

**KINGSWEAR PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held in the Village Hall (Lower Room)**  
**on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2021**  
**at 7.00pm**

**Present:** Cllrs L Maurer (Chairman), B Longland, J Hawkins, G Webber, P Burnell, H Newcombe, District Cllr R Rowe.

**In Attendance:** Miss Sue Balsdon – Clerk to the Council.

5 members of public present.

**C/034/21 – Welcome from the Chairman**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**C/035/21 – To receive any apologies for absence from the Meeting.**

Cllrs J Hacking, B Lowe, P Pudduck, E Jones, District Cllr H Bastone.

**C/036/21 - 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:***

The following points were raised by residents:

- 1) Withdrawal of Evening Ferry Service – Please see minute C/039/21 ii.
- 2) The Verge, Higher Contour Road – The Parish Council were asked if they would contact the landowner adjacent to the verge, to ask if they would remove the fence posts which remain in situ.
- 3) Dart Harbour Communities Group – A report has recently been sent to the Clerk in regard to the DHCG River Trip and it was requested that this be forwarded to all Councillors. The Council were reminded of the importance of their engagement with the DHCG.
- 4) Litter Pick Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> September – All are welcome to help out.

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

**i) Devon County Councillor - Jonathan Hawkins:**

The following points were raised by Cllr Hawkins:

- 1) Full Council Meetings at both Devon County Council and South Hams District Council are being held at larger venues, to allow for adequate social distancing.
- 2) Apologies were given to residents regarding waste collection and the FCC contract. It is hoped that the matter will be resolved before Christmas.
- 3) The are ongoing monthly meetings being held in regard to the development of the old Dartmouth Hospital site.
- 4) Statutory consultees have been invited to consult on the Dartmouth Neighbourhood Plan and it is hoped that this is adopted by the District Council as soon as possible.
- 5) A meeting was held at Noss to view the development's progress to date. The first phase of the development is now complete and the plans for future phases are outstanding.
- 6) The damaged Fore Street lights that have been removed, will be replaced at the earliest in December and will be similar in style to those along the Embankment in Dartmouth.
- 7) Thanks was given for a very successful Regatta.

**ii) South Hams District Councillors: -**

Please see Kingswear Parish Council website (Full Council Minutes) for County/District Councillor report.

**iii) Police:** None.

**iv) Residents Parking Working Group:**

With regard to the two outstanding issues:

Chris Rook has only made recommendations based on his knowledge of Exeter and is suggesting how he thinks residents will vote. We believe the best chance of a scheme being agreed by Kingswear Residents is as follows:

- 1) Guest houses cannot obtain permits
- 2) Beacon Road not to be included in the scheme

If guest houses were given permits then the streets in Kingswear would be flooded. The vast majority of

guest houses use the marina carpark and so will be unaffected.

Beacon Road have their own parking arrangements and if they were given parking permits then their visitors might well use up the few parking places in Church Hill. Those in Church Hill (and the rest of Kingswear) are not allowed access to Beacon Road and so would be disadvantaged.

We strongly believe FAQs should be included in the consultation letter since they will contain essential explanations. Residents need to make an informed decision. We believe many residents may well not be able to / make the time to use the internet to access the FAQs. For the sake of an extra £50 we believe it is worth it.

**v) Neighbourhood Plan:** None.

**vi) Sustainable Kingswear:**

The group started with the aim to try to find and connect people in this Parish who want to join up in any big or small actions to help address global Climate Change Emergency and protect our local natural environment. Flyers were circulated to every household in the Parish which gave an email and Post Office for contact.

The group have links with Sustainable South Hams and other similar local community groups. Virtually all communications since inception have been digital and there are approx. 24 regular attenders. A live meeting was held at the end of July with talk on EVs and Free Homing - but there was low take-up, so we concluded it was best to continue with IT communications and new Parish noticeboards for now. A local building company have sponsored 3 new notice boards and has offered to put up for us. The group have Facebook, a website and newsletter, with four main interest groups to date:

- i) Energy saving - housing, transport/cars, lessening village air pollution
- ii) Litter and pollution in river and creek, health of streams and watersides
- iii) Flora and fauna, biodiversity - health of our verges, hedges, insects and small mammals  
Community education and liaison, community projects - Free Homing, community allotment, community composting?

