

# 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 13 June 2024 @ 7:00pm.

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

**Also in attendance** – John Kelly (Clerk).

### 1. Welcome:

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### 2. Apologies for Absence:

Cllr Bruce offered their written apologies.

**Resolved:** *Apologies noted.*

### 3. Disclosable Pecuniary Interests:

Cllr Burnip declared a personal interest (not pecuniary) in item 5(f).

### 4. To receive and approve the minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council held 09 May 2024 and the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held 09 May 2024.

The minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council held on 09 May 2024 were approved by the Council, proposed by Cllr Burnip, and seconded by Cllr Walker. The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on 09 May 2024 were approved by the Council, proposed by Cllr Walker, and seconded by Cllr Burnip.

### 5. Parish Matters and on-going items:

#### a) **County Councillors' Report**

Neither of the county councillors were present, so the clerk read updates from both, acting as their report. Councillor Wilson reaffirmed that further work is required at Nettlesworth playground. Councillor Waldock advised work is now progressing at the former care home at Kimblesworth – although plans have been scaled down due to costs. Cllr Rippon asked if DCC could prune the tree overshadowing the planter at Kimblesworth, or if they could move it to the other side of the road, as the plants are struggling without light. Cllr Craig asked the Clerk to report litter at the new gate at the public right of way (PRoW), Wheatleywell Lane. Cllr Jackson asked for the broken PRoW sign at Broadmires (near the trough) to be reported.

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

**b) Highways, paths, and road signage**

Councillor Wilson has requested landscaping at the Red Lion roundabout, but DCC have stated no funding is available. 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 will request a quote from DCC to complete a full gravel path from Broadmires to the allotments (they have confirmed they will provide a half path to the point where maps show the PRow ends). Footpaths in The Crescent have been reported to DCC.

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

**c) Primary School, Nettlesworth**

There was no update provided regarding the school.

**Resolved:** *To note update.*

**d) Community Centre Report**

Cllr Walker advised the community association has been offered a 50-year lease by Lambton Estate at peppercorn rent. The details of the primary leaseholder has not been agreed – whether this will be Durham County Council or Plawsworth and Kimblesworth Community Association.

**Resolved:** *To note update.*

**e) Planning and Licence Applications**

The following applications were discussed:

- None.

**Resolved:** *Nothing to resolve.*

**f) Allotments**

The contractor will be resurfacing the lane prior to the next meeting. The recent inspections found seven allotments without cultivation. However, two are new tenants this year and one is giving their garden back this summer. The other four tenants will be sent letters requesting them to cultivate their garden immediately. One tenant has received an informal warning previously, so will be asked if they wish to tidy and return their garden or downsize to a half plot before the council consider further action. The Council discussed an issue raised by one tenant about another plot that does not fall within the clauses of the tenancy agreement. The Council asked the Clerk to send an advice letter asking for joint working towards a resolution, proposed by Cllr Inman and seconded by Cllr Jackson.

**Resolved:** *To note update; and Clerk to send letters to tenants as requested.*

**g) Newsletter**

No items were offered for the next newsletter.

**Resolved:** *To note update.*

**h) Defibrillators**

The Clerk has sought approval from the Red Lion pub and the church at Kimblesworth to install defibrillators on the external wall. The Council awaits their response. London Hearts

(the organization previously procured by central government for the now expired scheme for discounted defibrillators), are now providing discounted defibrillators directly (albeit with smaller discount). Costs will be brought to the July meeting.

**Resolved:** *To note update.*

**i) Village signage (additional stone carving)**

The Council previously approved the creation of five stone signs across the parish area, three of which were to be carved with an image. The Council discussed the carving of a fourth sign at the west entrance to Nettlesworth. Cllr Jackson proposed to agree the fourth carved sign at a cost of £1,100 and Cllr Burnip seconded. The Council agreed with a vote of four to two.

**Resolved:** *To pay for the carving of a fourth village sign (from the five signs to be installed).*

**j) Additional flowerbeds in the parish area**

The Council considered further flowerbeds in the parish area. The Chair asked the Council to consider the best locations for the July meeting.

**Resolved:** *Item deferred.*

**k) Community Day 2025**

The Council considered whether to include the cost of the summer fair in 2025 into their ringfenced reserves for 2024-25. The Council decided against the budget adjustment but will consider whether to include an amount in their reserves when they approve the budget for 2025-26 (at the meeting in January 2025).

**Resolved:** *Item deferred.*

**l) Grants**

- None.

**Resolved:** *Nothing to resolve.*

**m) Training**

- None.

**Resolved:** *Nothing to resolve.*

**n) Correspondence**

- None

**Resolved:** *No correspondence to note.*

**6. Financial Matters:**

**a) Payments**

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

(1) The sum of £200.33 be paid to J Kelly (Clerk service, 1<sup>st</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> May, 16.75 hours)

(2) The sum of £15.99 be paid to J Kelly (Norton computer software)

(3) The sum of £206.57 be paid to G. O'Brien (admin services, 1<sup>st</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> May, 21.5 hours).

(4) The sum of £200.00 to New College, Durham (soldier silhouettes).

(5) The sum of £510.00 to Turtle Engineering (bleed control cabinet).

#### **b) Receipts**

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

- PAYE (to HMRC) May hours, June submission (£101.72)
- Norton anti-virus package (£15.99)

#### **c) Bank statements and direct debits**

**Resolved:**

*Statements checked:-*

- April 2024 (no. 175)

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

- HMRC – Balance payment, April submission (£79.40)
- Anglian Water T/A Wave, quarterly payment (next due June statement))

#### **7. Date of Next Meeting**

11 July 2024 to commence at 7pm.

The meeting terminated at 20.24.

**Chairman**

**Date**