

**KINGSKERSWELL PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Meeting held on Monday 25th February 2019**  
**DRAFT MINUTES**



**The Chair** welcomed everyone to the meeting

**Apologies:** Cllr A Huntley

**Present:** Councillors A Hartley, M Haines, P Hartley, J Carter, S Cook, M Moore, W Dixon, J Radford, & R Jones

In attendance: K. Turner (Clerk) Cllr A Dewhurst (DCC)

07.00pm: Members of the public: Two

07: 00pm The Chairman opened the meeting.

**2728: Public Participation:** Two members of Cricket Club to discuss and seeking financial help to obtain a new roller. The Club is going from strength to strength and we got promoted last year. The school, we have run several taster sessions and that has seen an increase in numbers wishing to take up cricket. We wish to invest time into the ground and obviously we need the ground to be in the right condition for playing on and for the league. I know our Chairman has given you all the necessary paperwork including the accounts, every year we have a lot of expenditure. Therefore the time has come to get a new roller. It takes a lot of work to prepare a cricket wicket and a lot has to be done before the start of the season. We do not at present have all the necessary funds to complete the purchase ourselves that is why we are asking for assistance. The Cricket took questions from the Cllrs regarding width and weight and funding so far towards the asset. Storage and Insurance questions were also asked. Re payment terms were discussed if the Council loan the money to the cricket club. The Council asked if any grants had been already sourced but machinery did not get looked at favourably according to the Cricket Club. The older roller dated back to the 1950s so they last and the Cricket Club had maintained it. The Council discussed the drainage and consideration needed to ensure the field did not get damaged with a roller that was not suitable. The Cllrs wished to consider the request and would come back to the Cricket Club, they thanked the Cricket members for attending.

**2729: To receive declarations of interests from Members:** Cllr Mike Haines as his grandson is in the colts cricket side so felt he could speak on the Cricket Club roller but not vote.

**2730: To approve and sign minutes of the meeting 28<sup>th</sup> January 2019 Unanimous**

**2731: Clerk's Report 25.02.2019**

2 memorial benches completed last Thursday Clerk to arrange invoices {to be paid for by parishioners}

Under 10 playground Jess the Cat vandalised notice attached to gate, as it was half term advised the Chairman.

TDC looking into a different size bin at the Car Park will come back to me.

Water Lane Toilets works continuing.

Mobility Shop Kingskerswell lady phoned this morning, she put her van on the verge due to not being able to park, she works alone and her customers are unable to park, Cycle Lane, the PCSO told her she could not park in it as causing an obstruction. The gas contractors are taking up the spaces in the nearby road.

They were under the understanding that that piece of land was theirs and they have been cutting it. A man in a car spoke with the lady this morning, regarding the land and the land registry. Mentioned bulbs that have been planted and contradicted the comments regarding the cycle lane. He stated conifers will be put in along this stretch, please can clarification be sought. {AD} a PCSO can ask you to move your vehicle if it is deemed an obstruction, there is no traffic order there by Highways. {MH} The Land Registry would clarify who owns the land, if we do need to ask the action group to replant the bulbs after this season then that is what we will do by which time the contractors would have finished. The Chairman thought it was a shame that the contractors could not be more considerate.

Little Wold the Parish Council sent a letter requesting the cutting of the foliage, they wish to cut it themselves as they have their own gardener please if required can the Council speak with the owner. Direct regarding this matter, Clerk has the contact details.

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Correspondence:

Email regarding the stone walls, could we get the Parish Council to start a campaign to uncover these walls in the village preserving them for the future? The Council thought it may be a good idea to put it on I lived/live in Kingskerswell {AD} I have been complaining regarding lack of sweeping from Yon Street/Greenhill Road, and the second part to the email due to the delayed purchase of the DCC land, any update on the skateboard park, and was the precept ring fenced purely for the land. {MH} We did not ring fence any part of our budget, I checked through the statement I put out to the press two years ago for this purpose neither the word ring or fenced came up on the word search in the document. The land purchase is still ongoing and discussions. Clerk please advise.

