



Kimbleworth and Plawsworth Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of the Kimbleworth and Plawsworth Parish Council held remotely via Skype, on Thursday, 09 July 2020 @ 7:00pm.

Present: Councillors – Cole, Hilland, Inman, Jackson, Kendall and Rippon.

Also in attendance – John Kelly (Parish Clerk) and two members of the public.

1. **Welcome:**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. **Apologies for Absence:**

Written apologies were received from Cllr Walker (Lisa).

Resolved: *Apologies for the above Parish Councillor were approved by the Council.*

3. **New members:**

Alan Hodgson and Michael Pierre were co-opted on to the Parish Council. They each verbally agreed their declaration of acceptance and took their place on the Council. A signed declaration was obtained in the days following the virtual meeting.

4. **Disclosable Pecuniary Interests:**

No interests declared.

5. **Minutes of Council meeting – 11 June 2020:**

The minutes of the Council meeting held on 11 June 2020 were approved as a true record by the Council.

6. **Police Report:**

No PCSOs were in attendance. PCSO Payne asked that the most recent PACT report for June and the Chester-le-Street Newsletter (July edition) be circulated with the agenda (acting as his update). All councillors advised they had read the PACT report and newsletter. As the Council had requested in June, the previous months' incident figures are now shown on the PACT report, so trends can be analysed. PCSO Payne apologised that he cannot attend KPPC meetings currently as this is his leave day. Cllr Cole read key points from a speeding update from PCSO Payne. Approximately 100 cars were speed checked at Nettlesworth Front Street,

with 10-15% travelling between 35-40mph. All details are passed to their traffic department to send educational letters, fines, or summons depending on the nature of offence. The Council would like to place on record their thanks for the informative, monthly updates provided by PCSO Payne.

7. Parish Matters and on-going items:

a) County Councillors Report

Councillor Wilson was not present to update on recently discussed matters. Councillor Liddle provided an update which was read out by the Chair: thanks was given to the volunteers of the Food for Thought project; support for Changing Lives through multi-agency working (police, councillors and DCC) continues to reduce the number of ASB incidents on and off site; a track in a neighbouring parish has seen signs erected to stop walkers passing through – Cllr Liddle will be assisting with a future application to make this a Public Right of Way; there has been a lack of social housing during the recent lockdown and Cllr Liddle would like to know of any available private rented properties in the division for residents; and parks countywide are being re-opened in a phased approach- all will be open in the coming weeks after risk assessment.

Resolved: *Councillor Wilson will update on all reported issues at the next meeting. Clerk to contact Councillor Wilson for an update and will circulate to the Parish Council.*

b) Community Centre Report

No update available.

Resolved: *Nothing to resolve.*

c) Planning Applications

- DM/20/01418/FPA – Wheatleywell Lane, Plawsworth (additional opening to single storey annex) - DM20/01522/FPA – Wheatleywell Lane, Plawsworth (erection of 2-storey to front, side and rear)

Resolved: *No comments were offered by the Council on each application.*

d) Allotments

The Council discussed the new tenancy agreement (subject to legal amendments) that will come into force from September 1st; an inspection checklist and rota for 2020-21; the rent setting for 2020-21; an update on a resolution to a damaged allotment fence bordering a resident's property; and two allocations of empty plots (numbers 3 and 18).

Resolved: *Council approved the final tenancy agreement (subject to legal verification) and the inspection checklist and rota for 2020-21. The rent was set for 2020-21 at £24 for standard plots although there are exceptions due to significant differences on some plot sizes and these will be notified to the tenant when requesting rent. The Council worked jointly with the resident to clear debris from the allotment and erected new fence poles and wire. Plot 3 and plot 18 were allocated to the next two residents on the waiting list in date order.*

e) Highways and road signage

No updates.

Resolved: *Nothing to resolve.*

f) Spring/ water trough at the roadside, Nettlesworth entrance (west)

The Council agreed members of the Working Group for the Spring project.

Resolved: *The Council agreed for Councillors Hodgson, Jackson, Pierre and Rippon to represent the Parish Council on the Working Group. County Councillor Wilson has also notified the Parish Council of his intention to be on this group. The Clerk will send an email to all members of the group with the most recent update and the group will report back with updates each month, to the Council, for any decisions. Members of the public can join the group to assist but the Council should be kept up to date with public membership.*

g) Consultations

The Council discussed four consultations: County Durham Plan amendments, Selective Licensing, and 'Street Space' (all from DCC); and the Code of Conduct from LGA.

Resolved: *The Council agreed for the Clerk to offer supportive comments regarding an improved A167 crossing and the return of lighting on the A167, as part of the Street Space consultation. No comments were offered for the other consultations.*

h) Broadband

The Clerk offered an update regarding the 2019 consultation in County Durham regarding the application for State Aid to improve broadband.

