

## KING'S STANLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk – Frances Ashfield  
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**MINUTES OF MEETING OF KING'S STANLEY PARISH COUNCIL** held in the Scout HQ in Selsley on **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2015** at 7.30pm.

**Present:** Cllrs Jamie Burke, John Graham, Lawrie Hall, David Hauser, Wendy McNamee, David Owen, Symon Parsley, Lesley Williams. Also present District Cllrs Steve Lydon, Nigel Studdert-Kennedy, County Cllr Dorcas Binns, Frances Ashfield – Parish Clerk, Sandra Adams and Peter Wheatley

**75/15 Public Time:** Cllrs welcomed Peter to the meeting who reported that residents on Castle St had requested restricted parking on Castle St. It was mentioned that he had heard of plans to introduce further restricted parking, but that this was news to all councillors. Agreed to contact GCC if there were any such plans. Also concerned about transport and parking such time as the Woodside Lane development begins.

**76/15 To receive apologies for absence - None**

**77/15 To receive Declarations of Interest on items on the agenda –** Cllr Lydon declared an interest in an issue relating to Leonard Stanley

**78/15 To receive the application for the casual vacancy and vote on the co-option of applicant –** Sandra Adams said a few words in support of her application. She was then asked to leave the room whilst Cllrs discussed the application. Cllrs voted to accept Sandra's application and welcomed her to the council. She signed an acceptance form and given register of interest forms to complete and return to the Clerk.

**79/15 To approve the Minutes from the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2105 –** Minutes were approved as a true record and signed

**80/15 To receive updates/reports from the County and District Councillors**

Cllr Binns reported that cabinet had approved the new community meals contract with £3.50 being the fixed rate. The CC will top up shortfall if prices increase. There are less people taking up the meals service. Both Cllr Binns and Lydon were meeting up with Highways to look at Ryeford Bridge and also other issues in the parish. She also said she would be looking at the proposal from KSPC re dropped ramps. Cllr Adams asked if roads and pavements near The Bell in Selsley could be looked at. Gully cleaning and weed spraying required.

Cllr Lydon reported that SDC were planning to have a Highways summit. Representatives from business and parish councils would be invited. Housing numbers of 11,400 had been agreed as part of the Local Plan. A further round of consultation was being carried out prior to the final plan being accepted. Mankley Road development was due to start very soon. The Village Green application was still going through the system and had to look at activities over the past 2 years. Gladmans had pulled out of the review. Re budget – no extra money. Don't know if grant streams will still be available. Devolution – prospectus being prepared which could be an opportunity for PC's to take control of more services/assets. Incinerator – court case unsuccessful and an independent review is being called for. Re NPPF – tends to fall on the side of the developers. SDC is looking to buy in Highways advice.

Cllr Studdert-Kennedy endorsed what Cllr Lydon had reported and added that pavements needed cutting back, along with hedges that were causing problems. The Clerk would contact the grass mowing contractor and ask that the edges of paths could be cut back. Clerk to put article in newsletter again requesting that residents cut back their hedges. Issues with weeds

growing out of wall by Down to Earth in Selsley. Mankley Road development has 12 months in which to complete work. Concession would be that smaller lorries are to be used. SDC is to enforce development at Stanley Mills. Cllr Owen brought to DC attention that litter and bonfires were an on-going issue at Jackdaw quarry on Selsley Common. The Clerk would contact Rozelle Jackowicz at SDC and report this.

Cllr Lydon presented a letter from LSPC requesting help for the village green application. The majority of Councillors agreed to support the request as it was felt that, as they were parishes with a common border, it was in King's Stanley's interest to support LSPC. It was also noted that Leonard Stanley had more wide ranging support from their own parish and their application had a good chance of being successful. A letter of support, with a cheque, is to be sent to LS Clerk by KS Parish Clerk.

### **81/15 Planning:**

#### **i) To receive and comment on planning applications received**

*S.15 1417/OUT Land parcel to east of Severn Waters, Bath Road – Outline Planning permission for residential development of 44 dwellings*

Cllrs were concerned that this development would cause a pinch point into the village due to the narrow access to Severn Waters. Cllrs were also concerned that the cumulative effect of more development hadn't been looked at and development was becoming ad-hoc. Quality of life and well-being would also be threatened should this development be granted and the economic reason for a nursery was questioned. With the near completion of the Local Plan it was felt that this development should now be excluded as sufficient housing had been identified. Cllrs objected to this application.

- **ii) To receive a progress report from the Clerk on applications already responded to**
- S.15/1272/HHOLD Appin, Selsley Hill – Removal of existing utility store and garage - construction of extensions. **Permission**
- S.15/1189/HHOLD Henlian, Castle St KS – Proposed 2 storey rear extension, conversion of garage into dining room and front porch extension. **Withdrawn**
- S.15/1061/HHOLD The Barn, High St KS – Erection of upper storey side extension to an existing bedroom – **Permission**
- S.15/0951/HHOLD 40 Coldwell, KS – Loft conversion, installation of dormer window, side windows and velux rooflights and decking area - **Permission**
- S.15/1209HHOLD 1 Elmlea Rd KS - Erection of 2 storey extension and replacement garage.( Revised consultation). **Permission**

#### **iii) To agree the committee structure for deciding planning applications**

The Clerk had prepared a paper, which was circulated prior to the meeting, outlining the difference between committees and advisory/working groups. Cllr Williams suggested it was called the Planning Advisory Group. Cllr Hall suggested that the terms of reference of the group (PAG) are: becomes the first recipient of the planning applications, considers the issues of each application, meets within a week of the PC meeting and reports back to full council on recommendations. If an application is likely to need more input from full council then it will be an agenda item for discussion. If applications arrive after the council meeting then the group will circulate comments to Cllrs prior to comments being sent to Planning.

