

## Kimberley Town Council

Minutes of a meeting of the Kimberley Town Council, Nottinghamshire, held on the 25<sup>th</sup> February, 2021. This meeting was held under the “Zoom” remote conferencing system, with Participants located separately, using appropriate technology. On line and connected were the following. The meeting commenced at 1900hrs.

### Attending

Cllr S Bain	
Cllr N Doherty	
Cllr J Dymond	
Cllr N Oakden	
Cllr J Pearce	
Cllr T Rood	Chairman
Cllr E Tansley	
Cllr J Wickham	
Cllr I Wilson	

County Cllr. P Owen (Arriving later from a previous meeting)

Council Officers	Malcolm Plumb	Acting Town Clerk
	Sue Nolan	Assistant Town Clerk/RFO
Public Member	Gordon Barksby	

### 542 Apologies for absence

Cllr K Boettge  
Cllr S McEntee  
Cllr R Plumb  
Bor. Cllr R Robinson

### 543 Declarations of interest

Cllr T Rood declared a none pecuniary interest in any payment accounts (to be considered) which he might be associated with.

### 544 Minutes

#### Town Council meeting 25<sup>th</sup> January, 2021

Subject to the following amendments the minutes of this meeting were accepted as a true and accurate record and were signed by the Chairman

Minute no 530. After the word **noted**, insert “After discussion, the meeting authorised the ground re surfacing and equipment repair/replacement, to be carried as soon as possible”.

Minute no. After the words “seconded by Cllr K Boettge”, delete the final sentence and replace with “After discussion the meeting recorded its full acceptance of the Finance Committee’s Budget recommendations. Chairman and the Councils RFO is authorised to sign the appropriate Borough Council Notice”.

### **Town Council extra ordinary meeting 11<sup>th</sup> February, 2021**

The minutes of this meeting, with the final resolution recorded on page 3 and proposed by Cllr S Bain, seconded by Cllr J Dymond, were adopted as a true and accurate record and were signed by the Chairman

#### **545 Reports of action taken from the above meetings**

The Acting Town Clerk reported as follows

- Request for free parking in Kimberley. The case justifying this request to the Borough Council had been submitted. A response has been received which will be considered by the meeting later
- Proposed residential development Edgewood Rd/Abba Close. The Town Councils comments have been submitted to the Planning Officer, Broxtowe Borough Council
- Co option of Town Councillors. The Acting Town Clerk to report the current position under the “Exempt Items” section of the agenda
- Appointment of permanent Town Clerk. Current position reported by the Acting Town Clerk. Matter to be considered under the “Exempt Items” section of the agenda
- Application for a grant from the Borough Council for a further defibrillator. Grant request submitted to the Borough Council. Request received for additional justification. Consulting with Chairman and Councillors.

After **noting** these reports, the following matter was brought up for action. Babbington Village. Possible planning proposal for housing development in a Conservation Area. (Enquiries will be made). It was also suggested that a new standard agenda item for Town Council meetings should be added relating to Planning Matters, generally. **Noted.**

(At this point, County Cllr P Owen joined the meeting after a previous engagement.)

#### 546 Reports from Borough Councillors

Because of a previous commitment, Borough Cllr Richard Robinson was not able to attend the Town Council meeting. He had therefore circulated an extensive and detailed report to all Town Councillors upon Borough Council activities of interest to the Town. The report was therefore received and **noted**, with thanks, by the meeting. Town Councillors gave particular attention in relation to an emerging policy called “levelling up agenda” for both Eastwood Town and Kimberley Town.. The Acting Town Clerk mentioned that Eastwood was currently carrying out a survey of Residents views upon what was needed in their own Town. The result, it was hoped, would assist in a bid, by the Borough Council, for a “capital funds contribution” from HM Government to meet capital costs for Communities who could show a form of “disproportionate” community facilities to other areas.

Town Councillors expressed a wish to be fully involved in this work. **Agreed.** Acting Clerk to ask Cllr Robinson to request this, as soon as possible.