**2732: Clerks Financials and approve cheques for payment:**  
**List of cheques to be signed for 25th February 2019**

2835 £ 156.00	Vision ICT (Web site costing )
2836 £ 42.77	Medisave (pad for St Marys Difibrillator}
2837 £ 60.00	SW Plumbing (Water Lane Toilets}
2838 £592.13	Clerks net wages ( Gross £616.53}
2839 £ 24.40	HMRC
2840 £ 75.00	Kingskerswell Sports Committee {Utilities}
2841 £ 360.00	PKF Littlejohn {External Audit Fee}
2842 £ 546.02	SHS Ltd {Water Lane Contractor}
2843 £1392.55	SW Water {Water Lane Toilets 6 months}
2844 £ 180.00	A Gibbings (Install 2 memorial benches Parishioners to repay KKPC}
2845 £ 326.00	Phil Clarke ( Install 2 memorial benches + Materials Parishioner to repay KKPC} (2 man job due to weight of benches}
2846 £ 116.26	Petty Cash

Direct Debit for Opus Gas	£ 66.43 (Pavilion Gas)
	£
Direct Debit for B Gas	£
Direct Debit for B Gas	£
Direct Debit For B/T	£

Total cheques/DD for February 19 = **£ 3937.56**

**Income**

<b>Amount to be repaid by Sports Club:</b>	<b>£ 96.59</b>
<b>VAT refund:</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Precept 2nd payment:</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>CIL</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>106 Section Funds</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Total income to 25<sup>th</sup> February 19</b>	<b>£ 96.59</b>

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Precept we now have the insert under PRECEPT in the minutes section on the website. The original minutes were signed dated 10<sup>th</sup> December 2019 and superseded by the insert. Agreed unanimously.

**2733: DC Councillors report** County Councillor's Parish Council Report 25<sup>th</sup> February – Abbotskerswell & Kingskerswell

Good evening.

Children with special needs in Devon have not been getting all the support they need from education, health and care staff, according to a new report from the Care Quality Commission and Ofsted which says they have been too slow to implement improvements in the way services are planned and co-ordinated and must do better.

In the first inspection of its kind, five inspectors from the CQC and Ofsted spent a week in Devon last month to look at how all partners were working together to support children and families with special needs and their report has just been published.

They spoke to children and young people with special needs and their parents and carers as well as local authority and NHS officers and schools.

Interestingly, the Liberal Democrat Group on Devon County Council last year put forward an extra £500,000 for the education of children with Special Educational Needs because we recognised the pressure in the area and we wanted the council to do more to help and support children as part of our alternative budget last February.

We put forward a costed plan which would have brought in savings, cut waste and inefficiency to fund the extra money for children with special educational needs along with other priorities like putting money into mental health services for children and young people and stopping the Conservatives' £2.2 million schools cut.

At County we have scrutinised the Budget under the three stands of Scrutiny - Childrens Services, Health and Adults and Corporate, Infrastructures and Regulatory Services Scrutiny.

At Children's Services we were relieved to see that the proposed Budget had increased from £123.6 million to £135.2 million of which the lions share will go to Children's Social Care being £8.2 million for Looked After Children, £1 million to improved Foster Care arrangements and £2 million for service improvements and development. We were pleased that the Council had taken in direct delivery of Residential short breaks for Disabled Children, Rehab for visually impaired children and Public Health Nursing. Finally, this Budget is increasing fast and we were concerned that the Service would not be able to keep within its Budget having seen huge overspends in the last few years.

At Health and Adult Services, we saw a proposed 2% increase in the budget to £232.6 million. This increase does not take account of inflation and Service Chiefs yet again warned that a 50p increase in the hourly wage was a £1 million increase in the budget. Yet again the Council is expected to deal with more cases and a smaller budget.

