

562 Co option of one new Town Councillor

Circulated with the agenda papers were two declarations of eligibility for being appointed as a Town Councillor to the remaining single vacancy on the Town Council. The meeting was asked to consider the fairest way of making the choice. After a full discussion it was **agreed** that in order to ensure equality of consideration, this meeting would be **adjourned** to the following week, for consideration of this particular item of business, where both Candidates would be given the opportunity to present their case for co option to the whole Town Council via the “Zoom” remote conferencing system. As this matter would be classified as “exempt”, the extended meeting would exclude members of the Public and press.

563 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on the 25th February 2021 having been circulated to all Town Councillors, were taken as read, adopted by the meeting as a true and accurate record and were signed by the Chairman.

564 Reports on action taken

The following reports were received and **noted** by the meeting.

Defibrillators A formal request for a grant towards the cost of a further defibrillator has been submitted to the Borough Council and acknowledged. A formal response was awaited.

Free parking in Kimberley. A formal letter requesting information under the freedom of information legislation in respect of costs and expenditure of the Kimberley Car Parks has been made to the Borough Council. A response is awaited.

HM Government “Levelling up capital funds support. The Town Councils interest in being included in any capital bid to the Government for funds for Kimberley Town has been forwarded to the Borough Council. Borough Cllr Richard Robinson would be monitoring the position on the Town Councils behalf.

Enquiries for future hiring are of the Parish Hall. Enquirers are being advised of the Town Council current policy in complying with the Governments “Lockdown” policies. A record of each enquiry is being retained. Past hirers will be contacted first if and when National policies are changed.

Planning matters. This item of business will become a permanent agenda item effective from the April 2021 meeting of the Town Council. A recent planning matter is dealt with later in the meeting.

Web site replacement. Cllrs Bain and Doherty gave a detailed report upon the progress for the Town Councils new web site. Comments made included Chapel bookings, annual accounts/budgets, minutes of meetings, news items, pictures of Town feature sites, Town Councilors and Council Officers.

Upgrading of the Councils computer system. Sur Nolan, Assistant Town Clerk/RFO reported that equipment had now been ordered and was due for delivery during the following week, the equipment will be installed by a professional, competent Person.

Stag Ground Land ownership question. Acting Town Clerk reported that following an inspection of the site, two external doors were seen to be in urgent need of replacement. After discussion, the meeting approved the need for urgent replacement action to be taken from a maintenance/security aspect.

Acting Town Clerk further reported that he was carrying out a complete review of the Town Council files and documents in relation to the current ownership situation. Detailed research had been previously carried out some ten years ago, by two Solicitors practices. Their reports indicated that under existing legislation, a reasonable case might be possible for a claim for this site to be transferred to the Town Council as principle Owners, rather than Trustees which was set up in 1925. Councillors felt that under the Land Registration Agency's current rules it might be a simple case to request such a transfer. The existing restriction contained in the original Trustee's agreement (Maintaining the site for Community benefit and recreation) could be included as a covenant with any new Title ownership document, if the Land Registry approved. Acting Town Clerk felt this might prove to be more complex and that it might be appropriate for a lawyer to be appointed to act for the Town Council. However it was agreed that a simple claim by the Council should be submitted and this was agreed by the meeting,

565 County Councillors Report

County Cllr Philip Owen provided a detailed report upon various road maintenance works in the Town, concerns relating to the Nine Corners junction and his continuing efforts to rectify the problems of road safety on the main street in the vicinity of the Library bus stops. The road condition for High Spania was noted. The meeting expressed their continuing concerns with the whole road safety aspect between the Supermarket island and Nine Corners junction for traffic, bus services and Pedestrians alike.

After discussion, Cllr Owen was thanked, again, for his attendance and continuing interest in the Town's needs.

566 Borough Councillors Report

Borough Cllr Richard Robinson gave a detailed report upon Borough Council matters. These included the following.

- Incoordination of separate road works (Western Power. Power cable)
- The future (as at present) of the Kimberley Health Centre
- The Section 106 planning condition for the former Brewery site development
- The new HM Governments Policy for "Levelling up" grants towards the costs of capital developments for local communities

- His interest in the recent sale of the former Kimberley Water Tower and adjoining land to a Development concern
- His work in relation to dealing with disputes amongst neighbors

After discussion, Cllr Robinson was thanked for his attendance and his continuing interest in Town Council matters.

