

## Kimberley Town Council

Minutes of a meeting of the Kimberley Town Council held on the 26<sup>th</sup> November 2020. This meeting was held under the “Zoom” remote conferencing system, with Participants located separately, using appropriate computer technology. On line and connected were the following. The meeting commenced at 1900hrs.

### Attending

Cllr S Bain  
Cllr K Boettge  
Cllr J Diamond  
Cllr N Doherty  
Cllr N Oakden  
Cllr J Pearce  
Cllr T Rood  
Cllr E Tansley  
Cllr j Wickham  
Cllr I Wilson

County Cllr                    Cllr P Owen  
Borough Cllr                Cllr R Robinson

Acting Town Clerk        Malcolm Plumb  
Ass. Town Clerk/RFO    Sue Nolan

Members of Public        4

### **497 Apologies for absence**

Cllr S McEntee  
Cllr R Plumb  
Bor. Cllr M Crow

### **498 Declarations of interest**

Cllr T Rood declared a pecuniary interest in “Exempt Items” bullet point 2. He would “disconnect” on line contact, whilst this item was considered

Cllr K Boettge declared a general none pecuniary interest in agenda items as they arose.

Cllr N Oakden declared a general none pecuniary interest in agenda items as they arose.

#### **499 Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on the 29<sup>th</sup> October, 2020, having been circulated to all Councillors were taken as read. With the amendments specified on the Agenda notice being accepted, the minutes were adopted as a true and accurate record and were signed by the Chairman.

#### **500 Reports of action taken from the 29<sup>th</sup> October 2020 Town Council meeting**

In addition to the reports listed in the agenda notice sent to all Councillors, the Acting Town Clerk reported as follows.

- Following the co-option of Cllrs Docherty, Wickham and Wilson, the Town Council now comprises 12 Councillors, from a maximum establishment of 15. Three further “interested” Electors have been sent forms for completion. An up to date report will feature In the Town Council meeting planned for January 2021.
- Orders have now been placed for the fencing at the Stag Recreation Ground access road. These will be installed by the same Contractor who is installing the “speed bumps”.

The meeting NOTED the above reports.

#### **501 Stag Recreation Ground. Proposed new “Petangue Pitch”**

The meeting considered detailed information submitted with the agenda papers sent to all Councillors. The meeting noted the following aspects of this proposal.

- Materials for the pitch would be provided by the Town Council.
- Volunteers would carry out the installation work led by the Town Council Caretaker/Handyman, Neal Coy.
- Toilet accommodation would be made available
- The formation of a new sports club would be arranged
- Rents/charges for the Pitch usage would be determined later.

After a full discussion, the proposal was put to the meeting and by a vote of 7 voting FOR the proposal with NO votes cast against, the proposal was therefore CARRIED. Progress reports would be provided to the Council as and when available.

#### **Stag Recreation Ground. Damaged/missing Play Equipment**

Under this item of business, Cllr I Wilson reported that he had inspected the Play area and identified various items of equipment requiring repair and/or replacement. This work would increase the use of this facility and improve the health and safety

level. He will investigate the detailed costs of the required material and installation requirements and report back to the Town Council. The meeting NOTED this report.

#### **502 Free parking in Kimberley Town**

The meeting reviewed the proposal put forward by Cllr E Tansley during the Town Council meeting on the 29<sup>th</sup> October 2020 (Minute no 481). After further discussion, the meeting **approved** the making of this request to the Borough Council.

#### **503 Report from the Borough Councillor**

Cllr R Robinson gave a full report, upon Borough Council matters, which included the following.

- Cllr Robinson expressed appreciation for the Town Council's respect and acknowledgement of the 2020 Remembrance Day event, during the current coronavirus distancing rules, laid down by HM Gov.
- The Towns Christmas Tree had been erected, complete with lights, which will be switched on shortly
- He welcomed the new initiative to explore the problem of closed business premises and reminded the meeting of the availability of supportive grants for new Businesses
- Action was being taken in connection with overhanging trees in Hillcrest Close.

