KING'S SUTTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT 7.30 P.M. ON THURSDAY 3RD DECEMBER 2015 IN THE ASTROP ROOM, KING'S SUTTON MILLENNIUM MEMORIAL HALL

PRESENT: Cllrs R Burrell (Chairman), M Bailey, D Bridson, R Burne, J Creed,

W Dowling, T Forde, C Hill, R Irving, W Mullis, R Sykes

ABSENT: No Absentees

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs A Le Druillenec (Clerk) Cllr R Sawbridge MBE, NCC

Chairman's Announcement:

The Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014:

145.15/16 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES AND APPROVE THE REASONS FOR ABSENCE:

None.

146.15/16 TO RECEIVE REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS:

None.

147.15/16 TO INVITE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Councillor	Item	Reason
R Burrell	12.2.2.9. Budget Provision for	Chairman and Trustee,
	room hire by KS Youth Club	KSMMH Committee of
		Management

148.15/16 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: AN OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL ON ITEMS LISTED ON THE AGENDA:

Item 15: Traffic Issues, Richmond Street: Miss M Hanmer reported that by working together, traffic slowing down, and children wearing bright colours road safety would be improved. The Banbury Guardian had covered this topic.

149.15/16 TO CONFIRM THE ACCURACY OF THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD 5TH NOVEMBER 2015: (previously distributed)

RESOLVED: It was proposed by Cllr Sykes and seconded by Cllr Irving to Approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 5th November 2015.

150.15/16 TO NOTE REPORTS FROM:

A. the Clerk: (previously distributed)

Minute No. 132.15/16:

Creation of footpath at Upper Astrop Road: Work completed. Northants Highways had been asked to reinstate the grass verge where the portakabin stood and had given assurances that this will be done.

Minute No. 136.15/16:

A: Wales St FAS: Letter of thanks sent to Cllr Morris on 6th November 2015.

B: Barwood Homes FAS: Letter sent to Barwood Homes on 20th November 2015 requesting information on the arrangements for future maintenance.

C: Windsor Close FAS, 2012 Tripartite Agreement: SNC is dealing with the request to wind up the agreement.

Minute No. 137.15/16C: Astrop Grange correspondence: Paper setting out the reasons for the PC response of No Objections was issued to residents who had written in, two of whom were not satisfied and responded accordingly. They were advised that their correspondence had been passed to the Chairman and Vice Chairman and duly noted.

Minute No. 141.15/16:

F: Tree works at the Cemetery: The Contractor will carry out the works w/c 15th February 2016 for one week.

G: Lighting: Due to a high level of demand, routine fault repairs have taken longer to be carried out by the Lighting Contractor.

J.3: Fireworks Banner: The Chairman of the KSPFA arranged for the Banner to be removed and would bring the matter to the attention of the next Committee meeting.

2. Other:

Road Closures scheduled for 18th December 2015:

- i) Orchard Way: Patching of failed middle section of road
- ii) Newbottle Road.

B. the Chairman: No Report.

- **C. County Councillor:** Cllr Sawbridge, a member of the Finance & Resources Scrutiny Committee, NCC reported on the following:
- i) The Adult Care and Children in Care Budget 2015/2016 is overspent by £14.5million. Adults are living to advanced age which has an impact on health conditions. Increased numbers of children are in care, there is a shortage of trained care workers and greater use of Agency staff.
- ii) The Revenue Support Grant will be phased out in 2020 when funding for Councils will be from the Council Tax and a portion of the Business Rates Support Grant. Rises in Council Tax are capped at 1.99%. The Government has announced an additional 2% that may be used only for Adult Social Care.
- iii) Planned expenditure for the current financial year is likely to be delayed until 2016/2017.
- iv) Service delivery has been reorganised via various partnership and working arrangements with other local authorities, and outsourcing to agencies. A Strategic Transport Board has been formed to address cross county highway and transport issues. There is a desire to work more closely with district Councils to make efficiency savings.

Cllr Sawbridge was in favour of the reorganisation of local government from 3 tiers to unitary believing that this would reduce costs and bureaucracy, be more economic, less confusing to the public, and it would be better able to plan for the future needs of the population of Northamptonshire.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Sawbridge for his Report.