567 Questions/statements from Members of the Public

Mr Gordon Barksby expressed the Public's growing concerns with the continuing lack of any real action to resolve the problems (mentioned earlier) relating to the public and vehicular safety at the Nine Corners Junction. Borough Cllr Richard Robinson, in acknowledging these concerns raised the question of whether improvements might be achieved by moving one "bus waiting" point (currently situated at Kimberley Library) to a different location, for instance nears Maws Lane.

568 Brewery Site Development

The Acting Town Clerk had circulated with the agenda papers, a brief report upon a meeting (remote conferencing) between Town Councillors and Broxtowe Borough Council Planning Officers held on the 19th March, 2021. The meeting was held in order to consider the Town Council strong concerns with an amended section 106 (planning consent agreement) which, amongst other matters prolonged the term for the Developers to carry out required renovation works to the former Brewery Tower building. The Town Council were concerned that the extension of the time for renovation works had risks which could result in the work not being carried out. (These risks were defined).

In response, the Borough Council Planning Officers, explained the full details of the section 106 condition and the formal monitoring arrangements which included specifying the actual renovation works to be carried out and the works programmer. These responses provided reasonable levels of assurance. Continued monitoring by both Councils will assist in ensuring this important Heritage landmark would be preserved for future generations.

The **noted** this report.

569 Climate emergency. Town Councils Policy

Circulated with the agenda papers to Councillors, was a draft report of the meeting of the Town Councils Working Group, held on the 11th March, 2021. The aim of the Groups first meeting was to consider what actually the town Council could do, and what the community and business organizations might do.

After discussion the Town Council meeting endorsed the recommendations of the Group specified in the Groups meeting notes (item E 8). The next meeting of the Group will be held shortly

570 **Correspondence list**

The meeting received and **noted** the list of correspondence received since the previous Town Council meeting. The Acting Town Clerk reported that in a more recent letter from the Kimberley Miners Welfare Football Club, requested the Town Councils approval to carry out improvement and developments to the Football Grounds facilities. These included installing additional hard standing area's (Stag Inn end), install an additional covered spectators covered area on the footpath side of the ground and refitting existing seats with concrete base's. All work would be completed and financed by the Football Club..

After discussion, the meeting **decided** to request additional details of the work required for consideration at the April 2021 Town Council meeting

571 **Accounts for payment**

The meeting **noted** the list of accounts paid Following updating information from Cllr's Jim Dymond and Neil Doherty, it was further **noted** that additional accounts in respect of the Town Councils new Web site, and Office computer systems were becoming due in the near future.

572 **Hall Hiring's. Current position**

The Acting Town Clerk reported that a few new enquiries were being received for Hall hiring's and these were being recorded for further consideration as and when HM Government issues relaxed restrictions upon public gatherings. In **noting** this report, the meeting recorded the need to offer the Hall to all former user's of the Hall, in the first instance.

573 **Dates of next meetings**

(Extended) ordinary Town Council meeting (Co options)	1 st April, 2021
Environmental Working Group	8 th April 2021
Town Council meeting	29 th April 2021
HR Committee	TBA

(Note) The yearly calendar of meetings will be considered at the Town Councils annual meeting in May, 2021

574 **Exclusion of the Public and Press**

Since the remaining items of business were classified as “exempt” items under the appropriate legislation (Contracts, Councillor Co options), it was **agreed** to exclude the Public and press from the meeting at this point. The Chairman thanked the Member of Public for his interest and attendance, and his connection under the “Zoom” remote conferencing system, was withdrawn.

The minute record for the remaining items of business are recorded on a separate, confidential attachment to these minute, for the information of Town Councillors and Council Officers ONLY.

Kimberley Town Council
Town Council meeting
25th March, 2021

**Confidential attachment to the minutes of the above meeting, containing
“exempt” items classified by the appropriate legislation**

For the information of Town Councillors and Council Officers ONLY

575 Hearing loop System, Parish Hall

Cllr E Tansley, circulated the quotations for the provision of a (table mounted) hearing loop system for the Parish Hall. Both quotations were similarly priced at about £250. After discussion, the meeting **authorized** the purchase from either of the two quotes considered by Cllr Tansley to be the best option.

