

# KINGSTON PARISH COUNCIL

## FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

**Minutes:** of the Meeting held on 20 March, 2025 commencing at 7.36 pm in Our Lady Star of the Sea Hall, Vermont Drive, East Preston.

**Present:** Councillors Buckenham (elected Chairman for the meeting), Walker and Wetherell.  
Val Knight (Clerk).

08/25 Election of Chairman – In the absence of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of Committee, Cllr Buckenham was elected to Chair the meeting.

09/25 **Welcome and Safety Procedures** – The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained safety procedures.

10/25 **Apologies** – Cllrs Andrew, Joyce, Marr and Masson.

11/25 **Declarations and Dispensations of Interests** - Further to declarations held in the Register of Members Interests, in the interest of openness, Cllr Walker declared membership of Kingston Gorse Estate.

12/25 **Public Opportunity** – No members of the public were present.

13/25 **Minutes** - The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 16 January, 2025 were confirmed as a correct record subject to noting that Minute 5/25 should read '21 November 2024' instead of '21 November 2025' and were signed by the Chairman. There were no matter arising.

### 14/25 **Report of the Clerk on Financial Matters**

**1. Account Balance** – Committee noted the balance at bank account as at 28 February, 2025 was £24,897.48 after taking into account receipts not previously reported of bank interest of £80.55 and £9,465 gross donations re the Judicial Review fundraiser, as well as payments not previously reported to Committee and shown below:

Payee	Payment method	Re:	Net £	VAT £	Total £	Date
Arun District Council	Direct Debit	Payroll recharge	388.70	-	388.70	13/01/25
Arun District Council	Direct Debit	Payroll recharge	388.70	-	388.70	12/02/25

Payee	Re:	Net £	VAT £	Total £	Cheque No.
Sharpe Pritchard *	Judicial Review: Solicitor/Barrister fees	4915.95	901.79	5817.74	022
Sharpe Pritchard *	Judicial Review: Costs awarded against Council to defendant and Interested Party	10,000.00	-	10,000.00	023
Crowdfunder *	Administrative charges - Deducted by Crowdfunder from donations received	174.69	34.99	209.68	Deducted by Crowdfunder

\* Approved at a meeting of Council on 20 February, 2025

**2. Payments for Approval** - The following were approved for payment:

Payee	Re:	Net £	VAT £	Total £	Cheque No.
Our Lady Star of the Sea	Use of hall 2024-25	176.00	-	176.00	024
V Knight	Reimbursements: Stamps Annual claim for office costs - heating, lighting etc. per budget Annual claim for mileage – per budget cap Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC) – Annual subscription	12.60 312.00 144.00 110.00	- - - -	578.60	025

**3. Update on Judicial Review Fundraiser** - The information in APPENDIX 1 (attached) was noted.

15/25 **Budget 2025/26** – Correspondence with District on the % Precept increase for 2025/26 explaining the increase was mainly due to the potential cost of the Judicial Review (as known when the precept was set), maintaining funds for future planning issues and an increase in the Clerk's working hours, was noted.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7.45 pm.

Chairman:.....

Date:.....

SUBJECT to AUDIT**KINGSTON PARISH COUNCIL****Judicial Review Re Planning Application K/46/23/PL - Information on costs as at 13 March 2025 (all figures Net of VAT)****Legal Fees and Costs awarded**

October 2024:

- Barristers Advice on merits of Judicial Review Application	£ 3,000.00
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November 2024 – February 2025

- Solicitor and Barrister	£ 9,792.40
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February 2025

- Costs awarded by the Court	<u>£10,000.00</u>
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<b>Total</b>	<b>£22,792.40</b>
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**Funding for the above:****Amounts donated**

Crowdfunder (gross)	£6,465
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Direct to Bank	<u>£7,580</u>
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<b>Total Donations</b>	<b>£14,045.00</b>
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**KPC**

KPC Planning Reserve	£6,000.00
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KPC General Fund	<u>£2,747.40</u>
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<b>KPC Funding Total*</b>	<b>£ 8,747.40</b>
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<b>Total</b>	<b>£22,792.40</b>
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\*Note for completeness: in addition, Council will meet the administrative fee charged by Crowdfunder £174.69 and a CHAPS fee of £21.