This is most alarmingly seen in the Public Health Budget where £1/2 million has been cut and budgets for smoking campaigns, substance misuse and mental health have all been drastically cut. The only budget line to survive intact being Sexual Health where another 1,800 patients will be added to one of the UK's most ambitious programmes.

In my Scrutiny Committee we looked at the rest of the Council's Services where we were sceptical of proposals to cut the Corporate budget by 6.6% to £32.9 million and hoped that Highways would actually be able to deliver their budget increase of 0.7% to £54.5 million.

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The budget reduction is mostly due to staffing reduction across all services and savings derived from the introduction of new HR systems expected by early summer – let's hope it's not delayed again.

The Highways budget is split between Highway management at £25.7 million and Waste at £28.9 million. Highways are becoming adept at capitalising our budget, so rather than repair multiple potholes in a road from the revenue budget we now plan small resurfacing schemes from the Capital budget – this however puts great strain on our revenue side workforce.

Overall the County budget is so dependent on central government funding that we chose to highlight that after a year of lobbying by Devon's MP's the schools budget had fallen so that Devon's children are now funded £294 less than the national average – a wretched increase from £265 less than the national average last year leading to Devon schools laying off 525 teachers last year alone – the MPs should hang their heads in shame.

At the end of the process at County Council on Thursday it was agreed that overall, the county's spending on services will rise from £479.4 million to almost £494 million. It will be paid for by an increase of 3.99% in council tax. That's £53.10 extra on an average Band D council tax bill. It will take the annual Band D charge for Devon's services to £1,384.29.

The rise encompasses a 2.99% increase for general services and an extra one per cent dedicated solely to adult social care.

{JC} I have experience in this field and they are letting down special needs school leavers and carers especially in the Torbay area. {AD} I cannot comment on Torbay but I would be very disturbed to hear this at DCC level. {AH} If it is a strong issue Cllr Carter please can you raise it will AD separately.

{AH} Last meeting you stated that your engineers had looked outside the Co-op regarding the kerbs, can I get that report? {AD} we had a site meeting, took levels and decided as it stood we couldn't raise the kerbs. {AH} that is what I couldn't understand how is water going to go uphill into the Co op. {AD} Well when we measured it, {AH} well if you bought the kerb up to the existing height on both sides of the drop kerb there is still a fall unless you are restructuring the whole pavement. {AD} I am not an engineer it is currently with Highways TDC and will involve a lot of road works and it is not in the 19/20 budget.

Cllr Wayne Dixon left the meeting due to work commitments.

**District Council:**

{MH} Budget meeting for Teignbridge is this Thursday, the proposal will be for a £5 increase for a band D property £1850.15 the average Parish add on is £69.68 ours is £26.89. Of course, that is bumped up with some of the bigger Towns. The Clerk sent out an email about Local Planning Cafes held members especially on the planning committee there is one at Forde House on 13<sup>th</sup> March. PH & JC to attend. Clerk has sent out detail from Election Services they will be sending out nomination papers for the forthcoming Election. {PH} We normally fill them out at the March meeting.

{SC} Parishioner has complained about cars being parked down towards Manor Drive, MH the parking outside the shops is restricted. The other thing is the cars are not pulling up at the crossing can the Clerk send an email to Highways.

**Parish Council:**

{JC} Website, please, I have started to generate some ideas, but I do need your contributions. We do need to put on there what we do, we are all busy doing these things but do not talk about them. Clerk suggested that a committee was set up to work together on the items and send direct to ICT to load onto the site.

{MM} Teenagers, we need to be working on this apart from the Muga, Multi Use Games Activity. I am not in the speed watch any more due to my health.

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{MH} As we are coming up to Purdah I don't think we can put items on the Parish Website, it is the period were Councillors cannot take advantage of machinery to promote themselves in the eyes of the electorate.

