



KINGSWEAR PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Amenities and Environment Committee Meeting held in the Village Hall (Lower Room) on Wednesday 8th December 2021 at 7.00pm.

Present: Councillors J Hawkins (Chairman of the Committee), L Maurer, G Webber, E Jones.

In Attendance: Ms Sue Balsdon – Clerk to the Council.

There were no members of public present at the meeting.

A&E/08.12.21/01 - The Chairman of the Committee welcomed everyone to the meeting.

A&E/08.12.21/02 - To receive any apologies for absence from the Meeting.

Councillor P Pudduck.

A&E/08.12.21/03 - 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].

Cllr Hawkins declared an interest with reference to the Grounds Maintenance contract with South Hams District Council.

The Council will reconvene to discuss the following items:

A&E/08.12.21/04 - To discuss and agree future actions for:

a) Cemetery Lodge - Roof Repairs / Double Glazing Quotes / Electrical Inspection Test / Annual Fire Risk Assessment

The Lodge roof slates have now been repaired and the chimney coated with a water repellent treatment paste. Three contractors have been contacted to provide a quote for replacement double glazing and these will be considered at the next Full Council meeting. The five yearly electrical inspection test has been carried out and a double socket and light switch were replaced. All works identified as part of the fire risk assessment have been carried out, with the exception of the following, which will be addressed as part of the replacement double glazing - 'Install new fire doors for all habitable rooms on 1st floor or to ensure that windows comply with the necessary emergency escape regulations.'

b) Public Toilets – Drainage Issues / Electric & Water Meters (Clerk).

The toilet drains have been blocked several times since the Council took over the lease in January 20. South West Water have been called out to clear the blockages, but have done so only as a goodwill gesture. They have advised that any future blockages will be the responsibility of the Parish Council, as the drain is located in a private section of the drainage system. The freeholder of the property is disputing this with SWW.

It has been established that the waste pipe from the flat upstairs feeds into the outlet of the disabled toilet, so if it is necessary for the freeholder to carry out the drain repairs recommended by SWW, then any costs incurred should be shared accordingly.

The water meter has been moved so that a reading can now be taken and a revised bill has been received based on actual usage. The electric meter is due to be replaced on 26th January 2022.

c) Closed Churchyard – Retaining Wall / SHDC Site Visit (Clerk).

The Church have raised concerns in regard to a retaining wall adjacent to the upper churchyard. South Hams District Council have called out to the property and have advised they will undertake the following works in January 22:

'Hand dig a trench along the side the wall that is appears to be moving on the side elevation. I believe it's only the top section that has moved with the land creep. We will dig down approx. 18 to 24 inches. We can then rebuild the effected stone. We will then try to remove any debris from between the church building walls and the retaining wall.'

d) Jubilee Park Play Area – Basket Swing Repair (Lynne).

The repair works have now been carried out to the basket swing. Two new larger swing bolts have been fitted and a metal plate has been placed under each to protect the wood.

e) Drain Clean (Clerk).

A drain clean was undertaken by Glanville's on 8th November. Brixham Road & Lower Contour were completed. The majority of drains on Higher Contour and Ridley Hill were cleared, with the exception of

those which had cars parked over them. Glanville's did not have time to complete Church Hill and Fore Street within their allocated day slot. The Clerk to obtain approval at Full Council, for a second day of drain cleaning.

f) Solar Speed Sign – Brixham Road (Clerk).

A letter of concern has been received by the Council in connection with speed of vehicles travelling on Brixham Road. Highways have advised that before the Council can install a new sign, the speed would have to be monitored to prove the need for a speed sign.

The clerk to obtain further details and costs regarding a street light speed sign, for consideration at the next Full Council meeting.

g) Castle Road Telephone Wires – BT Openreach Visit (Clerk).

The contractor is scheduled to cut back the Bay trees on Castle Road on 20th December. Cones to be put out the evening before to restrict access. to ensure that cars are not parked underneath where the works are to be undertaken.

h) Village Hall Broadband / Jubilee Events (Clerk).

As part of the Parish Council's Jubilee Celebrations, it has been proposed that official events taking place in London be live streamed in the Village Hall. Cllr Webber confirmed that the contract for the Village Hall broadband is to be renewed.

i) Allotments (Clerk).

At the November Full Council meeting, Councillors discussed the possibility of using one of the allotments, with regards the tree planting initiative created to mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee in 2022.

Unfortunately, the Clerk has advised that there is a waiting list for the allotments and therefore it was agreed that tree planting in this location could not proceed. Alternative locations to be considered.

j) Cemetery – Remembrance Garden / Compost Bin.

It was agreed that the area around the Remembrance benches required some renovation. To be discussed at the December Full Council.

Cllr Jones to install compost bin in the Cemetery for used florals.

k) Road Sweeping.

The Clerk advised that a complaint has been received in relation to the lack of road sweeping in the Village. South Hams District Council have advised that their contractor, has just one mechanical sweeper in use, due to operational problems caused by the lack of drivers and vehicles. South Hams District Council are working hard with FCC to address these issues.

l) Tree Survey.

The 2022 tree survey has now been undertaken. Three quotes to be obtained for the recommended works for consideration at the next Full Council Meeting.

m) Hanging Baskets.

The Clerk to obtain a quote from Devon Green Partnership for 3 hanging basket brackets (double) and 10 new hanging baskets.

n) Fore Street – String of Lights.

The Clerk to obtain a quote from Torbay Display, to replace the string of lights on Fore Street with LED lights.

o) Us Garden.

It was agreed that a budget of £500 be allocated in the draft 22/23 budget for replanting, for approval at the December Full Council meeting.

A&E/08.12.21/05 - Items for next meeting.

Platinum Jubilee / Additional hanging baskets for the Banjo.

A&E/08.12.21/06 - Confirmation of date of next meeting.

23rd February 2022.

Meeting closed at 7.45pm.

Minutes Approved:

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Councillor L Maurer – Chairman