576 Application for grants

- **Provision of trees for Kimberley, Watnall and Nuthall. Greasley and district Civic Society.** Application for a contribution towards a target fund of £8,400. For tree planting in the above areas. (Next year's planting season). **Agreed**, due to the absence of specific information, item is referred to the Environmental Working Group for further consideration.
- **Kimberley Institute Cricket Club.** Application for a grant of £3,079.48p for repairs to nettings (£2,587.48p) and wicket repairs (£490). After discussion, by a majority vote, it was **agreed** that the full cost be met by a grant from the Town Council funds
- **Kimberley Bowls Club.** Application for a grant towards the cost of replacing two park benches identified as being a safety risk, After discussion, it was **agreed** to provide a contribution grant of £200 towards the total cost of £800.

577 Dispensations for Councillors absence from Council meetings.

Circulated with the agenda papers for this meeting, the Acting Town Clerk had reported that, in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1972, persistent absence from Council meetings for 6 months results in the automatic ceasing as a Member of the Council. This is unless the council previously accepts the reason for absence is acceptable. If a Councillors is not able to join meetings under the current (enforced) need to resort to “remote conferencing” systems, by virtue of not having either the appropriate equipment, or experience, the Town Council may determine that this is a legitimate reason for absence. At the present time, it is possible that HM Government may relax the current “distancing rules” under the current pandemic crisis.

After discussion, the meeting **approved** such absences as an acceptable reason, in accordance with the requirement of the Local Government Act 1972.

578 Appointment of permanent Town Clerk.

The Acting Town Clerk reported that in view of the fact that, thus far, only one Candidate had applied for the appointment. As suggested, he had therefore reduced the selection criteria in respect of required qualifications and past experience, and had re advertised the vacancy in order to attract more Candidates. After discussion, it was **agreed**

- The Chairman and Vice Chairman of the HR Committee consider and agree further changes in the selection criteria.
- The existing Candidate be offered an interview via “remote conferencing” technology. Interviews by HR Chairman, HR Vice Chairman, with the Town Councils Assistant Town Clerk/RFO, Sue Nolan

579 Building Survey Report

The Acting Town Clerk reported that, because of the Town Council’s increased work upon services and development work improvement work, no further consideration had been given to the contents and recommendations arising from the 2020 report upon the Parish Hall, Offices and recreation facilities which had been identified as in serious need of either full replacement of substantial renovation work. The costs of both options had been assessed as exceptionally high capital cost. The meeting therefore discussed the whole issue, during which the following point were raised.

- The importance of clarifying land ownership issues, particularly for sports and recreation facilities.
- Serious considerations needs to be given to the very large capital costs of either complete replacement of the Parish Hall and Offices. (Public works loans, grants from other sources, effect on parish rates etc)
- The need for a full Architectural report upon the option of either total replacement of the Hall and offices AND/OR extensive modernization.
- The option (not featured in the Building Survey Report) of buying a new building (renovated to the Town Council/Halls requirements) which could offer substantial savings in cost compared to replacement/renovation costs of the existing Town Hall.

No conclusions were reached under this item of business. Accordingly, it remains an ongoing matter to be considered in greater detail in the near future.

At this point, the Chairman thanked Councillors for their attendance and contributions and ADJOURNED the meeting at this point, until an agreed continuation on Thursday 1st April, 2021

Confidential (“Exempt”) Minute record

**Adjourned Meeting (“Zoom Remote Conferencing” system)
Kimberley Town Council
Thursday 1st April 2021**

Attending	Cllr S Bain Cllr N Doherty Cllr J Dymond Cllr T Rood Cllr E Tansley Cllr J Wickham Cllr I Wilson	Chairman
Council Officers	M. F Plumb S Nolan	Acting Town Clerk Ass. Town Clerk/RFO
Candidates for co option.	Anthony Mason Juliette Persephone de Tosni – Tauvignon	

580 Cooption of Town Councillor (agenda item 3)

The Chairman of the Town Council welcomed the above two Candidates both of whom had declared their eligibility for being appointed as a Town Councillor.. Each Candidate was given a full opportunity to explain their reasons for applying for co option and were asked two standard questions.

After the candidates had presented their cases, they were then thanked again for their “on line” connection and were advised that a decision would be taken by Councillor votes. Both Candidates were then disconnected from on line contact from the meeting

After a full discussion, the Chairman asked for a vote upon each of the two Candidates and a decisive decision was reached. It was then formally **resolved** that Mr. Antony Mason, of Victoria Street, Kimberley be Co opted onto the Town Council as Town Councillor, after his signature of acceptance of office had been given

The Chairman then thanked the Councillor’s for their attendance and closed the adjourned meeting at 2100hr