

KINGSTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES: of the Meeting of Council on 16 May, 2019 at 7pm in Our Lady Star of the Sea Hall.

PRESENT: Councillors Walker (Chairman), Buckenham, Jolly, Joyce, Kenning, Masson and Wetherell.

- 40/19 **Apologies for Absence** – County Cllr Elkins. District Cllrs Bower, Chapman and Kelly.
- 41/19 **Election of Chairman** – Cllr Walker was elected to serve for the ensuing year.
- 42/19 **Acceptance of Office** - The Chairman signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.
- 43/19 **Election of Vice-Chairman** – Cllr Wetherell was elected to serve for the ensuing year.
- 44/19 **Election Results 2019** – It was noted that Cllrs Keith Buckenham, Peter Jolly, David Joyce, Karen Kenning, Valerie Masson, Geraldine Walker and Roger Wetherell had been declared elected to Council in an uncontested election. The Clerk advised that all declarations of acceptance of office, undertakings to observe the code of conduct and entries for the Register of Members' Interests had been received.
- 45/19 **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.
- 46/19 **Public Opportunity** – One Member of the public was present and
- following on from concerns he had raised at the Annual Parish Meeting earlier in the evening, said that he also had concerns about research indicating that 5G wave frequencies could affect the population of bees and other insects. As earlier it was suggested he contact his MP for information about government policy and research
 - asked whether it would be possible to have speed humps in Sea Lane. Cllr Masson said that Kingston Gorse Estate had tried these a few years ago and they had not been successful. Cllr Walker said that she would raise concerns about Kingston Lane – especially the need for resurfacing - at JEAAC.
- 47/19 **Appointment of Committees and Working Parties** – The following were agreed:
- Finance and General Purposes Committee** – All members
 - Planning Committee** - All members
 - Emergency Plan Working Party** – All members
 - Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group** – All members
- 48/19 **Cheque signatories** – It was agreed that cheque signatories would be: Cllrs Jolly, Joyce, Masson, Walker and Wetherell. (any two from five to sign)
- 49/19 **Appointment of Representatives** – The following were agreed:
- Joint Eastern Arun Area Committee:** Chairman and Cllr Masson
 - JEAAC Highways and Transport Sub-Group:** Chairman
 - Sussex Association of Local Councils (SSALC):** Chairman
 - Policing and Community Safety Meetings:** Cllr Jolly and Cllr Masson
 - Biodiversity Forum/issues:** Cllr Joyce
 - Flag Officer:** Mr John Hickson (a deputy to be appointed if the flagpole is retained)
 - Emergency Co-Coordinator and Deputy:** Cllr Wetherell and Cllr Walker
 - Winter Management Plan Co-Coordinator and Deputy:** Clerk and Cllr Wetherell
 - Arun District Association of Local Councils:** Chairman and Vice-Chairman
 - Eastern Arun Parishes Group:** Chairman and Vice-Chairman
 - East Preston and Kingston Village Hall matters:** Cllr Wetherell
 - South Strand Community Toilets Group:** Cllr Buckenham

50/19 **Minutes** - The Minutes of the Meetings of Council held on 21 March, 2019 were approved by Council and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

51/19 **Matters Arising from the Minutes** – None.

The meeting was suspended to allow meetings of the Planning Committee and Finance and General Purposes Committee to take place.

52/19 **West Sussex County Council**

- a) **County Cllr Elkins** had given his apologies.
- b) **Footpaths and highways:** The Clerk to ask County when the next cut of highway verges along Kingston Lane would take place as they were becoming very overgrown.
- c) **Gateway sign:** The Clerk advised that County would issue a licence for the sign to be positioned on the verge from 1 July (subject to no issues arising during the public notice period).
- d) **Operation Watershed:** The Clerk would liaise with District on the wording for letters to be sent to residents of Peak Lane and landowners.
- e) **Highways and Transport Sub-Group (JEAAC)** – The Chairman advised the next meeting would be later in May.
- f) **Joint Eastern Arun Area Committee (JEAAC)** – The Chairman advised the next meeting would be held in June.

53/19 **Arun District Council**

- a) **District Councillors** had given their apologies.
- b) **South Strand Community Toilets** – Council noted progress had been made by the group and agreed to go ahead and pay a contribution for this year of £300 (per budget).
- c) **Dog Fouling** – The Clerk advised that a response was awaited from the Environment Agency re dog fouling on their land. Cllr Masson advised that District had provided some sticker signs warning about dog fouling and the clerk would request some poster style signs. District had advised that they no longer have a dog warden but if an offender is identified to them, they could send a letter out, and if a clean-up is required it can be requested via their Cleansing line. The Clerk to ask District if private companies could be used to patrol and enforce dog fouling penalties.

54/19 **Planning Committee** – Council noted minutes of the meetings held on 21 March, 2019 and 18 February, 2019, and a verbal report of the meeting held on 16 May, 2019 and agreed the recommendations contained therein.

55/19 **Finance and General Purposes Committee** - Council noted the minutes of the meeting held on 21 March, 2019, and a verbal report of the meeting held on 16 May, 2019, and agreed the recommendations contained therein including those relating to the Annual Return: i) the Annual Governance Statement and ii) the Annual Accounting Statement.

56/19 **Policing Matters** – PCSOs Jess Chambers and Jess Taylor had attended the Annual Parish Meeting earlier in the evening.

Cllr Wetherell had circulated his report on the meeting with the Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner (PCC) and the Chief Constable organised by the Eastern Arun Parishes Group which had taken place on 13 May. The Group had made the point that they considered there had been an increase in crime since the reduction in a police presence and no specifically allocated PCSO. The PCC replied that funding to Sussex police had been reduced substantially, and types of crime had changed over the years so policing methods have had to change but police numbers are increasing with a recruitment drive in place to find 250 more officers in the next four years.

Cllr Masson drew attention to an incident where a driver had attempted to run down a guard on duty at the West Kingston entrance gate but the police did not attend. Cllr Masson had attended the District NHW AGM in her capacity as a NHW Co-Ordinator.

- 57/19 **Arun District Association of Local Councils (ADALC)** – Cllrs Wetherell and Walker had attended the meeting 27 March 2019. Notes of the meeting would be circulated.
- 58/19 **Eastern Arun Parishes Group** – Next meeting 28 May, 2019.
- 59/19 **Lost Kingston Chapel Commemorative Seating Stone** – The Clerk advised that responses from West Kingston Residents Association and Arun District Council are awaited.
- 60/19 **Chain of Office** – A meeting with Guess Jewellers to discuss and progress the option of a silver curb chain had been arranged for 30 May, 2019.
- 61/19 **Flagpole** – Council noted that no resident had responded to the item about the future of the flagpole in the May newsletter. It was agreed not to replace or renovate the flagpole. Instead the adjacent tree would be allowed to grow (as it was not suitable for lopping) and the matter would be reviewed in March 2020.
- 62/19 **External meetings not otherwise on the agenda:** None
- 63/19 **Other Matters:** The Clerk to send a formal letter of thanks to Michael Hodge for his service as a Councillor since April 1998. The Chairman would visit him with a gift and card from his fellow members and the Clerk, on his return from holiday.
- 64/19 **Date of next scheduled meeting:** It was noted that the next scheduled meeting of Council and its Committees would be held on Thursday 18 July, 2019 in Our Lady Star of the Sea Hall, Vermont Drive, East Preston commencing at 7pm.

The meeting concluded at 9.10 pm.

Chairman:

Date: