

## KINGSTON PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES:** of the Meeting of Council on 22 July, 2021 commencing at 7.30 pm in our Lady Star of the Sea Hall, East Preston.

**PRESENT:** Councillors Walker (Chairman), Buckenham, Jolly, Joyce, Kenning, Masson and Wetherell.  
County Cllr Elkins. District Cllr Bower. Val Knight (Clerk)

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60/21 **Welcome** – Cllr Walker welcomed everyone to the meeting.

61/21 **Apologies for Absence** - District Cllrs Chapman and Kelly

62/21 **Urgent Matters Arising** – It was agreed to consider a letter from the Mayor of Arundel re support for a proposed cycle route from Arundel to Ford Station, under agenda Item 8 as a County highways matter.

63/21 **Declarations and Dispensations of Interests** – Further to declarations held in the Register of Members Interests, in the interest of openness, Cllrs Kenning, Masson and Walker declared membership of Kingston Gorse Estate and Cllr Jolly declared membership of West Kingston Residents Association.

64/21 **Public Opportunity** – No members of the public were present.

65/21 **Minutes** – The council approved Minutes of the Meeting held on the 5 May, 2021.

66/21 **Matters Arising from the Minutes:**

**Minute 49/21e Highways and Footpaths** - Cllr Masson advised that residents had organised the cut back of vegetation in three places along Kingston Lane (corner opposite Newcote Farm, and corner south of the junction with Elm Avenue – both sides). Council noted that, therefore, no further action is required at this time.

**Minute 50/21b Litter** – Cllr Walker advised that she would be raising the problems of litter and dogs being out of control along the greensward with District Cllr Chapman.

67/21 **West Sussex County Council:**

a) **Report of County Councillor Elkins** – Cllr Elkins reported on various County matters, including:

- Joint Arun Area Committees (including JEAAC) have been disbanded and would be replaced by County Local Forums for a trial period - to be reviewed March 2022.
- Worthing library has been refurbished and has reopened with additional facilities/services.
- County Councillors will shortly receive a presentation on the Rampion 2 proposals so it has not yet been formally considered
- Consultation on the West Sussex Transport Plan (WSTP) 2022-2036 has commenced.

This led to a discussion around Highways issues in the area and Council noted that:

- Delays to the current works along the A259 from Station Road to the New Barn roundabout are due to delays in UK Power Networks carrying out their part of the works.
- County is not prepared to fund the slip road that had once been part of the draft A259 scheme. The slip road would allow only 20 vehicles to use it when travelling west along the A259 and taking the Old Worthing Road exit from the New Barn roundabout.
- Further congestion problems are created by parked cars along Old Worthing Road
- Drivers are still confused by the right of way rules at the Roundstone Crossing and that creates various hazards.

**Arising from this**, County Cllr Elkins undertook to ask if the signage and layout at the Roundstone Crossing could be reviewed again and the Clerk would ask East Preston Parish Council if they would meet with Council to discuss the slip road and the problems at the Roundstone Crossing.

b) **Highways and Footpaths** – Council noted a letter from the Mayor of Arundel asking for support for a proposed cycle route from Arundel to Ford Station.

c) **Operation Watershed:** Council noted that Cllr Walker hopes a site meeting with County will take place in August. Cllrs Walker, Wetherell and Buckenham to represent Council.

d) **Draft West Sussex Transport Plan (WSTP) 2022-2036** – Council noted that the draft sets out County’s approach to managing and investing in the transport network from 2022 to 2036. Cllr Elkins advised that there is a webinar available for the public to attend on 8 September, 2021. Council agreed to delegate a response to the consultation to Cllr Wetherell in liaison with all Members. Closing date for comment 8 October, 2021.

68/21 **Arun District Council:**

- a) **Report of District Councillors** – District Cllr Bower reported on various District Council matters, including:
- The change over to a Committee system from a Cabinet system and the impact this has had on the timing of decisions
  - Consultation being undertaken by County on improvements to the A259 between Wick and Flansham.
  - Arun had been awarded costs when an Appeal against its decision had been refused demonstrating that the Arun Local Plan is valid. The potential review of the Local Plan has been slowed until new planning rules have been approved by Government.

*County Cllr Elkins and District Cllr Bower left the meeting.*

- b) **Chief Executive** – Council noted that Nigel Lynn, the Chief Executive of Arun District Council would be leaving Arun to take up a new post as Chief Executive of West Berkshire Unitary Council. Council agreed to send a letter to Nigel Lynn congratulating him on his new post, thanking him for the help he had given to Council over the years and wishing him well for the future.

69/21 **Policing** – Cllr Jolly advised that PCSO Ronia Ratei is the PCSO assigned to Kingston but this is a temporary posting and the PCSO has other areas to cover as well. It was agreed that it is an unsatisfactory arrangement and the awaited appointment of a permanent PCSO to cover Kingston would be kept under review.