Ideas/Wish List:

- i) Community energy scheme - Kingswear could be almost self-sufficient with wind and solar power, and even feed into national grid and get paid for this spare energy supply.
- ii) EV charging points: cars and boats of parishioners and visitors
- iii) Free Homing - a 'market-place' where perfectly usable, but no longer needed, items can be 'advertised' and made available (free of charge, have to collect) for others in the Parish. Reduces waste and landfill, trips to the tip, and promotes community spirit / connections.
- iv) Wilding of areas to help biodiversity and restore ecosystems: - US garden, creek side woods / under storey (ivy, brambles, gorse) - small areas of local landowners' fields, and small areas of domestic gardens - nettles, ivy, brambles, grasses, wild flowers, young trees, rough grassland for small mammals and insects - plants hedges to increase connectivity and allow small trees to develop within existing hedgerows and add tree cover = shade, food for birds, cover and habitat for small mammals = food chain - insects as pollinators give rise to 1/3 world's food production. Their caterpillars and larvae are food for fish, birds, and others help to improve soil health - grubs, beetles, earthworms, other invertebrates? - verges, management to reduce invasive plants and restore native flora

SHDC Cllr Tom Holway (Environment), has asked Council's to identify areas for rewilding and we hope KPC will support this request and Sustainable Kingswear's activities.

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

**C/037/21 - With regards to Residents Parking (Brian):**

**i) To approve draft consultation letter & response form, date for distribution and agree to the Residents Parking Group FAQ's being on the Council's website, displayed at the Post Office and on both Council notice boards.**

It was agreed to amend the consultation document, to include Beacon Road within the extended parking scheme and to allow permits for the guests of Air B&B's etc, as advised by Chris Rook. The amended consultation document would then be sent to Chris Rook for final agreement, before being sent out. Councillors also agreed that the FAQ's would be sent out with the consultation document.

**ii) To discuss the funding possibilities available to implement the extended residents parking scheme.**

Councillors agreed to delay the decision regarding funding, until the outcome of the Residents Parking consultation is known.

**C/038/21 - To resolve:**

- i) To support the Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill.**
- ii) To write to local MP urging them to support the Bill.**

The Parish Council voted unanimously to support the Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill and agreed to write to Anthony Mangnall MP, to request his support for the Bill.

**C/039/21 - To consider and agree future actions regarding resident representation:**

- i) Enhanced waste disposal/recycling facility.**

A resident has emailed the Clerk to ask whether it would be possible to have a facility for the collection of paper/cardboard/plastics and also whether it is possible to negotiate use of the Torbay tip in Paignton for Kingswear Residents.

Councillors agreed that the weekly recycling service, negates the need for central collection point for paper/cardboard etc.

The tip issue has been raised by the Clerk, with the waste team at South Hams District Council and they have advised that 'Unfortunately, residents in Devon County are not able to use facilities in Torbay or Plymouth and this is not set to change anytime soon. Kingswear residents should use the site at Totnes. We have raised this with DCC in the past and they have not been keen to have the conversation with TC or PCC.'

- ii) Speeding vehicles and parking.**

Representation has been received by the Clerk, in regard of speeding vehicles on Brixham Road. Cllr Hawkins advised that Devon County Council (DCC) have been notified of the need of a 20mph speed limit in Kingswear, however DCC are awaiting the outcome of a 20mph trial in Newton Abbot, which will determine their future policy regarding limited speed limits. It was agreed for the Clerk to obtain costs for a solar speed sign and for this matter to be discussed further at the Amenities & Environment committee meeting.

- iii) Withdrawal of the passenger ferry evening service.**

Three residents have written to the Council regarding the loss of the passenger ferry evening service. The Clerk contacted the Dartmouth Steam Railway and River boat company, who have advised that the service was withdrawn due to it being financially unsustainable, as so few passengers used the evening ferry service. The DSRRB have advised, that their current lease requires that they run seven days per week but a 12hr service is only required in peak season; their required hours are further reduced outside of the peak season. DSRRB have confirmed that the service would run later in the evening, for Regatta and other events like the Dart Music Festival.

**C/040/21 - To resolve to approve the following minutes subject to any amendments:**

- i) Annual Meeting of the Council - Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2021.**

Minutes approved subject to the correction of the minute reference for the 'Caravan and Motorhome Consultation' agenda item.

- ii) Extra Ordinary Meeting of the Council – Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021.**

Minutes approved without amendment.

**C/041/21 - Financial Matters (Clerk).**

- i) To resolve to approve the expenditure of the Council for the period 01/5/21 – 31/8/21.**

It was resolved to approve the expenditure of the Council for the period 1<sup>st</sup> May to 31st August 21.

- ii) To present for review the month end finance report and bank reconciliation as at 31/8/21.**

The income and expenditure report and bank reconciliation for month ending 31<sup>st</sup> August 21 was reviewed by Councillors.