#### 547 Report from the County Councillor

Cllr P Owen gave a full report upon County Council matters. This included the following.

- Station road re surfacing work now completed
- High Street re surfacing now programmed for action. This will inevitably cause disruption to traffic.
- Other sites for further work in Kimberley are under consideration.

In answer to a question from the Member of the public concerning the problems being encountered at the “Nine Corners” junction (eg. difficulty in providing a safe pedestrian crossing at this location, traffic safety levels at this junction) Cllr Owen confirmed the County Council were aware of this situation and were in consultations with others, although this problem was difficult to rectify. It was clear that the Town Centre and immediate areas needed an urgent review. In answer to a further question from Cllr N Oakden, Cllr Owen agreed to, again, raise the question concerning bus stop “waiting times” on both sides of the Main Street near the Kimberley Library. Cllr Oakden emphasised a serious danger arises for Pedestrians crossing the road at this point, especially school children. He commented that this was an “accident waiting to happen” Cllr Owen Noted this report.

Cllr J Wickham asked County Cllr Owen if he would provide the contact details of the County Council Officer responsible for Town Centre Development proposals. This was to enable Town Councillors to hold a meeting with the Officer concerned to

discuss proposals considered to be important by Local Councils. Cllr Owen agreed to do this.

Cllr Owen was then thanked for his attendance, for his report, and for the support he continues to give to benefit the Kimberley Community.

**548. Questions/statements from Members of the Public**

Mr Barksby raised a number of questions, which were discussed with the Town Councillors. They included, in particular, that more attention is needed by the Authorities concerned in the problems already discussed relating to the Nine Corners junction, and, what was the future intentions for the former telephone exchange and Health Clinic. Both would be monitored closely by the Town Council.

**549 Correspondence**

The meeting received and noted the list of correspondence received since the last meeting of the Town Council. Cllr Wickham asked why an enquiry to use the Parish Hall for a children's training activity was not listed. The acting Town Clerk commented that when the "lockdown" of public meetings was brought into operation by HM Government last year under the coronavirus pandemic, the Town Council had established a policy which allowed only one kind of activity to take place in the Parish Hall. (distribution of food parcels for children). Acting Town Clerk to contact the Organisers and provide details of the Town Council current policy.

However, following a suggestion from Cllr N Oakden, this policy will, in the near future need to be updated whenever the Government relaxes the restrictions for distancing activities. This will be included on the Town Council meeting agenda at the March and April 2021 Town Council meetings. Hopefully this will not be so long, provided rates of infections continue to decrease as the programmes for vaccination's continue to be extended.

**550 Accounts for payment**

The list of payments totalling £2,686.34p, which had been circulated with the agenda papers were considered by the meeting and authorised for payment

**551 Request to the Borough Council for free parking in Kimberley**

Circulated with the agenda papers for this meeting was a copy of the letter from the Broxtowe Borough Council in response to the Acting Town Clerks request, on behalf

of the Town Council, for free parking. The letter defined the Borough Councils reasons for refusing the Town Councils request.

During the ensuing discussion, the Town Council expressed its strong disappointment with the Borough Councils response. Cllr Bain suggested that Kimberley Borough Councillors be requested to support the Town Councils proposal. This was **agreed** by the meeting. Additionally it was also **agreed** that under the terms of the Freedom of information legislation, detailed financial information be requested from the Borough Council in relation to actual costs of maintenance and the actual current income from car Parking charges

**552 Kimberley Parish Church. Access for the disabled**

The meeting received and considered a complaint relating to the absence of suitable access for disabled persons. After discussion it was **agreed** that this is essentially a Church matter. But Town Councillors will continue to observe this position in the future.

**553 Dates of next meetings**

Environmental Policy Working Group	11 <sup>th</sup> March, 2021
HR Committee	TBA
Finance Committee	TBA
Town Council	25 <sup>th</sup> March, 2021

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked Councillors for their attendance and contributions and closed the meeting at 2105hrs

