



Kimberley Town Council

Minutes of a meeting of **Kimberley Town Council** held on **Thursday 30th November 2023**, in the Committee Room, Parish Hall, Newdigate Street, Kimberley starting at 7.00pm.

Present: Cllr S Boneham Cllr N Dewsbury Cllr N Doherty – Chair
Cllr C Eyre Cllr D Fewster Cllr I Forrester
Cllr T Mason Cllr M Morris Cllr N Oakden
Cllr P Saunders Cllr T Rood – Vice Chair
County Cllr: Cllr P Owen
Borough Cllrs: Cllr C Carr, Cllr A Cooper and Cllr W Mee
Council Officers: J Darbyshire - Town Clerk and Jane Robertson - RFO
Members of Public: Two

TC/23/618 **Apologies for Absence**
Apologies for absence were received from Cllr S Cunney, Cllr J Dymond and Cllr I Wilson.

TC/23/619 **Declarations of Interest**
Cllr T Rood declared an interest in item TC/23/633, Accounts for Payment.

TC/23/620 **Minutes of Full Council**
The minutes of the Full Council meeting 26th October 2023, having been circulated to all Councillors, were taken as read and noted. The meeting adopted the minutes as a true and accurate record and they were signed by the Chair.

TC/23/621 **Report from the Police**
None present, no report received.

TC/23/622 **Public Question Time**
None.

TC/23/623 **Report from County Councillor**
Cllr P Owen reported on the following:-

- There is now a School Crossing Patrol at Gilthill Primary School.
- The resurfacing work at Holly Road, Cliff Boulevard and High Spannia has been delayed, it is hoped it will now be carried out week commencing 19th February 2024.

- The patching work on Newdigate Road should be carried out week commencing 12th February 2024.
- It is hoped the outstanding roadworks at Nine Corners will commence in January 2024. If Fairgrove do not complete the work in the time agreed further action will be taken.
- Sainsbury's are applying for three-hour restricted parking in their car park.
- A Compliance Officer has been sent to try and mitigate the traffic disruption caused by the current roadworks at Main Street, Kimberley. This is emergency work required to repair a gas leak. Utility companies have a right to carry out emergency work without notice.
- The Notts Bus on Demand scheme will be extended, details to be confirmed.
- It is not feasible to reverse the one-way system on Church Hill due to the increased volume of traffic.

TC/23/624

Reports from Borough Councillors

Cllr A Cooper reported on the following:-

- Still fighting for a pedestrian crossing at Gilthill Primary School, waiting for a survey from the utility companies.
- Broxtowe Borough Council are in the process of drawing up a legal document with Fairgrove Homes. If no agreement is reached enforcement action will be taken.
- There have been incidents of drug dealing in Kimberley. Trying to arrange a meeting with the Police and the residents affected by this.
- Has been told all of the blocked drains have been cleared, but they haven't. Cllr P Owen to chase up. Advised by Cllr P Owen that a full cleaning operation of the drains and gullies is due to take place in February 2024. Currently targeting any areas affected by flooding.
- Has requested a list of opening times for the public toilets from Broxtowe Depot and reported some fly tipping. No response to date, will chase up.

Cllr W Mee reported on the following:-

- Disappointed to see that there don't appear to be any of the areas he has been fighting for in Kimberley on the Notts Bus on Demand scheme. Would like more information on the routes. Cllr P Owen said lessons are still being learned from trials in other areas and more work is needed, the idea has only been agreed in principle. Cllr W Mee said more cross-party working is needed.
- Has spoken to Broxtowe Borough Council about Kimberley Town Council's Christmas Light Switch-on not being promoted by them. He'll ensure it doesn't happen in the future.

Cllr C Carr reported on the following:-

- Cllr P Owen confirmed the strip of land on Babbington Lane where there is problem parking will be taken on by Nottinghamshire County Council. The residents would like bulbs planting but that will need permissions and it will involve more maintenance work. Bollards are being considered.
- Work is being done on establishing new Parish boundaries.

The Borough Councillors were asked to find out some more information about the new round of Shared Prosperity Funding and what Kimberley can apply for.

TC/23/625 **Levelling Up Fund Update**

Cllr Neil Doherty gave an update on the Levelling Up Fund progress. Work is ongoing with all aspects of the Levelling Up Fund bid. Monthly Governance meetings are now being held.

TC/23/626 **Committee Updates**

An update was given on the Events meeting Thursday 2nd November 2023, Estates and Environment meeting Thursday 9th November 2023, and Finance meeting Thursday 16th November 2023.

Thanks were given to all volunteers who helped with the Halloween, Remembrance and Christmas Lights events, which were all very successful and well attended.

TC/23/627 **Clerk's Report**

Nothing to report.