{RJ} PH and I had a walk around the playing field last week we spoke about benches in a couple of places around the football pitch. {JR} there has to be run off areas now for footballers. {MH} we have always put them on the far side away from the properties. It was decided that the Parish Council would look at this when they do there walk around in June.

{RJ} Speed watch on Sunday the people there wondered if the Parish Council would like to enquiry about investing in solar powered speeding signs 30mph. 18% of the vehicles were speeding on that Sunday. Find out how much they are and what is the capital investment from DCC.

{RJ} Our contractors have not been made aware to DCC that they are doing our maintenance work, according to {AD} {AH} We have not been told that we have only been told that they are not completing any maintenance work, {RJ} there should be some remuneration from DCC. {JR} I remember {AD} saying that DCC are not doing any hedge trimming or grass cutting and parishioners were coming to us asking why the village was in such a state so it was voted on by members to obtain our own contractors. AD has never mentioned that to us. {RJ} perhaps the Chairman could have a conversation with {AD} about this please. {JR} What about the permission for the bulb planting etc {RJ} well I understood AD was taking this up with DCC for the Action Grp. {JR} I remember asking AD if there was any funds available and the answer was there is no budget. {AH} Parish Council need to obtain clarification of what AD has brought up.

MM History display at the Library today so a lot of old pictures of Kingskerswell being put on facebook, Gales fruit and veg the building at the top of Daccabridge apparently who ever owns it now is looking at getting new pains made. PH Carrying on from the history display there was a picture of the War Memorial it was taken 60s around the edge was a hedge three foot high it look lovely and smart. {AH} That could go on the website archive of what our village looked like.

**2734:Playing Field Matters:**

Clerk made members aware that the current contractor for the maintenance has stepped down. I was hoping to have an estimate on the table as I have shown someone around but that is not the case. Can I remind Councillors that I do not expect a perspective contractor to ring the outgoing contractor until it is in the public domain. {AH} I will call down to the office tomorrow to ensure the contract is up to date with what we require.

The brambles between the two play parks needs attention.

New signage needs to be explored especially with the new Public Spaces Protection Order coming in, Clerk to speak with TDC to see if they are bringing out any new signs.

**2735: Update on Purchase of DCC Land {Churchway}** : No further update, paperwork with Solicitors but it is moving as the Clerk requested an update this week.

**Update on land exchange 2 at the playing field** DCC are not prepared to give the Parish Council notice when work is commencing, are members happy with this? This is the piece back by the gates, channel and new muga. The Parish Council do not wish to hold up work but a safe guard has to be if they do any damage in the field they have to reinstate and a phone message would be courteous.

**2736: Downs Committee** – MH Read through the report no significant problems despite recent winds, there are a few fallen trees but no major concerns. Jubilee Wood is going to need thinning as seedling has grown well and a fallen tree will need attending too. All looking good, the working party was on site.

**2737: Planning:**

- i) The Planning Committee had met, and consents read out at the meeting. (Applications held online at Teignbridge Planning Online). TDC have the final say on all the planning applications for Kingskerswell. Kingskerswell Parish Council are only consultees.

- ii) The following applications were refused by the Planning Committee  
19/00235/FUL 5&7 Newton Road alterations to existing accesses and associated groundworks.

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19/00236/VAR 9 Newton Road Variation of condition 2  
19/00005/APPEAL 5&7 Newton Road Appeal against the refusal of planning application 18/01333/FUL.

**2738: Sports Committee Meeting:** No meeting until end of football season 2019. Cllrs further discussed the Cricket Roller and the terms in which the Council would consider assisting, the Parish Council felt that it was not a case that they did not wish for the Cricket Club to have a new roller it was more about all the financing avenues being explored as a result of the discussions the Council requested further information. There is an urgency as the season will soon be starting. Clerk please ask Cricket Club for further information.

**2739: Public Comment:** None

**2740: Meeting closed 9.pm.** The next meeting of the Parish Council is on Monday 25th March 2019.

**Chairman** .....

**Date**.....