

KINGS WALDEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Kings Walden Parish Council held via Zoom Video Conferencing on Tuesday 19th January at 7.30 pm

Present: Councillors: Amanda King (Chairman), Jon Chamberlin, David Bennett, Paul Harman, and Joe Graziano
Public: Three members of the public; County and District Cllr David Barnard, Mr A Lambourne (LADACAN), Mr A Mills-Baker and the clerk, Tom Brindley.

6.1 (Agenda 1) Apologies for absence

Cllr E Thurlby.

6.2 (Agenda 2) Chairman's remarks

1. Members were reminded of the council's code of conduct and the requirement to make Declarations of Pecuniary Interest.
2. The chairman advised that the meeting would be recorded.

6.3 (Agenda 3) Public participation

1. Cllr David Barnard addressed the council.
 - a. Cllr Barnard had met with the Police and Crime Commissioner and made the case for 20mph speed limits in villages.
 - b. Cllr Barnard had met with the county council cabinet member for highways and £7m had been allocated for a viability study.
 - c. Cllr Barnard advised that the police had agreed to increase covert surveillance to capture drug and petty crime offences.
 - d. Cllr Barnard updated council on the Local Plan Examinations in Public and advised that additional sessions would be held in February.

6.4 (Agenda 4) To adopt the minutes of the parish council meeting 17th November 2020

The minutes were adopted, and the chairman was authorised to sign.

6.5 (Agenda 5) Matters arising from previous meetings not appearing on the agenda.

None

6.6 (Additional Agenda Item) Co-option

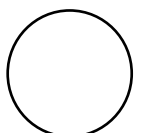
An application for co-option had been received. The applicant was not currently eligible as they had not lived in the area for 12 months and were not on the electoral register. The applicant was advised to apply to be included on the electoral register, which would be next published on 1st March 2021.

6.7 (Agenda 6) Clerk's Report

1. The clerk presented a verbal update on his report.
 - a. Banking mandate. The council only has one active member who could approve Internet Banking transaction.
 - b. Employment committee. The committee is three members: Cllrs King, Thurlby and Bennett. Cllr Thurlby is unable to attend meetings at this time.
 - c. Village Hall liaison. Members agreed to propose Tuesday 2nd February for a meeting with the Village Hall committee.
2. The report was **NOTED**.
3. Members **RESOLVED** to add Cllr Graziano to the banking mandate.
4. Members **RESOLVED** to add Cllr Graziano as a substitute for Cllr Thurlby on the employment committee.

6.8 (Agenda 7) Grass cutting contractor supplier quality review

The clerk had tabled a supplier quality review as the grounds maintenance contract was midway through the six year period. The review conclusion was that the contractor's performance was satisfactory. Members **NOTED** the report.



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6.9 (Agenda 8) Noise Monitoring Equipment

1. Members noted that a workshop had been held in December.
2. The chairman invited Mr Andrew Lambourne (LADACAN) to address the council.
3. The chairman invited Mr Andy Mills-Baker (local resident) to address the council.
4. Members noted the correspondence from Eddie Harrington, a noise consultant from AECON.
5. Members noted the clerk's advice that if the council did not proceed with purchase, grants received would need to be returned.
6. Members noted that as flights from the airport were significantly reduced due to Covid travel restrictions, the time scale for installing noise monitoring could be put back.
7. Members considered the input received and **RESOLVED** to defer any procurement decision until a later meeting.

6.10 (Agenda 13a-1) Luton Airport Planning Condition Variation 21/00031/VARCON

1. Members **RESOLVED** to object to the application to vary noise conditions.
2. Members **RESOLVED** to delegate the response to the Cllr King, Cllr Graziano and the clerk.

6.11 (Agenda 9) Replacement Container

1. Members noted that the container had been emptied and contents stored in the Youth Hut lobby.
2. Cllr Chamberlin conformed he would arrange removal of the container as soon as the ground was dry enough.
3. Members asked that protective measures be considered to prevent climbing on the container. The clerk agreed to investigate such measures if the time to removal became extended.
4. Cllr Chamberlin agreed to investigate the most cost-effective replacement, noting that a container half the size would suffice.
5. Members agreed to include costs for a replacement in the 2021-22 budget.

6.12 (Agenda 10) CCTV

1. The clerk had circulated a confidential report listing options supplied by three contractors.
2. Members **RESOLVED** to accept the quotation from Hound Security.

6.13 (Agenda 11) Finance

1. The clerk presented the Q3 financial report and full year forecast for 2020-21. The report was **NOTED**.
2. The clerk presented a budget proposal for 2021-22. The budget was **ADOPTED**.
3. Payments made and due were noted.