After answering a question from Cllr Bain, the meeting thanked Cllr Robinson for his report upon Borough Council matters and NOTED its contents.

#### **504 Report from the County Councillor**

Cllr P Owen gave a full report which included the following items.

- The orchard Street parking scheme was now fully operational
- Valley Road was being re surfaced
- The near accident on the main street, near the two opposite bus stops, has been investigated. Regretfully, it was not possible to re position either bus stop location to improve road safety. However the bus company have been given information about the incident in case "bus waiting" times might be adjusted
- Consideration is being given upon possible traffic regulation in the area around the access road to the Stag Recreation Ground

After discussion, Cllr Owen was thanked for his report which was NOTED by the meeting.

#### **505 Babbington Village Access facilities**

The Acting Town Clerk, in a report attached to the Agenda papers referred to a question raised by a Member of the Public at the October 2020 Town Council meeting asking if the Town Council had recently investigated the question of access to and from the Village, situated within the Town Boundary. The Acting Town Clerk therefore suggested that, as no recent consultation had been held with the **current** Residents upon their views relating to footpaths, road access etc., a letter consultation from the Town Council, to all residential properties listed on the electoral roll, would identify if the current Residents were happy with the current facilities, or if they wanted changes or improvements.

Various opinions were expressed both for and against the Acting Town Clerks suggestion. After a full discussion, taking into account that the responsibility for all forms of public access (footpaths, roads, etc.) lies with the County Authority, it was agreed to refer this question to the County Council, through our own County Councillor

#### **506 Local Government Re structuring National Review. A Unitary County Authority**

Since a number of Town Councillors had expressed various views upon the review currently being investigated on this subject, this item was included in the meeting's agenda in order to enable Town Councillors to consider recording a consensus view. There followed a general discussion, where views were expressed both for the idea of a Unity County Authority, and against the concept. For a short time, the meeting agreed to temporarily suspend the Town Councils Standing Orders and invite County Cllr. Owen to express comments upon this review. Cllr Owen responded that from a "Local" Council (Town/Parish) point of view, such a re-structuring could result in increased powers being transferred to Local Councils

After discussion, no final conclusions were reached. The matter will be further monitored, as and when appropriate, as this debate develops

#### **507 County Council elections May 2021**

The Acting Town Clerk reported that the Borough Council (being the Authority designated to organise and manage elections) had advised that the Kimberley Parish Hall would be required for the proposed County Council elections and for the appointment of the Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner, on the 6<sup>th</sup> May, 2021. A response questionnaire is required and will be returned to the Borough Council. The meeting NOTED this report

**508 Accounts for payment schedule**

(Having declared a prejudicial interest in one item in the schedule, Cllr T Rood took no part in the discussion or any decisions under this item of business)

The Assistant Town Clerk/RFO had circulated with the agenda papers, a list of payments for the Town Councils approval. After two questions had been asked and answered, the meeting NOTED and APPROVED the schedule of payment totalling £???

**509 Correspondence list**

After two questions had been asked and answered, the meeting received and noted the correspondence list, which had been circulated with the agenda papers for this meeting.

**510 Exclusion of the Public/Press**

The Chairman of the Town Council explained, for the benefit of "on line" Members of the Public, that since the remaining items of business related to matters defined by Law as "exempt" items (e.g. Personnel, legal, contractual), the remaining part of the meeting has to be restricted to Town Councillors and Council Officers ONLY. He therefore thanked the members of the Public "on line" for their interest (wishing them a happy Christmas), and their "on line" connection was disconnected by the Town Council Officer.

**NOTE.** Consideration of the remaining items of business are recorded on a separate attachment to the minutes record, for the attention of Town Councillors and Council Officers ONLY

There being no further business, the Council Chairman thanked Councillors for their attendance and contributions and closed the meeting at 2045 pm.