D. District Councillor: No Report. Cllr Morris had sent his Apologies.

151.15/16 TO CONSIDER THE CO-OPTION OF 4 COUNCILLORS TO FILL THE CASUAL VACANCIES CREATED AS A RESULT OF THE UNCONTESTED LOCAL ELECTION OF 7TH MAY 2015:

RESOLVED: It was proposed by Cllr Irving and seconded by Cllr Burne to defer consideration of this item to the next Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council to be held 7th January 2016.

152.15/16 FINANCE SCHEDULE: (previously distributed)

HSBC Bank Accounts	Bank Statement	Cash Book Balance	
	@ 27.10.15	@ 27.11.15	
Business Money Manager	£66,540.08	£54,944.06	
Community	£1.00	£1.00	
Money Market	£142,959.47	£142,959.47	

A. To Ratify and Approve the Payments:

To Ratify	•				
Cheque	Payee	Description	Amt (incl VAT)	VAT	
DD	BT plc	2		£20.10	
To Approve					
Cheque	Payee	Description	Amt (incl VAT)	VAT	
104383	Cheney Coaches Ltd	Inv. 21739 Thurs Bus November 2015	£380.00		
104384	A H Contracts	Inv. 8352 dog waste& litter services	£388.08	£64.68	
104385	KSMMH	Office Rent, Room Hire Nov&Dec15	£206.50		
104386	Aylesbury Mains Ltd	Inv. 15936 & CreditNote.1148 Repairs	£219.60	£36.60	
104387	SLCC	Membership Renewal 2016	£115.00		
104388	A Burrell	ROW leaflet holder	£4.79	£0.80	
104389	A M Nice	Chairman's Allowance KST	£65.00		
104390	A Le Druillenec	Salary Month 9	£1,095.97		
104391	HMRC	Tax & NI Month 9	£214.01		
		Total	£2,688.95	£102.08	

RESOLVED: It was proposed by Cllr Irving and seconded by Cllr Forde to:

- i) Ratify and Approve the Payments
- ii) Authorise payment to A H Contracts pending verification of the invoice.

A.1 Additional Payment:

Banbury Litho Limited: Invoice 14306 KST December 2015 £720.00

RESOLVED: It was proposed by Cllr Irving and seconded by Cllr Forde to Approve the Additional Payment.

Cheque No. 104392 was raised.

B. To Note Receipts:

Receipts	Type	Payer	Description	Amt
06.11.15	Cash	M Mitchell	Thursday Bus 29Oct15, 05Nov15	£46.00
20.11.15	Cheque	J & M Humphris	Headstone Plot 233, ERB 318	£70.00
20.11.15	Cash	M Mitchell	Thursday Bus 12Nov15, 19Nov15	£36.00
			Total	£152.00

Noted.

153.15/16 TRAINING:

A. To consider requests: None.

B. To receive report on CPRE Roadshow, 'Communication and Transportation' held 12th November 2015:

Attended by Cllrs Forde and Irving. Cllr Forde reported on the event. There was a Neighbourhood Plan Presentation and others on Transport, and Superfast Broadband.

Cllr Michael Clarke, Cabinet Member for Highways, Transportation and Environment, NCC gave a brief explanation of the development of transport plans. Highway Authorities are under no statutory obligation to liaise with adjacent counties to align and co-ordinate their plans.

154.15/16 FLOOD ALLEVIATION GROUP:

A. Wales Street FAS: Update: Cllr Forde reported on his conversation of 2nd December 2015 with Mrs Jackie Fitzsimons, Shared Interim Public Protection and Environmental Health Manager, SNC/CDC.

SNC was in the time consuming process of completing the requisite paperwork relating to the formally approved funding pledged by the Environment Agency.

SNC was drawing down the £63K of pre-approved monies to:

- i) Carry out a tree survey for soundness
- ii) Commission Thames Water to carry out a sewer study on the impact on the sewers to the rear of the houses in Wales Street
- iii) Negotiate with Network Rail on the impact of the Railway Embankment. Cllr Forde has requested an indicative timetable of the works in order to inform the village.