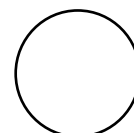
6.14 (Agenda 12) To Set The Precept for 2021/22

1. Members noted that the council tax base was reduced from 450.4 to 404.10 due to a miscalculation by North Hertfordshire District Council. Members noted that if the same precept was set, this would translate into a reduction in income of £3,248 (10.3%) and that this would be mitigated by a slight increase in Council Tax Support Grant giving an overall reduction of £3,143 (9.7%).
2. The clerk advised that the council held reserves to protect against such incidents, but that in time the reserves would be eroded if the precept was not adjusted, and recommended a 5% increase.
3. Members debated a rise and **RESOLVED** to hold the precept at **£70.00 per band D house**, which, with a Council Tax Support Grant of £1,020, would deliver an income of £29,307 (2020/21=£32,450).

6.15 (Agenda 13) Planning

Members considered the planning report on new applications and Local Planning Authority decisions.

1. [21/00019/PIP](#) Conversion of existing redundant barn into two dwellings. Winch Hill House Winch Hill Road, Luton LU2 8PB. Members had no comments.
2. [20/03055/FPH](#) Sun Cottage Darley Road Breachwood Green Front and side extension. Members had no comments.



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3. [20/01867/FP](#) Erection of detached 2-bed dwelling. Chiltern House Austage End Lane. Members noted permission had been granted.

6.16 (Agenda 14) Parking at Mill Way

1. Members had noticed damage to grass verges and the green area in Mill Way, caused by parked cars.
2. The clerk had received correspondence noting this damage and requesting the council to take action.
3. The clerk advised that control of parking on highways was a county council matter, but that enforcement powers were delegated to the district council. If the land was privately owned, it was a matter for the land owner. The parish council did not have any powers to control verge parking.
4. The clerk advised that verge parking was not a criminal offence provided the footway was not blocked.
5. The clerk advised that it might be possible for the council to contribute funds to a scheme to control parking.
6. The clerk was asked to establish the ownership of the green and verges in Mill Way.
7. The clerk was asked to refer the matter to North Herts District Council and Hertfordshire County Council.

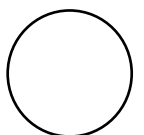
6.17 (Agenda 12) Matters for future consideration

Clerk recruitment, Co-option, Container replacement, Noise monitoring equipment, Mill Way land ownership.

The meeting closed at 21:05 p.m.

Next Meeting: Tuesday 16th February 2021 19:30

Signed Chairman _____ Date _____



Payments

December /January

Status	Power	Payee	Description	P Ref	Total	Net	VAT	Parks/Play Area/MUGA	Staff	Admin	Highways	Youth Hut
*+	2	Scottish Power	Youth Hut	P-2021-069	101.18	95.17	6.01					95.17
*+	1	R Dawes	Open Spaces	P-2021-070	2484.00	2070.00	414.00	2070.00				
*+	2	P Cullen	Zip & Basket ball	P-2021-077	270.00	270.00	0.00	270.00				
*+	2	P Cullen	Zip & Basket ball	P-2021-077	74.84	74.84	0.00	74.84				
*+	4	Parish Online	Admin	P-2021-071	108.00	90.00	18.00			75.00		
*+	4	Zen	Admin	P-2021-072	5.99	4.99	1.00			4.99		
*+	4	Todeka	Admin	P-2021-073	90.00	75.00	15.00			75.00		
*+	4	DCK	Admin	P-2021-075	42.00	35.00	7.00			35.00		
*+	2	Zen	Youth Hut	P-2021-076	42.00	35.00	7.00					35.00
*+	1	P Cullen	Bus shelter	P-2021-078	566.00	566.00	0.00				566.00	
*+	1	P Cullen	Bus shelter	P-2021-078	779.59	649.66	129.93				649.66	
*	1	R Dawes	Grounds maintenance	P-2021-079/080/081	1301.60	1084.66	216.94	1084.66				
*	4	Zen	Youth Hut	P-2021-076	42.00	35.00	7.00					35
+	4	Zen	Admin	P-2021-072	5.99	4.99	1.00			4.99		
*	4	Todeka	Admin	P-2021-073	90.00	75.00	15.00			75.00		
					7724.78	6886.90	837.88					

* = Approved/Contracted

+ = Already paid

Powers:

- 1 Grass cutting: Open Spaces Act 1906 s.10
- 2 Play area/Glebe land: LG (Misc Provisions) Act 1976 s.19
- 3 HAPTC membership: LGA 1972 s.143
- 4 Audit, Insurance, Training: LGA 1972 s.111
- 5 Salary/expenses: LGA 1972 s.112(2)
- 6 Other, Localism Act 2011
- 7 S137: LGA 1972 s137