

Minutes of a meeting of the Kimberley Town Council held on the 29th October, 2020. This meeting was held under “Zoom” remote conferencing” system, with participants located separately, using appropriate computer technology. Online and connected were the following

Cllr S Bain
Cllr J Diamond
Cllr N Doherty (newly co opted Cllr)
Cllr T Rood Chairman of the Council
Cllr E Tansley
Cllr J Wickham (newly co-opted Cllr)
Cllr I Wilson (newly co-opted Cllr)

County Cllr P Owen
Borough Cllr R Robinson

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

Members of the Public 3 (on line)

In opening the meeting, the Chairman of the Town Council Cllr T Rood, welcomed Cllrs Doherty, Wickham and Wilson, attending their first Town Council meeting following their successful co options.

478. Apologies for absence

Cllr K Boettge
Cllr S McEntee
Cllr N Oakden
Cllr J Pearce
Cllr R Plumb
B/Cllr M Crow

479 Declarations of interest

Cllr T Rood declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 7 (Accounts schedule for approval). He would absent himself from the meeting whilst this item of business was dealt with.

480 **Minutes (“Exempt items”).**

The minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on the 8th October, 2020 having been circulated to all Councillors were taken as read. Subject to the following amendment, the meeting adopted these minutes as a true and accurate record. (The Chairman will sign the official copy later)

Amendment. Minute 474, final bullet point. Delete “Chapel on the Hill”, replace with “Stag Recreation Ground”.

481 **Request to the Borough Council for free public parking in Kimberley**

Cllr Tansley asked the meeting to consider a motion formally requesting the Borough Council to provide free parking facilities for Kimberley Town. He gave full reasons justifying this request. After discussion, where Councillors generally accepted the principal of the motion, it was **agreed** to give further consideration to important aspects of Cllr Tansley’s proposal at the November 2020 Town Council meeting.

482 **Public Questions**

The Chairman opened the meeting to Members of the public (connected on line) to raise concerns/questions on matters of interest. The following matters were raised and recorded.

- Coronavirus pandemic. What local action in the Borough is being taken to help control future infections. The Borough Councils policies were defined and the need for ongoing action was recorded. **NOTED**
- Use of the Town Hall as a distribution facility of helpful aids, e.g. Food for Children. **NOTED**
- Babington Village. Need to continue action to re instate and improve access to this area. **NOTED**

483 **Hall Hiring. Revision of recent directives from HM Government and the Broxtowe Borough Council (Pandemic level classification)**

The Acting Town Clerk gave full information upon both the HM Government and Broxtowe Borough Councils directives following the elevation of the whole County to tier three classifications (very high contagion). Despite their being variations in the terminology between the two sources, both strongly affected existing activities in the Town Hall. Details of the current hiring’s of the hall were provided to the meeting.

After a full and detailed discussion, and by a vote of 6 for and 1 abstention, it was **resolved** that, with the exception of voluntary activities to provide help for children (e.g. food parcels), **all other activities** in the hall are to cease with immediate effect for the current specified period of 28 days, effective from 30th October, 2020. Council administration work to be carried out on a rota system between the Acting Town Clerk and the Assistant Town Clerk/RFO, with some work being carried out where possible at home. Position to be reviewed after the 28 day period.

484 **Reports of action taken from previous Town Council meeting**

The Acting Town Clerk reported as follows

- Two Quotations had been received for the complete replacement of the Town Council Web site. A third quotation was awaited.
- Further work has been carried to consider the expressions of interest in being co-opted onto the Town Council as Town Councillors, for the remaining three vacancies. It was noted that the Electoral Commission had issued new directives concerning eligibility criteria. Acting Clerk to review and apply new directives as appropriate
- Orders for work approved by the Town Council (Minute no 474) will now be issued for 3 items. Additional quotations for the remaining two items were awaited.

485 **County Cllrs Report**

Cllr P Owen presented his report (on line) upon the following matters

- Re surfacing of Valley Road to be carried out soon
- Swingate re surfacing now complete
- Consideration being given to a request for a Residents Parking Scheme
- Bus stop problem (minute 472) is being investigated, although the “pull in” facility on one side of the road raises difficult issues
- The idea of a “Unitary County Authority” is not being considered during the current “trance”.
- A County Council Officer is investigating the problem of “empty shops” in Kimberley. (Town Councillors recorded a particular interest in this report).

Cllr Owen then responded to a few detailed questions including the adequacy of road surface work on Larkfield Road.

Cllr Owen was then thanked for his informative report by the meeting.

486 **Borough Councillors Report**

Cllr R Robinson had earlier expressed his support and interest in the above mentioned matter of “empty shops in Kimberley”. The problem of Newdigate Street parking was also under consideration. Cllr Robinson was thanked for his report which was noted by the meeting.

487 **Accounts Schedule for approval.**

(The Chairman vacated the meeting during consideration of this item of business)

The Town Council,s RFO asked for the meeting’s approval to the accounts schedule circulated to Town Councillors with the agenda papers. After responding to a couple of questions the meeting **approved** the payments schedule totalling £1,253.46p

488 **Correspondence list for noting**

The Meeting NOTED the list of correspondence received from the previous Town Council meeting. The Acting Town Clerk added two further items had been raised since the list had been circulated to Councillors. One Resident expressing concerns at the investigations to be carried out concerning the formation of a Unitary Authority for the County, and a Resident who was concerned about “uninvited door to door” Sales People.

489 **Potential extended use of the Stag Recreation Ground**

The Chairman reported that a suggestion had been made for increased usage of this facility by the provision of a Petanque pitch (ei French Boules) on a currently unused piece of land to the rear of the Pavilion. This would entail the provision of hard core pitch materials, edging timber and fabric underlay with the work being carried out by the Council’s Caretaker/handyman, within his normal times and duties. The cost to the Council in the provision of materials might well be receivable from hire charges paid by interested local groups.

After discussion, it was **agreed** to consider this suggestion at the next meeting of the Town Council when more detailed information was available.

490 **Questions/statements from Members of the Public**

As issues raised on line from members of the public, had been dealt with previously no further matters were raised under this item of business.

491 **Exclusion of the Public and 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. contractual, legal, personnel), the remaining part of the meeting has to be restricted to Town Councillors and Council Officers only. He therefore thanked Members of the Public for their questions and interest, and closed the “on line” contact with them.

Consideration of the remaining items are recorded on a separate attachment to these minutes for the attention of Town Councillors and Council Officers ONLY

Kimberley Town Council

Town Council meeting (on line video conferencing)

496 **Date of the next Town Council meeting**

Thursday 26th November, 2020. 7.00pm

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked Councillors for their attendance and contributions, and closed the meeting at 2030 hrs.
