

Kimberley Town Council

Minutes of a meeting of the Kimberley Town Council held on the 28th January, 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 K Boettge	
	Cllr N Doherty	
	Cllr J Diamond	
	Cllr N Oakden	(Arriving later from a previous appointment)
	Cllr T Rood	Chairman
	Cllr E Tansley	
	Cllr J Wickham	
	Cllr I Wilson	
County Cllr	Cllr P Owen	
Council Officers	Malcolm Plumb	Acting Town Clerk
	Sue Nolan	Assistant Town Clerk/RFO
Public Member	Gordon Barksby	

515 Apologies for absence

(Town) Cllr J Pearce
(Town) Cllr R Plumb
Borough Cllr M Crow
Borough Cllr R Robinson (written report submitted)

516 Declarations of interest

- Cllr T Rood declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 10 (Accounts)
- Acting Town Clerk Malcolm Plumb declared a none pecuniary interest in the first bullet point, confidential items agenda.

517 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on the 23rd November, 2020, having been circulated to all Councillors were taken as read and noted. Subject to the following amendments the meeting adopted the minutes as a true and accurate record and approved their signature by the Chairman at a future convenient date.

518 Reports upon action taken from the November 2020 Town Council meeting

- **Stag Recreation Ground.** Cllr Wilson provided details upon the replacement, repair and maintenance of play equipment and ground re surfacing. After discussion, the meeting **noted** proposals for much of this work to proceed. Sue Nolan, Assistant Town Clerk/RFO reported upon the insurance aspect of this item of business
- **Free parking in Kimberley.** Acting Town Clerk reported that a detailed request had been submitted to the Borough Council for these charges to be withdrawn. A detailed response had been received shortly before the meeting, explaining why the Borough Council could not accede to this request. After a short discussion, it was **agreed** to circulate a copy of the Borough Councils response to all Town Councillors, for further consideration at an early future meeting of the Town Council
- **Petanque pitch provision.** Acting Town Clerk reported that work upon this new provision had been limited to site clearance and toilets cleaning because of inclement weather conditions. An order for the required materials will be issued shortly. Cllr J Diamond suggested the pitch needs to be sited a reasonable distance from the Bowls pavilion. This was **noted** by the meeting.
- **Stag recreation ground.** Cllr T Rood (Council Chairman) reported that work on the installation of access road speed “bumps” and “safety signage had also been delayed by inclement weather conditions. Installation work will begin as soon as possible, weather permitting. Report **noted**.
- **Residential development Edgwood Road/Abba Close.** .Acting Town Clerk reported that he had submitted a request for the planning consultation period to be extended to allow the Town Council to consider the implications of this development proposal. **(Noted)**. During the ensuing discussion, the meeting expressed serious reservations upon the following aspects. Inadequate vehicular access to this large development: Housing drainage arrangements; Housing character inconsistent with existing properties; resulting traffic congestion with the main Road; Site drainage concerns. It was therefore **agreed** to advise the Borough Council of the Town Councils concerns, immediately.
- **Kimberley Town War memorial up lighting.** Cllr T Rood (Chairman) reported because of weather conditions, only site clearance work had been carried out. Subject to this constraint, work upon the up lighting should start within two weeks. **Report noted**.
- **Co option of new Town Councillors.** The Acting Town Clerk reported that a new expression of interest had been received in being co-opted on the Town Council as Councillor. The Candidate had signed a declaration of compliance

with the statutory requirements for becoming a Councillor. It was **agreed** details to be circulated to all Town Councillors for consideration at the next Town Council meeting.

519 **Reports from the Borough Councillors**

Circulated to all Town Councillors, via e mail, was a detailed report from Borough Councillor Richard Robinson. This report referred to his lobbying the Borough Council in relation free parking in Kimberley; grant for a defibrillator (approved);provisions for vaccination services within the Borough; parking problems , junction of Valley Road/Awsworth Lane; car parking problems over tactiles; provision of business grants throughout the Borough including Kimberley. After discussion, the meeting **recorded** its appreciation for the information report from Councillor Robinson and for his support for the above mentioned grant.