B. Barwood Homes' FAS: Update: No further progress.

Cllrs Forde and Irving intend to ask Barwood Homes for a walkabout. Currently a state of limbo exists in relation to the formal sign off of the Condition.

155.15/16 PLANNING:

- A. Chairman's Report: No Report.
- B. To consider recommendations arising from the meeting of the Planning Committee held at 7.00 p.m. on 3rd December 2015:
- B.1 Application No: S/2015/2754/MAF

Proposal: Variation of condition 2 (plans) to approved application S/2015/0481/MAF (Variation of condition 2 (plans) of S/2012/1417/MAF (Residential development of 35 dwellings, incorporating public open space and flood attenuation works) to extend plot 8 to incorporate integral garage plus ancillary accommodation and adjust position of plots 6 and 9 garages to suit). The addition of a dormer window and 2 velux windows to attached garage.

Location: Land off Hampton Drive, King's Sutton

Recommendation B.1: To offer No Objection.

RESOLVED: It was proposed by Cllr Forde and seconded by Cllr Sykes to Adopt Recommendation B.1.

C. North West Bicester - Supplementary Planning Document to guide the development of the NW Bicester Eco Development: Consultation:

The Planning Committee had **Noted** the document.

156.15/16 FINANCE GOVERNANCE & POLICY COMMITTEE:

- A. Chairman's Report: No Report.
- B. To consider recommendations arising from the meeting held 17th November 2015: (draft Minutes previously distributed)

Recommendation B.1: Contract for Parish Council Website: (Contract previously distributed)

- i) To re-word Paragraph 9 of the Website Contract as per Minute No. FGP: 49.15/16.
- **RESOLVED:** It was proposed by Cllr Irving and seconded by Cllr Hill to re-word paragraph 9 as follows: 'Official communications agreed by the Council for publication will be posted on the website as soon as possible but normally within at most seven days after being submitted to the Contractor by the Clerk to the Council.'
 - ii) To award the Contract in accordance with the terms of Paragraph 2.
- **RESOLVED:** It was proposed by Cllr Irving and seconded by Cllr Burne to extend the Contract for one year, commencing 1st January 2016, to Bridson Kneale Associates Ltd.

Recommendation B.2: S136 Mowing Agreement 2016: To Approve the 2016 Agreement with Northamptonshire Highways:

(Agreement previously distributed)

RESOLVED: It was proposed by Cllr Irving and seconded by Cllr Mullis to Adopt Recommendation B.2.

Recommendation B.3: The Rec:

- i) To purchase 4 No. collapsible timber bollards at a unit cost in the sum of £159 + vat plus £70.00 delivery charge and security feature.
- ii) To Accept estimated installation costs in the sum of £232.00 + vat.
- **RESOLVED:** It was proposed by Cllr Irving and seconded by Cllr Bailey to Adopt Recommendations B.3i) and ii).
 - iii) To Accept estimated costs in the sum of £285.00 + vat for the removal and disposal of the existing litter bins.
- **RESOLVED:** It was proposed by Cllr Irving and seconded by Cllr Burne to Adopt Recommendation B.3iii).
 - iv) To Appoint Mr Trevor Stewart to carry out quarterly inspection visits and undertake minor adjustments of the play equipment and surfacing at a cost of £212.00 + vat.

Agreed: That the quarterly cost shall include minor repairs and to write this into a contractual agreement.

RESOLVED: It was proposed by Cllr Irving and seconded by Cllr Bailey to Adopt Recommendation B.3iv) and to set out terms in a brief letter of Appointment to be drafted by Cllr Irving, Chairman, FG&P Committee and the Clerk.

Recommendation B.4: Future of the Thursday Bus Service:

i) To promote the use of the service and seek the views of residents prior to taking a decision in 6 months' time.

Cllr Irving clarified the situation that the Thursday Bus Service was under serious threat due to increasing net costs and dwindling number of users per week (14 on average since the resumption of the service in June 2015).

- **RESOLVED:** It was proposed by Cllr Irving and seconded by Cllr Dowling to:
 - i) Promote the service in the KS Times (whilst making it clear that the Thursday Bus Service was under threat)
 - ii) Publicise for more users
 - iii) Invite the views of residents via the website
 - iv) Review the situation in 6 months' time.

