

Kimblesworth & Plawsworth P a r i s h & C o u n c i l

Kimblesworth and Plawsworth Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Kimblesworth and Plawsworth Parish Council held in the Community Centre, Nettlesworth, DH2 3PN, on Thursday 12 September 2024 @ 7:00pm.

Present: Councillors – Burnip, Craig, Inman (Chair), Jackson, Rippon and Walker.

Also in attendance – John Kelly (Clerk), County Councillor Waldock, and one member of the public, representing Sacriston Youth Project (by way of introduction).

1. Welcome:

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies for Absence:

Cllrs Bruce and Elley offered their written apologies.

Resolved: *Apologies noted.*

3. Disclosable Pecuniary Interests:

No interests were declared.

4. To receive and approve the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held 11 July 2024.

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on 11 July 2024 were approved by the Council (subject to correcting some minor typographical errors), proposed by Cllr Jackson and seconded by Cllr Craig.

5. Parish Matters and on-going items:

a) County Councillors' Report

Councillor Waldock asked for volunteers for the community speed watch scheme. Cllr Inman asked where the electric mobile speed sign had gone. Councillor Waldock advised there are delays with the opening of the Investing in Children office at Kimblesworth. Cllr Rippon reported a business being operated from a property in Nettlesworth. Cllr Rippon asked for an update on approval required from DCC to install stone village signs. The Clerk advised no approval had been given despite the request being made in early March, and despite several reminders being sent. Cllr Craig requested the Clerk report flyposting next to the bus stop at Plawsworth (A167).

Resolved: *Councillors Waldock and Wilson to update on all queries at the next meeting.*

b) Highways, paths, and road signage

A response has still not been received regarding the overdue repainting of the crash barrier (first requested in 2023) on the bend at B6312. Councillor Waldock advised Councillor Wilson was specifically dealing with this item. Councillor Waldock awaits a response from DCC regarding a date for work to reintroduce a gravel path from Broadmires to the allotments and if the parish council can obtain a quote to contribute to extend the path. Councillor Waldock suggested area partnership funding could be used if the Ugly Lane car park does not proceed before 2025 (as that funding could be redirected). The Clerk advised that Land Registry has finally contacted on 26th August 2024 to ask that KPPC make an application to register the football field in KPPC's name, as 'first registration'. The initial enquiry was made in December 2023. Cllr Rippon reported the abandoned car again at the corner of the B6312, on the road to Cedar Avenue. The Clerk was asked to report this to the warden at DCC who had previously dealt with the matter earlier in 2024. Cllr Craig reported parking issues on the blind bend at Wheatleywell Lane, Plawsworth, and requested the Clerk contact the warden at DCC for advice and assistance. Cllr Inman asked county councillors to facilitate a meeting with the new MP for the area, regarding traffic speed and safety on the B6312 and the A167 (including the crossing). Cllr Walker reported overgrown hedges on the B6312 on Red Lion bank, narrowing the path and causing a hazard. The Clerk advised that lights would be in place on Mill Lane, Plawsworth on 18th September 2024, due to work by Northumbrian Water.

Resolved: *Councillors Waldock and Wilson to update on all queries at next meeting.*

c) Primary School, Nettleworth

A short update was read by the Clerk, provided by the school.

Resolved: *To note update.*

d) Community Centre Report

There was no update provided by the community association. The Clerk advised a new heater will be installed by the parish council, to the defibrillator at the centre, on Monday 12 September.

Resolved: *To note update.*

e) Planning and Licence Applications

The following applications were discussed:

- None.

Resolved: *Nothing to resolve.*

f) Allotments

The Clerk gave an update on rent paid to date. The Chair of the Allotment Committee (Cllr Jackson) asked the Clerk to arrange a committee meeting to discuss breaches of tenancy and any other issues at the allotments.

Resolved: *To note update, and Clerk to summons committee members for meeting.*

g) Newsletter

Items suggested for the next newsletter included the proposed installation of new defibrillators at the church in Kimblesworth and at the Red Lion, Plawsworth.

Resolved: *To note update.*

h) External Audit 2024-25

The Council received the external review. There were no recommendations from the external auditor regarding the accounts. The Clerk advised of the conclusion notice date for the publication of the audited accounts (13th September 2024).

Resolved: *The Council received the audit review and noted the conclusion notice date for published accounts.*

i) Bench at Cross Lane

The Council had previously approved a maximum cost of a bench installation at Cross Lane. The Council were asked to choose a contractor and accepted the quote from the only contractor who had provided a written quote. The motion was proposed by Cllr Burnip and seconded by Cllr Jackson.

Resolved: *To procure the agreed contractor, noted by the Clerk.*

j) Remembrance Day

The Council agreed to add the previously purchased poppies on lampposts, in equal numbers across the villages, and place the soldier silhouettes at the same locations as the D-Day event in June: The Green, Nettlesworth; Plawsworth Gate; Wheatleywell Lane, Plawsworth; Westhills Close, Sacriston; and the turning circle at Kimblesworth. The motion was proposed by Cllr Craig and seconded by Cllr Jackson.

Resolved: *To place the poppies and soldiers in the same locations as previous events.*

k) Additional flowerbeds in the parish area

The item was deferred until October, to allow for further quotes from contractors for flowerbeds, and to allow councillors to consider the value of the installations.

Resolved: *Item deferred.*

l) Dog poo bin at The Green

The Council had previously discussed placing a bin at The Green, but DCC has still not provided a quote to agree the cost, requested in June 2024. Item deferred again until next meeting.

Resolved: *Item deferred.*

m) Grants

- None.

Resolved: *Nothing to resolve.*

n) Training

- New Councillor Training, Tuesday 24 September 6-8pm via Zoom (CDALC, £10 per member).

Resolved: *No requests, so nothing to resolve.*

o) Correspondence

- Allotment tenant (notification of fly tipping).

Resolved: *Correspondence noted.*

6. Financial Matters:

a) Payments

Resolved: *The following payments were agreed (and invoices signed by the Chair):*

- (1) The sum of £155.48 be paid to J Kelly (Clerk service, 1st – 31st July, 13.5 hours including one hour annual leave).
- (2) The sum of £173.42 be paid to J Kelly (Clerk service, 1st – 31st August, 14.5 hours including six hours annual leave).
- (3) The sum of £5.00 be paid to J Kelly (printer paper).
- (4) The sum of £20.00 be paid to J Kelly (digital map for lectern).
- (5) The sum of £176.79 be paid to G. O'Brien (admin services, 1st – 31st July, 18.4 hours).
- (6) The sum of £192.16 be paid to G. O'Brien (admin services, 1st – 31st August, 20 hours including 4 hours annual leave).
- (7) The sum of £76.00 be paid to Society of Local Council Clerks (annual subscription).

b) Receipts

Resolved: *The following receipts were noted and will be signed by the Chair:*

- PAYE (to HMRC) July hours, August submission (£84.60)
- PAYE (to HMRC) August hours, September submission (£91.40)
- Printer paper, Argos (£5.00)
- Digital Map, Durham County Council (£20.00)

c) Bank statements and direct debits

Resolved:

Statements checked:-

- June 2024 (no. 177)

- July 2024 (no. 178)

Direct debits (and standing orders) checked by the Chair and signed:-

- HMRC, £94.80 (April submission) – no. 177

- HMRC, £99.60 (May submission) – no. 177

- Anglian Water T/A Wave, £41.05 (quarterly payment)– no. 177

7. Date of Next Meeting

10 October 2024 to commence at 7pm.

The meeting terminated at 20.16.

Chairman

Date