70/21 **Planning Committee** – Council noted the minutes of the meeting held on 5 May, 2021. All present had been present at the committee meeting held earlier in the evening thus a verbal report was not necessary but the proceedings were noted.

71/21 **Finance and General Purposes Committee** – Council noted the minutes of the meeting held on 5 May, 2021. All present had been present at the committee meeting held earlier in the evening, thus a verbal report was not necessary but the proceedings were noted and the recommendations agreed.

72/21 **Rampion 2 Consultation** – Council noted that the Rampion 2 formal consultation commenced on 14 July and ends on the 16 September, 2021. Cllr Buckenham had attended an online liaison meeting with Rampion earlier in the day and disappointingly the consultation will be online or by webinar with no public meetings planned despite lockdown restrictions being lifted. Council then agreed:

- a) As Council’s previously raised concerns have not been mitigated by these formal proposals, Council will lodge an objection. The wording of the objection to be finalised by the Clerk in liaison with Members
- b) To distribute a newsletter to all households in the parish in August setting out Council's view, giving information on the 2 websites - Rampion 2 and Protect Coastal England - and encouraging residents to make their own response to the consultation. Residents to also be asked to let Council know of their response/views. Exact wording of the newsletter to be finalised by the Clerk in liaison with Members
- c) All parishes and town councils in Arun plus our District Cllrs Bower, Chapman and Kelly, County Cllr Elkins, Sir Peter Bottomley MP, Nick Gibb MP and Andrew Griffith MP will be contacted to ask them to support Council's response. Additionally, the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of Council to lead on any joint approach with like-minded organisations in liaison with all Members.

- 73/21 **West Sussex Association of Local Councils (WSALC)** – Council noted that the Chairman had been unable to attend the Chairman’s Forum held on 14 July, 2021, but arising from the meeting Cllr Wetherell had completed a survey on Neighbourhood Plans
- 74/21 **Census 2021** – Council noted the public consultation on proposals for the content and design for Census 2021 outputs that ends on 5 October 2021.
- 75/21 **Eastern Arun Parishes Group (EAPG)** – Council noted the report of Cllr Wetherell on the meeting held on 12 July, 2021 (previously circulated) about a possible forthcoming proposal by a developer for siting 76 dwellings on land south of the A259 (near the Roundstone roundabout). It was agreed to keep in touch with Angmering Parish Council on the matter.
- 76/21 **South Strand Community Toilets (SSCT)** – Cllr Buckenham said that the toilets continue to be open every day. There has been an unexpectedly high use of the outside tap by the public e.g. for cleaning surf boards and washing dogs. The management group are looking in to this with a view to keeping costs down.
- 77/21 **Working Party re the Environment** – Cllr Buckenham advised that now lockdown had been lifted a meeting of the Group could go ahead. Council agreed that future reports from the Working Group would be made to the Planning Committee.
- 78/21 **Future Projects** - Further to Minute 33/2, it was agreed:
- a) That the flagpole would be replaced now that the adjacent tree has been felled with a budget of £1500 to be met from the Environmental Improvements and Maintenance reserve fund. The Clerk to obtain quotes.
  - b) The refurbishment of the noticeboard in Coastal Road should go ahead with a budget of £500 to be met from the Environmental Improvements and Maintenance reserve fund. Cllr Masson to discuss and agree the works required with all Members once they had taken the opportunity to view the work carried out on the Kingston Gorse Estate noticeboard and the quality of the workmanship.
- 79/21 **Cheque signatories** – Further to minute 45/21, Council noted that the reason for 3 signatories is to ensure that at least two of the signatories are Councillors (usually cheques would be signed by the Clerk plus 2 Councillors) and that adding the Clerk as a signatory makes it easier for the Clerk to carry out admin relating to the account. Council then agreed the proposal to increase the number of cheque signatories from the current five (Cllrs Jolly, Joyce, Masson, Walker and Wetherell) to six, by adding in the Clerk and that any three from six should sign cheques.
- 80/21 **Clerks Absence** – Council formally agreed to record its thanks to Nadine Phibbs and Simon Cross for acting as locum Clerks in a voluntary capacity during the recent 9 week absence of the Clerk. Council agreed to make a gift of a £50 store voucher to each of them as a token of appreciation (funded from the contingency budget).
- 81/21 **Next scheduled meeting of Council and its Committees:** Council noted the next meeting is scheduled for Thursday 16 September, 2021 at 7pm in Our Lady, Star of the Sea Hall, East Preston. Cllr Wetherell tendered his apologies for the meeting.

The meeting concluded at 9.15 pm.

Chairman: .....

Date: .....