**C/042/21 - In regard to the Scheme of Delegation (Clerk):**

- i) To resolve to approve decisions made 6/5/21 to 7/9/21.**

The schedule of 'Scheme of Delegation' decisions made during the period 6/5/21 to 7/9/21 were approved by the Council.

- ii) To consider bi-monthly meetings for the period up to the 31/3/22.**

The National Association of local Councils have advised, that although most legal restrictions to control COVID-19 have now been lifted, Councils 'should consider what reasonable measures they can take to balance the end of social contact restrictions with the ongoing COVID reality'.

Councillors discussed the option of having bi-monthly meetings and agreed that a Full Council meeting would not be held in October and that the frequency of meetings would be reviewed again at their November meeting.

- iii) To consider necessity for an extension to the Scheme of Delegation.**

It was agreed to extend the Scheme of Delegation, whilst the Parish Council are meeting bi-monthly

and for this arrangement to be reviewed at the November Full Council meeting.

**C/043/21 - To receive the Chairman's report.**

None.

**C/043/21 - To consider the Council's response to the Dartmouth Neighbourhood Plan consultation (Clerk).**

The Council voted unanimously to support the Dartmouth Neighbourhood Plan and agreed they had no issues with the content of the draft plan.

**C/044/21 - To consider and adopt LGA Model Code of Conduct (Clerk).**

The LGA Model Code of Conduct was adopted by the Council. The Clerk to ascertain whether new 'Notification of Interest' forms need to be completed by Councillors.

**C/045/21 - To consider nominations for the Kingswear Award 2021 (Lynne).**

The Council agreed a nominee for the 2021 Kingswear Award. The award will be presented at the November Full Council meeting. The Clerk to obtain costs for a 'Chough' plaque/medal, to be awarded for 'Service to the Community'.

C/046/21 - In regard to the Cemetery, to consider (Lynne):

**i) The removal of the waste bins.**

Item deferred – To be considered at the October A&E Committee Meeting.

**ii) The siting of a compost area.**

Item deferred – To be considered at the October A&E Committee Meeting.

**C/047/21 - To consider and agree future actions for:**

**i) Remembrance Sunday (Clerk).**

It was agreed for the Clerk to make the necessary arrangements for the church service and wreath laying ceremony at the Slipway.

**ii) Christmas Events (Clerk).**

Item deferred – To be considered at the October A&E Committee Meeting.

**iii) Petition – Public Footpath from Kingswear to Brixham (Lynne).**

Item deferred – To be considered at the October A&E Committee Meeting.

**iv) Funding for Infrastructure and Community Projects (Clerk).**

Item deferred – To be discussed at Amenities & Environment Committee meeting in October.

**v) Additional Dog Bin – Playing Field (Clerk).**

A redundant bin was moved to the Playing Field on Mount Ridley Road, but the bin capacity isn't sufficient. A resident has asked if a dog bin could also be installed. The Clerk to obtain cost from South Hams District Council.

**C/048/21 - To consider the setting up of a working group for (Jonathan):**

The Council agreed for all three working groups to be set up as follows:

**i) Cemetery Lodge – Maintenance and Upgrading.**

Cllrs Lynne Maurer, Brian Longland, Gary Webber, Paul Burnell.

**ii) M Emms Bequest.**

Cllrs Lynne Maurer, Jonathan Hawkins, Gary Webber.

**iii) Celebrations for the Platinum Jubilee.**

Cllrs Lynne Maurer, Jonathan Hawkins.

**C/049/21 - To consider and approve the following quotes (Clerk):**

**i) Tree Survey 2021.**

A quote in the sum of £895+VAT from Dartforest Tree Works was approved by the Council.

**ii) Cemetery Lodge – Replacement of Header Tank.**

It was agreed for the Clerk to obtain comparative quotes for the replacement of the header tank.

**iii) Drain Clean.**

A quote in the sum of £850+VAT (plus disposal costs @ £120+VAT per tonne) from Glanville Environmental was approved by the Council.

**iv) Periodic Electrical Inspection.**

A quote in the sum £200+VAT from LJ Baulch was approved by the Council.

**C/050/21 - To propose agenda items for the next Full Council meeting.**

Councillors to notify the Clerk, if they wish to add items to the November agenda.

**C/051/21 - Urgent Items – For information.**

None.

By Order of the Council

*Sue Balsdon*

Sue Balsdon  
Clerk to the Council

***The Meeting ended at 9.00 pm.***

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