

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

Kimbleworth and Plawsworth Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Kimbleworth and Plawsworth Parish Council held in the Community Centre, Nettlesworth, DH2 3PN, on Thursday 12 January 2023 @ 7:00pm.

Present: Councillors – Bruce, Inman, Rippon, and Walker.

Also in attendance – John Kelly (Parish Clerk), and County Councillor Wilson.

1. Welcome:

The Clerk asked the councillors present to propose a chair for the meeting, as the Chairman and Vice-chairman were not present. Cllr Bruce proposed Cllr Inman, and Cllr Walker seconded the motion. The Council voted for Cllr Inman to chair the meeting.

The chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies for Absence:

There were written apologies offered from Cllr Craig, Cllr Elley, and Cllr Jackson.

Resolved: Council noted apologies.

3. Disclosable Pecuniary Interests:

No interests were declared.

4. Minutes of Council meeting – Ordinary Meeting 8 December 2022:

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on 8 December 2022 were approved by the Council, subject to one minor typing error requiring amendment.

5. Parish Matters and on-going items:

a) County Councillors' Report

Durham County Council are investigating the flood water coming off the fields at East View, Kimblesworth, but the land is not registered, so the issue is difficult to resolve. Councillor Wilson gave an update on the recently announced devolution deal for seven councils in the north-east (including Durham County Council). Cllr Bruce reported drainage issues at The Crescent. Cllr Bruce asked if traffic measures on the B6312 had been discussed with DCC yet. The Clerk has still not received details for a new contact at Speed Watch – Councillor Wilson will chase this. Councillor Waldock has not received a response from Karbon regarding parking at The Crescent and the repair of the garage site at Hillmeads. Cllr Inman placed on record that no correspondence has been received from Karbon, regarding parking at The Crescent despite multiple requests (not just this recent one). A litter pick was carried out by Councillor Waldock alone on Monday 9 January 2023. Another pick will be arranged for Saturday 28 January, 10-11.30am. Councillor Waldock has reported the broken panel at the bus shelter at Aged Miners' Bungalows.

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

b) Highways, paths, and road signage

The dropped kerb on the B6312, on the walk down the bank from Nettlesworth still does not appear to have been reported despite multiple reports – there is no way to travel to the A167 without going onto the road – this was first reported by the Parish Council in Autumn 2021. The village sign for Kimblesworth at Cedar Avenue still shows visible graffiti - Councillor Wilson had previously advised he would chase up a replacement earlier in 2022. The Council would like to renew and/or resite the 30mph signs for Nettlesworth. DCC (via the Area Action Partnership) are still to carry out consultation (before Christmas) regarding parking spaces to be added at Ugly Lane and Clean and Green have not provided the cost of work yet. The crossing on the B6312 near to Cedar Avenue cannot be moved by DCC due to the width of the road and placement of existing dropped kerbs. Councillors Waldock and Wilson will explore whether DCC can provide temporary signs for the school to place when school starts and ends. Councillor Wilson will ask that DCC staff, working in the office at The Green, to park at the community centre.

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

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

The contractor has booked the work in for March 2023 (subject to receipt of drainage plans from DCC).

Resolved: *Councillor Wilson to obtain drainage plans from DCC for the site.*

d) Community Centre Report

The lease has still not been renewed. New heating panels have now been paid for.

Resolved: *To note update.*

e) Planning and Licence Applications

The following applications were discussed:

- DM/22/03464/VOC, 3 Eureka Terrace (Removal of Condition 4 from DM/21/01263/FPA regarding landscaping).

Resolved: *No comment to be made.*

f) Allotments

Plot 13 has been allocated to the person top of the waiting list. Part payment of £10 was received for the remainder of this year's rent. Pest control will attend 14 January 2023. The noticeboard for the rear of Woodland Terrace, at the allotments has been received. The Chair is still to check the feasibility of installing the noticeboard himself.

Resolved: *To note update.*

g) Newsletter

Some items were offered by Councillors for the following edition of the newsletter in 2023. One young person had responded to the request for improvements to the villages, with a design for a dog park. The Clerk will keep this on record.

Resolved: *Possible future items passed to Clerk.*

h) Administrative Support Assistant

The Council discussed a new role of an Administrative Support Assistant for KPPC (4 hours per week, SCP 1, £10.53 an hour (April 2022 rate)). The item was deferred until the next meeting.

Resolved: *Item deferred.*

i) Action Plan

The Council considered the action plan they approved in September 2022, to check whether amendments were required prior to budget setting for 2023-24. Cllr Inman asked if the plan could make clear maintenance and displays for noticeboards would only cover parish assets. The Clerk amended the plan, to clarify.

Resolved: *To note update.*

j) Reserves Policy

The Council considered a new policy for the holding of reserves. The Council approved the policy.

Resolved: *Policy approved.*

k) Budget and Precept 2023-24

The Clerk read a report prepared to consider the council tax base, precept and budget required for 2023-24. The Clerk advised the tax base (band D equivalent) was currently £38.97. The tax base has risen from 509.1 to 613.6 (due to the new builds at Cross Lane). The Council discussed and agreed the budget for 2023-24, based on the previous draft discussed at December's meeting, with no further amendments.

Resolved: Council agreed budget for 2023-24 and approved a precept request of £23,911.44 – this means there is a 0% increase for residents from last year and a reduction per household since 2019.

l) Section 106 money

The Council discussed possible applications for section 106 money. Cllr Bruce proposed a war memorial at Nettlesworth and advised she will gather three quotes for an application to be agreed at the February meeting. Cllr Rippon proposed to erect stone entrance signs at the three villages, and provided correspondence, quotes, and designs. One further quote is required which the Clerk will attempt to obtain. The Council approved an application to DCC for request funding for this initiative.

Resolved: Council agreed to make an application for s106 money for stone village entrance signage.

m) Charitable organisations

The Council discussed charitable organisations and the value of being a trustee to an operational charity, assisting individuals. The Council will continue to discuss further detail when it is available, before making any decisions.

Resolved: Item deferred.

n) Grants

There were no grant applications to consider.

Resolved: Nothing to resolve.

o) Training

- None

Resolved: Nothing to resolve.

p) Correspondence

- Director of Riversdale Homes with an update on supported living (people with autism) at Eureka Mews.

Resolved: Correspondence noted.

6. Financial Matters:

a) Payments

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

- (1) The sum of £279.70 be paid to J Kelly (Clerk service, 1st – 31st December), 26 hours (including 7 hours annual leave).
- (2) The sum of £17.49 be paid to J Kelly (HP ink, December, and printer paper)
- (3) The sum of £150.00 to W Reed (allotment rent)
- (4) The sum of £35.00 to Information Commissioners Officer (Data Protection renewal)
- (5) The sum of £246.00 to Ash Signs (newsletter and signage)
- (6) The sum of £1,100.00 to Mona Lisa Arts and Media (grant award)

b) Receipts

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

- PAYE (to HMRC) December hours, January submission (£70.00)
- Printer subscription with HP - see item 6(a)2 above (£4.49 December)
- Printer paper x2 – see item 6(a)2 above (£17.00)

c) Bank statements and direct debits

Resolved:

Statements checked:

- November 2022 (no.158)

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

- HMRC - October payment (November statement) - £64.77
 - November payment (November statement) - £99.80
 - December payment (November statement – shows early month, before cut-off) - £70.00
- Anglian Water trading as Wave (quarterly) – no payments (next due on December statement)

7. Date of Next Meeting

09 February 2023 to commence at 7.00pm.

The meeting terminated at 20.29.

Chairman

Date