Recommendation B.5: Safeguarding Policy: To Adopt: (previously distributed)

RESOLVED: It was proposed by Cllr Burne and seconded by Cllr Irving to re-word Paragraph 6 'Training and Further Information', line 1 as follows:

Delete: 'It is recommended that' and Insert: 'will' between 'children' and 'access'.

Line 1 therefore to read:

'Employees and volunteers who regularly engage with children will access appropriate training through the Northamptonshire Safeguarding Children Board (NSCB).'

RESOLVED: It was proposed by Cllr Irving and seconded by Cllr Bailey to Adopt the Safeguarding Policy as amended.

Recommendation B.6: Standing Orders: (previously distributed)

i) To re-word SO 19c as per Minute No. FGP: 56.15/16B SO19c therefore to read:

'The Chairman of Council, and/or the Vice-Chairman, shall conduct an annual review of the performance of the Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer. The review and appraisal shall be reported in writing and is subject to approval by resolution of the Finance Governance & Policy Committee.'

ii) To Adopt Standing Orders as amended.

RESOLVED: It was proposed by Cllr Irving and seconded by Cllr Bailey to Adopt Standing Orders as amended.

Recommendation B.7: Financial Regulations: To Approve: (previously distributed)

RESOLVED: It was proposed by Cllr Irving and seconded by Cllr Dowling to Approve Financial Regulations.

Recommendation B.8: Training Statement of Intent: (previously distributed)

i) To re-word as per Minute No. FGP: 56.15/16D

Point 4 of the Training Statement of Intent therefore to read:

'King's Sutton Parish Council will aspire to make sufficient provision in its budget to ensure that the Clerk and Councillors are suitably trained to carry out their functions and duties. The Council will also aspire to provide sufficient funds for appropriate technical literature and other publications and travel expenses at the appropriate current rate.'

ii) To Adopt the Training Statement of Intent as amended.

RESOLVED: It was proposed by Cllr Irving and seconded by Cllr Bailey to Adopt Recommendation B.8i) and ii).

Recommendation B.9: Budget 2016/17:

i) To make budget provision for room hire for the Youth Club:

Cllr Burrell had declared an interest in this item.

RESOLVED: It was proposed by Cllr Irving and seconded by Cllr Hill to include the sum of £2,000 in the budget 2016/2017 for room hire for the Youth Club.

B.3 Extra Meeting of Finance Governance & Policy Committee: 17th December 2015: To note that the Committee will draft a Budget 2016-2017 for recommendation to the next Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council to be held 7th January 2016:

(Draft Payments Budget 2016/2017; Draft Receipts Budget 2016/2017; Draft Budget for The Rec. 2016/2017 previously distributed for information)

Noted.

157.15/16 SKATEBOARD RAMP:

A. To consider the provision of a skateboard ramp:

It was **Noted** that the Parish Council had deferred a decision to replace the timber skateboard ramp until the new play equipment was up and running. (Minute No. 160.14/15B. refers)

Proposal: Proposer: Cllr Hill Seconder: Cllr Mullis

Not to provide a Skateboard ramp.

The reasons for this were that:

- i) A timber skateboard ramp was prone to vandalism.
- ii) A metal skateboard ramp would be intrusive and not in keeping with the new play equipment.
- iii) Children wanted a skateboard area or park.

Cllr Bridson spoke against the proposal and was in favour of asking parents and children if they would like the Parish Council to replace the skateboard ramp.

A discussion took place and comments were made in respect of:

i) Former usage of skateboard ramp:

Demerits: The older age range had used the ramp for sitting on. The younger age range for their scooters. The majority of users were from outside King's Sutton and travelled to the village by train.

Merit: The ramp was a good thing for teenagers.

ii) Location:

Demerit: The Rec: It would be prominent and a visual intrusion. The Rec. was already full of play equipment.

Merit: The Playing Fields: A possible alternative site.

iii) Consultation: There was divided opinion on whether to ask parents and children, for example via an online poll, if they would like the Parish Council to replace the skateboard ramp. Was the Parish Council prepared to provide a replacement ramp?