TC/23/628 **Parish Boundaries**

An update was given on the forthcoming Parish Boundary review. Proposals have been taken to Broxtowe Borough Council for approval. Kimberley Town Council's input should be requested. The final decision is due in December 2024.

It was **resolved** that Cllrs S Boneham, N Doherty and J Dymond will progress this on behalf of Kimberley Town Council and keep the members updated on proposals (whether from Broxtowe Borough Council or Kimberley Town Council) and progress.

TC/23/629 **Kimberley Leisure Centre**

It was noted that Kimberley Town Council are very disappointed that Broxtowe Borough Council were advised by Kimberley School in September 2023 that they intend to terminate the current arrangements from 31st March 2024 unless a financial settlement can be agreed, and neither Kimberley Town Council nor local residents were advised. The school claims there is a financial deficit and talks are ongoing. There will be a confidential discussion at the Broxtowe Borough Council Cabinet meeting on Tuesday 5th December. A Sports England grant was applied for recently and if successful the Leisure Centre would have to remain open for a minimum of three years with no reduction in facilities. There has been an increase in ongoing costs of repairs and utilities. Kimberley Town Council were disappointed to learn that Broxtowe Borough Council have been aware that repairs and updates have been needed for at least 20 years but they have not budgeted for it. Kimberley School do not want to take money away from education to repair and maintain the facilities.

Residents can write to the Broxtowe Borough Councillors with their thoughts and concerns and they will pass the information on.

Kimberley Town Council will release a statement to the public to say that we cannot just take money out of the Levelling Up Fund to help with the Leisure Centre as there are strict rules to be followed.

TC/23/630

Car Parking

Despite numerous emails to Broxtowe Borough Council for an update on the proposed car parking charges no response has been received.

The possibility of a permit scheme for residents and employees will be discussed at the Broxtowe Borough Council Cabinet meeting on Tuesday 5th December. Cllr C Carr will ask the Communications Team to provide more information.

Questions were asked about what improvement works will be carried out to justify the increased fees and when, if residents would be able to have their say and what consultation has been/will be carried out? The Borough Councillors to try and set up a meeting between Kimberley Town Council and Sue Rodden.

Cllr P Owen and one member of public left at 20.43.

TC/23/631

Hire Charges

It was **resolved** to increase hire charges as follows:-

Weddings from £500 to £525, Chapel dressings to remain the same. Funerals from £145 to £160.

Allotments, full plot from £55 to £60, half plot from £35 to £40.

All price increases to take effect from 1st April 2024.

TC/23/632

Month End Finance Reports

Income and Expenditure Report, Balance Sheet and Actual payments for October were circulated prior to the meeting and noted.

TC/23/633

Accounts for Payment

Circulated with the agenda papers for this meeting was a list of accounts received since the last meeting of Kimberley Town Council. This list was received, noted and approved by the meeting and signed by the Chair.

Cllr T Rood left at 20.58.

TC/23/634

Budget 2024-2025

The draft budget was circulated with the agenda papers and discussed at the meeting. To be reviewed by the Finance Committee on Thursday 18th January 2024 and taken back to Full Council on Thursday 25th January 2024.

TC/23/635

Bank Accounts

It was **resolved** that Kimberley Town Council will set up two new bank accounts, one with Unity Trust Bank and one with Cambridge and Counties. It was noted that Cambridge and Counties require 95 days notice for any withdrawals.

Cllrs N Dewsbury, C Eyre and I Forrester left at 21.03.

TC/23/636 **Fixed Asset and Valuation Policy**

It was **resolved** to adopt the Fixed Asset and Valuation Policy, as agreed at the Finance meeting on 16th November 2023.

TC/23/637 **Kimberley Udenominational School Trust**

It was agreed that Kimberley Town Council no longer has an interest in nominating a Councillor or the Clerk to the position of a Trustee in the Kimberley Udenominational School Trust.

TC/23/638 **Memorial Plaque**

It was **resolved** to spend up to £50 on a memorial plaque at the Bowls Club for Steve Hall. The plaque to include 'With Thanks from Kimberley Town Council' at the bottom.

TC/23/639 **Planning Applications**

Circulated with the agenda papers for this meeting was a list of planning applications received since the last meeting of Kimberley Town Council. This list was received and noted by the meeting.

TC/23/640 **Dates of Next Meetings**

Events - Thursday 4th January 2024
Estates and Environment - Thursday 11th January 2024
Finance - Thursday 18th January 2024
Full Council - Thursday 25th January 2024

TC/23/641 **Exclusion of Public and Press**

RESOLVED that, under Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information.
No Excluded Items.

There being no further business, the Chair thanked Councillors for their contributions and closed the meeting at 21.15.