Resolved: *Item deferred to next meeting for discussion and further update.*

i) Planters and Christmas Tree 2020

The Clerk advised the Council had previously asked for planters to be placed on the agenda in the summer of 2020, to consider whether additional planters should be placed in Plawsworth and West Nettlesworth (and discuss how these would be maintained). The Council agreed for the Clerk to obtain 3 quotes on a range of planter sizes and maintenance. The Council also discussed a Christmas Tree for 2020 – last year the Council decided the cost was too great (largely due to electricity charges). Councillor Rippon suggested they could try to source one this year, as a gift. Councillor Cole said they would assist.

Resolved: *Clerk to obtain three quotes to be obtained for September meeting regarding planters. Sourcing of Christmas Tree to be researched by Councillors Cole and Rippon, with an update to be brought to September meeting for decision on other costs.*

j) Public Rights of Way (PRoW)

The Council discussed the track south of Kimblesworth, running to Kimblesworth Grange. Recently, the farmer has placed 'no right of way' signs. The Clerk has confirmed there is no registered Public Right of Way with Durham County Council. The Council agreed to submit a land registry request to obtain the owner details and make contact to discuss an informal agreement for continued walking through the field. The

Clerk gave an update on the process for registering paths that are not registered but have been used by the public for over 20 years – it was noted this process can take well over 12 months in total but remains a future option to support the residents of the area. The Council also discussed walking of all registered routes – Councillor Inman advised he does this every year – Councillor Cole thanked Councillor Inman on behalf of the Council.

Resolved: *The Council agreed for the Clerk to submit a land registry request and give and item to be discussed again at September's meeting. The Council approved an update on the matter to be given via the Council's Facebook page. No process required for walking existing routes – as this is already done.*

[Councillor Inman left the meeting].

k) Social Media Policy

The Council considered the draft Social Media Policy covering the Council's Facebook account and all councillors' personal social media use.

Resolved: *The Council approved the Social Media Policy.*

l) Grant Applications

No applications to discuss. The Council discussed the promotion of the grants budget to interested organisations.

Resolved: *The Council agreed to place an item in the upcoming newsletter and a link from the Council's website homepage to the relevant webpage (where the grant application form is displayed). It was also agreed to promote grants via the Council's Facebook page.*

m) Training

- Two upcoming councillor training sessions via Zoom (held by CDALC) – 16th and 23rd July.

Resolved: *Training update noted; the Clerk will circulate any documents relating to these sessions to all Councillors.*

n) Correspondence

- Kompan (playground enquiry)
- Land ownership follow up enquiry (East View, Kimblesworth)
- Kimblesworth allotment query (allocation and ownership)
- Citizens Advice (thank you for donation)
- DCC Transport (X20 service update)
- Kimblesworth Care Home – response from DCC to query

Resolved: *Correspondence noted:- Kompan contact noted but the play park at the Community Centre cannot be renewed whilst the lease issue is ongoing (due to end 2021); residents at East View have asked the Council to support the issue of overgrowing and trees again (previously discussed March 2020) – the Council agreed to place item on September's agenda but residents must follow land registry process for private road (as advised in March) prior to meeting – Clerk to advise; resident had queried ownership of Kimblesworth allotments – Clerk responded to advise KPPC did not manage and passed details to land owner; Citizens Advice thanked KPPC for the recent £50 donation; Go North East will trial evening (and*

Sunday) service via Kimblesworth later in the year; and DCC advise they have no part in the sale and ownership of the care home and are unaware of next steps.

8. Financial Matters:

a) Payments

Resolved: *The following payments were agreed (and invoices will be signed by the Chair at the next meeting held in person):*

- (1) The sum of £278.26 be paid to J Kelly (Clerk service, 1st – 30th June, 31 hours)
- (2) The sum of £3.49 be paid to J Kelly (monthly HP ink)
- (3) The sum of £172.00 be paid to J Kelly (plants reimbursement)

b) Receipts

Resolved: *The following receipts were noted and will be signed by the Chair at the next meeting in person:*

- PAYE (to HMRC) June hours, July submission (£69.56)
- Printer subscription with HP - see item 8(a)2. above (£3.49) - Plants – see item 8(a)3. above (£172.00)

c) Bank statements and direct debits

Resolved:

Statements checked:

- May 2020 – received and will be signed at the next meeting held in person.

Direct debits (and standing orders) checked by the Chair and to be signed at next meeting held in person:

- HMRC (June payment) – checked on May statement (paid 1st June)
- Anglian Water (quarterly) – checked on May statement (paid 1st June)

9. Date of Next Meeting

11 September 2020 to commence at 7.00pm.

The meeting terminated at 8.47pm.

Chairman

Date