The Chairman gave Cllr Hill the final word:

Cllr Hill stated that:

- i) Something larger was needed on The Rec.
- ii) What the Parish Council can provide is insufficient for what the skateboarders want and would not be used.

RESOLVED: It was proposed by Cllr Hill and seconded by Cllr Mullis not to provide a Skateboard ramp.

Voting: For: 9 Against: 2

CARRIED.

B. To Note the donor's wishes in respect of a £250 donation received in March 2013 and decide on action to take in respect of those wishes:

Cllr Burrell explained that in the event of the Parish Council not proceeding to provide a replacement skateboard ramp the donor had asked for the £250 to be given to a local charity.

Noted.

158.15/16 FOOTWAY LIGHTING AT HALESTRAP WAY AND LEADHOLM CLOSE: (Paper previously distributed)

A. Gear Change Trial: To consider replacing the gear trays in 4 lamps at an estimated total cost in the sum of £637.00 + vat:

Cllr Burrell reported on the site visit with Cllr Dowling on 1st December 2015.

Recommendation A.1 that:

- i) The remaining four lamps which each have the original 24 LEDs and produce a cold light, be replaced with the warmer type 12 LEDs as per the trial lamp
- ii) At least initially only the side of the lamp that faces the adjacent residential property be blacked out.

RESOLVED: It was proposed by Cllr Dowling and seconded by Cllr Burrell to proceed as per Recommendation A.1.

B. Additional Lantern and Column: To consider the installation of an additional heritage Footway Lighting Unit at an estimated cost in the sum of £1,500 + connection charge:

Recommendation B.1 that:

i) Further evaluation of the need for any additional blacking out of the existing lamps and the need for an additional lamp at the northern end of Halestrap Way be undertaken after the above changes have been completed.

Agreed: To defer consideration.

159.15/16 TRAFFIC ISSUES, RICHMOND STREET:

A. To discuss concerns raised by 2 residents in respect of highway issues along Richmond Street and their request for a one way system:

(Previously distributed: Paper entitled Traffic Issues, Richmond Street, Request for One Way System; Options 1 and 2 One Way system routes; Correspondence from D Winman to the Chairman received 1st December 2015 re. traffic issues in Richmond Street; email communications from D Winman and I Shirley; Reply to D Winman from Cllr Sykes setting out views on a One Way system)

A discussion took place during which the following comments were made:

A one way system would not unclog traffic in the village.
 Recent research and local circumstances suggest that the introduction of a one-way system would do more to exacerbate than to alleviate traffic problems in the village and the safety of pedestrians on Richmond Street and elsewhere, in that:

- i) In the absence of oncoming vehicles, or their possibility, motorists tend to drive faster on one-way than on two-way routes;
- ii) Traffic would be displaced as drivers found alternative routes and lead to problems elsewhere in the village. A one-way system would push more traffic on to neighbouring estate roads, including Dairy Ground, Newlands and the Timms Estate, where there are also many road-parked vehicles;
- iii) Forcing motorists to take circuitous routes through the village increases the average distance travelled by vehicles getting from A to B, thereby increasing the volume of traffic in the village.
- On road parking in Richmond Street was the problem rather than driver behaviour.
- A one way system would not have alleviated the impact in King's Sutton of the traffic problems in Banbury on 4th November 2015, which had prompted one of the email requests.
- A 20 mph speed limit in the historic centre of the village might be considered. It was **Noted** that a 20 mph speed limit is brought into effect during certain times of the school day.
- There were Enforcement issues.

The consensus view was not in favour of a one way system.

RESOLVED: It was proposed by Cllr Sykes and seconded by Cllr Irving that the Parish Council rejects investigating a one way system.

Agreed: To put out a Statement on the website explaining the reasons behind this decision.

A.1 Proposal to pursue a 20 mph speed limit:

It was proposed by Cllr Forde and seconded by Cllr Bridson that the Parish Council pursues the introduction of a 20 mph speed limit in the historic centre of King's Sutton, along with speed humps.

Cllr Sykes brought forward a counter proposal to pursue the 20 mph speed limit but not with vertical shifts.

