ensure there is no detrimental impact on nearby residents.

Councillors raised the issue of the detrimental effect construction vehicles and deliveries have on the already over-populated, narrow roads in Kingswear. The Clerk to contact the Planning Authority to ask whether there is any possibility to:

- 1) Restrict the number of vehicles attending each construction site.
- 2) Stipulate a maximum size of vehicle on narrow roads.
- 3) Restrict the timings of deliveries to non-busy times.

C/053/23 - To resolve to approve the following minutes subject to any amendments:

- a) Extra Ordinary Meeting – 24/5/23.**
- b) Full Council Meeting - 14/06/23.**
- c) Amenities & Environment Meeting - 27/06/23.**

All minutes were approved without amendment.

C/054/23 - Financial Matters (Clerk).

a) To resolve to approve the expenditure of the Council for the period 01/06/23 – 30/06/23.

It was resolved to approve the expenditure of the Council for the period 1st June 2023 to 30th June 2023.

b) To present for review the month end finance report and bank reconciliation as at 30/06/23.

The finance report and bank reconciliation for month ending 31st May 2023 was reviewed by Councillors. All receipts and payments have been reconciled against the Council's bank statements and no differences have been identified.

A Finance Committee meeting is due to be held on 26th July 23. The Clerk proposed that a forecast income and expenditure report be compiled, so that Councillors can ascertain whether there are sufficient funds to pay for those items which weren't funded within the 23/24 budget (Beacon Lane wall repair / Repairs to Lime Kiln railings & steps / Repairs to Jubilee Park fencing / 4th Defibrillator).

C/055/23 - Chairman's Report.

None.

C/056/23 - To resolve to approve Scheme of Delegation decisions made 01/06/23 to 30/06/23 (Clerk).

It was resolved to approve the Scheme of Delegation decisions for the period 1st June 23 to 30th June 23.

C/057/23 - To discuss and agree future actions in regard to 2-4 Tea Club (Lynne).

The 2-4 Tea Club have requested support from the Parish Council in regard to training, insurance, changing regulations etc. Cllr Maurer in contact with Nick Hindmarsh at Dartmouth Caring to obtain advice.

C/058/23 - To approve the following quotes (Clerk):

a) Higher Street Railings / Sign near to Royal Dart

A quote in the sum of £420 from A Farr was approved by Councillors.

b) Reading Chair

Item deferred – Pending outcome in regard to the possible closure of the Primary School.

c) Christmas Lights

Item Deferred - The Clerk has requested a quote from Torbay Display but this has not yet been received.

C/059/23 - To receive an update and agree future actions in regard to the following Amenity & Recreation Committee items (Jonathan/Clerk):

a) Conversion of Red Telephone Box

Councillors considered the possibility of installing flower planters on the red telephone box located at the bottom of Wood Lane. The clerk to ascertain whether it would be possible to remove the door to allow a planter to be sited inside.

b) Post & Rail Fence Repairs Cemetery Woodland / Jubilee Park

c) Lime Kiln – Repair to Handrail

The Clerk is working with Cllr Dawes to obtain quotes for the fence repairs at both the Cemetery and at Jubilee Park and also for the repair to the handrail and steps at the Lime Kiln.

d) Us Garden / Castle Rd Garden – Work Party to replant in the Autumn

Cllr Pearson advised that sponsorship had been obtained and volunteers recruited to replant the Us Garden / Castle Road Garden during the Autumn.

e) Garden of Remembrance

Cllr Maurer advised that the Garden of Remembrance has been cleared and the perimeter of the garden will be marked.

f) Beacon Lane Wall Repair

A contractor had been contacted to quote for the clearance of the land in between Castle Road and Beacon Lane. This is to enable bank slope measurements to be undertaken in regard to the design for the new wall. The design will then be submitted to the Devon County Council technical team for approval.

g) Mount Ridley Playing Fields

The Clerk contacted South Hams District Council to ascertain whether they might consider the Parish Council taking on ownership of the Mount Ridley Road playing fields. South Hams replies to say this is something they would consider and look to facilitate, but unfortunately due to the large bill expected for the repair to the Beacon Lane Wall, the Council have now opted not to pursue ownership of the playing fields at this time.

h) Welcome to Kingswear Signs

Cllr Dawes has drafted a proposal to install signage by the Passenger Ferry to advertise and increase trade for the pubs, coffee bars, shops, walks etc and to encourage visitors to stay in Kingswear. Permission to be sought from South Hams District Council for the sign to be installed. Sponsorship to be sought from local businesses to fund the cost of the sign.

C/060/23 - To consider whether to write to our MP in regard to the Local Electricity Bill clauses (Clerk).

Community Energy England have written to the Council to ask if they could write to their MP to ask that they vote for the Local Electricity Bill and to ensure plans are put in place to support community energy. The Council agreed for the Clerk to write to Anthony Mangnall MP in regard to this request.

C/061/23 - To receive an update in regard to Cyber Security Insurance and agree future actions (Clerk).

The Clerk to attend a cyber security and awareness webinar hosted by the Council's insurer BHIB. The course will cover council data breaches, cyber crime and cyber liability insurance.

C/062/23 - To approve Coronation Community Fund policy (Clerk).

The Council approved the Coronation Community fund policy, application form and monitoring form. The Clerk to advertise the fund via the Council's website and Facebook page and applications to be considered at the Council's next meeting.

C/063/23 - To consider whether to pledge support to the Armed Forces Covenant (Jonathan).

Kingswear Parish Council agreed to pledge support to the Forces Covenant and support the Armed Forces Community. The Clerk to complete the covenant pledge template and email to the MOD.

C/064/23 - To consider arrangements for the Hillhead 'Meet your Parish Councillor' event (Jonathan).

The Hillhead 'Meet your Parish Councillor' event will take place on Wednesday 19th July 7.00-9.00PM. The event will be held in a double decker bus parked at Hillhead Park. Leaflets to be delivered to all Hillhead and Greenway residents to advise of the event. All Hillhead Councillors to attend.

C/065/23 - To agree proposed change to Clerk's working hours and to note annual leave dates (Clerk).

The Council agreed for the Clerk to amend her working days to Tuesday to Friday 9am to 2pm.

C/066/23 - To propose agenda items for the next Full Council meeting.

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

C/067/23 - Urgent Items – For information.

None.

C/068/23 - To consider and agree future actions in regard to the maintenance contract.

The Council's existing grounds maintenance contractor has given notice to end the contract from 30th September 23. It was agreed for the Clerk to advertise the Lengthsman and Grounds Maintenance Contracts via the Council's website, Facebook page and noticeboards. All tenders received, to be considered at the September Full Council meeting.

Sue Balsdon

Sue Balsdon
Clerk to the Council

The Meeting ended at 9.10pm.

Minutes Approved: Councillor L Maurer – Chairman