### **82/15 To discuss development of a volunteer policy for the Parish Council**

It had been noted that a number of people carried out voluntary activities in the Parish. Some of these were as a direct request from the PC whilst others were of the individual's own volition. Discussions centred around rewarding volunteers and different ways this could be done. Most Cllrs recognised that individuals shouldn't be out of pocket when carrying out volunteer work. It was recognised that some people didn't want any 'reward' as they were carrying out the work for the improvement of the villages. The Clerk suggested a short 'policy' be compiled so everyone knew what volunteers could claim and how/if volunteers were covered by insurance. Cllrs agreed that it was necessary to bring any voluntary work likely to

incur an expense to full council first for agreement and that a budget for this would need to be set up. Cllrs agreed that voluntary activity should be recognised by a letter from the PC to individuals volunteers. The Clerk reported that she had just written an article for August's parish magazine thanking various volunteers. Cllr Lydon recommended the PC joins GAVCA and gets access to volunteer policies.

#### **83/15 To receive requests for dog bins and litter bins**

Cllr Parsley was concerned that there wasn't a dog bin by Selsley footpath into Penn Wood and people were throwing dog bags into the field. The Clerk had received a request for a dog bin/litter bin between St George's church and Selwyn Close as there was a lot of litter collecting along that stretch of road. Cllr Studdert-Kennedy reported that the budget for bins had been devolved to owners of land on which bins were installed. An annual bin emptying fee would be £74.00. It was suggested that SDC needs to to inform walkers of their responsibilities in taking the bags home for disposal. Cllrs didn't think bins were necessary and didn't have the budget to purchase one or pay for emptying them. Cllrs asked the Clerk to write an article in the Parish Magazine.

#### **84/15 To receive an update on the Old School Community asset**

Cllr Burke reported that he had met with Cllr Parsley, the VH reps and play group reps to look at plan of action re finances, statement of works and business case. The Village Hall didn't have sufficient funds to repay a loan. The VH were looking to continue the life of the Elliot Buildings and replace them in the future. There appeared to be a significant amount of money needed to fit out the building and no groundswell of interest from the community to help out. Current income from the playgroup went towards the VH and no longer using the current space would affect VH income. Significant amounts of money would be needed to repay a loan on an annual basis and the precept would have to double if this was seen as a way of the PC repaying the loan required to buy the building. If the precept were to be increased by such a high percentage then a community meeting would need to be called to discuss this.

Cllrs felt there was too much of a risk at present in trying to buy the building. It was felt that many people in the parish weren't aware of the Old School as a community asset and insufficient interest in other groups using it or helping to refurbish it. The Chair thanked Cllrs Burke and Parsley for all their hard work in pursuing this option.

It was suggested that the building becomes listed. Clerk to look into this.

#### **85/15 Financial Issues:**

**i) To receive the finance report and authorise payments in accordance with the RFO report** -The report was accepted and payments were authorised and cheques signed in accordance with invoices.

**ii) To agree amendments and adopt the draft Financial Standing orders**

Cllr Hall presented the draft financial standing orders, which had been previously circulated, and were based on the NALC model financial standing orders. Cllrs asked that the amount re expenditure to be spent without referral to council be reduced from £500 to £200. Cllrs were happy to adopt the FSO's with this amendment. The Clerk to amend FSO and circulate it to Cllrs.

#### **86/15 To receive Clerk's report and any correspondence received**

The report was circulated prior to the meeting. The Clerk reported that the play area, papers on financial standing orders and committees, casual vacancy admin had increased the workload this month and she was finding it difficult to take TOIL.

The Clerk had received 3 quotes for the post installation inspection of the play equipment required for insurance purposes. The lowest quote was accepted for John Hicks Associates. Cllr Williams letter was discussed and she would type it up and post it to residents near The Green.

**87/15 Councillors Submissions** (for notice of forthcoming events or reminders, (not for discussion))

Cllr Owen reported that GCC had cut back half the grass on The Pound. He asked if the council wanted him to cut the remainder. They thanked him for his kind offer. He also reported that he'd received information about River Frome management and maintenance issues. Cllr Williams suggested he contacts Chris Utley who is currently developing a flood management system. Cllr Owen had attended a presentation on the progress of the canal and comments had been made on the very high standard of work carried out by volunteers. Dave Marshall who is involved in the canal refurbishment is willing to talk to PC's. Clerk to contact him with suitable dates.

Cllr Adams brought up concerns about the narrow road in Selsley and vehicles getting wedged against the wall. It was suggested that any Highways concerns be put on a list for the Road Safety Officer.

Cllr Graham reported that he'd attended a training day on establishing routes for ramblers with disabilities.

**88/15 Parish Council meetings:**

**Date of next meeting is Wednesday September 23rd in the Lounge Room of the Village Hall**

**Future meeting dates for 2015 :**

**October 28<sup>th</sup>**

**November 25<sup>th</sup>**

There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 10.00pm

Mrs Frances Ashfield Parish Clerk – King's Stanley Parish

*FD Ashfield*