RESOLVED: It was proposed by Cllr Sykes and seconded by Cllr Forde to pursue the introduction of a 20 mph speed limit in the historic centre of King's Sutton, along with traffic calming measures other than vertical shifts.

B. To Note procedural advice provided by the Community Engagement Manager, Northants Highways in respect of highway improvements: (previously distributed)

Mr Andrew Leighton, Community Engagement Manager, Northants Highways had advised that current budgetary constraints would mean that if the Parish Council were minded to investigate the possibility further, it would need to be prepared to make a significant financial contribution to the costs (which include consultation, a feasibility study, and - if approved - implementation).

Noted.

160.15/16 COUNCILLOR AND WARDEN REPORTS: TO RECEIVE REPORTS AND PUT QUESTIONS TO:

A. Rights of Way:

A.1 AS10, The Meadows:

A.1.1 To consider a request for a dog waste bin: The Parish Council considered a request from resident for a dog waste bin on the public footpath on the CALA Homes development. The bin at Sandringham Road was 'always overflowing'.

The Parish Council was not in favour of providing an additional bin.

Agreed: That if the person who made the request would report to the Parish Council whenever the dog waste bin at Sandringham Road is full the Parish Council would review its arrangements.

A.1.2 To consider action re. collection of water at the gate: Cllrs Burrell and Dowling had inspected the site on 1st December 2015 and reported that it was a camber issue for the attention of Northants Highways.

Action: the Clerk

B. Trees: No Report.

C. War Memorial: No Report.

D. Amenities: No Report.

E. Communications: No Report.

F. Cemetery: No Report.

G. Lighting: No further Report.

H. The Rec: Cllr Hill: Items for the Agenda of the next Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council to be held 7th January 2016.

- i) Provision of Notice for metal play equipment
- ii) Positioning of Goal Mouth.

Action: Cllr Hill (bring recommendations)

I. Traffic Calming and Highways:

I.1 VAS Astrop Road: Update: Cllr Sykes:

i) Equipment: Mr Gavin Hughes, Sales and IT Engineer, TWM, Traffic Control Systems has advised that the supplier has no sales representative and is therefore unable to bring the equipment out to the village. Mr Hughes has supplied a TWM video that demonstrates how to mount the unit; it appears labour intensive but simple to move the equipment around.

Volunteers would be needed.

- ii) Sites: Cllr Sykes will meet Mr Steve Barber, Collision Analysis and Investigation/VAS Projects, Northants Highways on 10th December 2015 to check out suitable locations. Positions along Mill Lane, the western end of Astrop Road, at the eastern end of the village (Glebe Rise and beyond), and at Orchard Way would be considered.
- iii) Next Steps: The Parish Council had Approved in Principle the purchase from TWM one Mini 300 SDU SID fitted with remote data collection facility at a cost of approx. £2,315 + vat. (Minute No. 123.15/16B.refers) Additional costs were thought to be minimal (mounting clips). Storage was yet to be resolved. The KSMMH was a possibility

RESOLVED: It was proposed by Cllr Sykes and seconded by Cllr Bailey that there was sufficient justification for a VAS on Astrop Road and to Authorise Cllr Sykes to proceed.

I.2 Community Speedwatch: Cllr Bailey:

Information on the 2016 Scheme had been received on 2nd December 2015.

Agreed: To ask for volunteers via the website.

Action: Cllr Bailey.

J. Street Areas:

Potholes along AS26 Spinney Bank: Clerk to report to Street Doctor.

Dropped kerb at 4 Paradise:

Action: Cllr Mullis.

Replenishment of Salt Bins: Cllrs to check.

161.15/16 CORRESPONDENCE:

A. Northants Police: Office of Northamptonshire Police and Crime Commissioner:

A.1 Letter dated 30th October 2015 informing of proposed actions to improve community safety: (previously distributed) To Note:

Noted.

A.2 Daventry and South Northamptonshire Independent Advisory Group: Invitation to attend Open Evening in Towcester on 22nd February 2016: (previously distributed)

Noted.

162.15/16 TO RECEIVE ITEMS FOR THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING (THURSDAY 7TH JANUARY 2016):

The Rec. (Minute No. 160.15/16H. refers)

The Meeting ended at 9.17 p.m.