520 **Report from the County Councillor**

County Councillor Philip Owen gave a detailed report upon Council Matters which included the following Station Road Re surfacing; High Street to be re surfaced in March; Traffic regulation order for Knowle Hill/Nottingham Road and Swingate School junction; Investigations upon vehicular obstructions and safety bollards. In response to a question from Town Councillor Ellis Tansley, Cllr Owen agreed to look into the question resurfacing/regression work on Maws Lane and Mill Road School area. After discussion, Cllr Owen's report was **noted**. He was thanked for his attendance at the meeting, his support for the above mentioned report of a grant, and his informative report.

521 **Kimberley Town Council Annual budget/precept 2021/22**

- Cllr J Diamond, Chairman of the Town Council's Finance Committee, reported that following a detailed review of the current financial year's expenditure and income, and the likely financial situation for the forthcoming financial year, The Council's Finance Committee was recommending an **unchanged precept** for the financial year 2021/22. He therefore proposed this motion on the Committee's behalf for adoption and was seconded by Cllr K Boettge. Upon the motion being put to the meeting, it was **carried without dissent**. Chairman and Town Council's RFO to sign the notification to the Borough Council and submit.
- Cllr J Diamond reported that the Acting Town Clerk has reviewed the position in relation to the high level of reserve funds, held by the Town Council compared to the Governments official guide "Governance and Accountability

for Smaller Authorities in England". A particular element of the guide lays down guidelines for appropriate limits upon excessive variations to recommended limits. The Town Councils reserves are well above these limits but can be justified if the Council can, specifically, give acceptable reasons. Taking into account the November 2019 building survey report upon the Parish Hall and Recreation Pavilions, this report confirms that **substantial, capital costs** will be incurred either through substantial renovations or, alternatively, complete replacements. Such costs can only be met by a large capital contribution from the Town Councils own financial resources, supported by grants from grant making Bodies and "loans" from the Public Works loans Board (a "mortgage"). The Finance Committee therefore recommends that the Town Council **formally records** its view that these circumstances justify the Town Council current level of high financial reserves. After a full discussion, the meeting **adopted** the Finance Committee's recommendation. And that it is **so recorded**.

522 **Worlds Climate Emergency. Town Councils Policy Statement.**

Cllr K Boettge addressed the meeting in support of a proposal that the Town Council considers and adopts a detailed policy statement "noting its serious concerns relating to the growing crisis facing the whole world in relation to the world climate and worsening state of the world's environment". The Statement would specify" the Town Councils and Community's contribution to contribute to the work in dealing with these problems, both locally and nationally, taking into account its limitations from legal and financial constraints"

During the ensuing discussion, the questions were asked upon (a) what would such a policy involve, in practical terms, (b) what is the experience from other Local Councils in adopting such a policy and (c), should advice be sought from the environmental agency?

After a full discussion, the meeting **resolved** to hold the (already proposed) Extra Ordinary Town Council meeting on the 11th February 2021, commencing at 1900hrs, to consider, and possibly adopt a Policy Statement, appropriate to the Kimberly Community.

523 **Correspondence**

The contents of the list of correspondence was received and **noted by the meeting**. The Assistant Town Clerk/RFO reported upon a request to use the Parish Hall for first aid training for children/young people. It was agreed to consider this request at the next Town Council meeting. In response to a question upon the reason for circulating

a list of correspondence, the Assistant Town Clerk/RFO explained the purpose for this agenda item.

524 **Accounts for payment.**

The meeting **received and noted** the schedule of payments totalling £2,878.82 which had been circulated with the agenda papers for this meeting

525 **Questions/statements from members of the public**

Mr Gordon Barksby raised the following matters

- When the “hearing loop” for the Parish Hall would be installed (**Noted for consideration**).
- The unsatisfactory state of the disabled access path to the Kimberley Church (**Clr Wilson to investigate**)

526 **Dates of next meetings**

Extra Ordinary Town Council Meeting	11 th February, 2021
Monthly Town Council meeting	25 th February. 2021

527 **Exclusion of the public and press**

It was **resolved** that in view of the remaining items of business being classified as “exempt” in accordance with the appropriate legislation,, the Public and press be excluded from the meeting at this point. The matters concern personnel and contractual items of business. The Chairman therefor thanked the member of the Public for his interest, and his “on line” connection was closed.

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

