

Kings Ripton Parish Council

Parish Clerk: Mrs Samantha Sharp
Telephone: 07927 530538
E-Mail: Clerk@kingsriptonpc.org.uk

Minutes of the Meeting of Kings Ripton Parish Council¹ held on Monday 20th March 2023 at 7.00pm at: Kings Ripton Village Hall, School Lane, Kings Ripton, PE28 2NL

Present; Paul Bassitt (PB), Judith Archer (JA) Philip Rayner - Chairman (PR), Rebecca Rayner (RR), Samantha Sharp – Clerk (SS), District Councillor Ross Martin, County Councillor Steve Criswell and 1 members of the public.

Members: 5 Quorum: 3

MINUTES

0069/03-23 To receive and approve apologies for absence.

No apologies received.

0070/03-23 To receive Disclosable Interests Declarations.

Members of the Council are subject to the Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interest) Regulations 2032. All dispensation requests must be made to the Clerk prior to the meeting.

Dispensation for JA for Allotments.
Dispensations for PR and RR for Glebe Farm items.

Meeting Closed - 1903

0071/03-23 Public participation.

To allow up to 10 minutes (2 minutes per person) for any members of the public and councillors declaring the existence and nature of a prejudicial interest to address the meeting in relation to the business on this agenda.

None raised.

Meeting Open - 1903

0072/03-23 To receive an update from the Local County Councillor.

Roads are becoming increasingly worse, although there is now additional funding from central government has been announced.

20mph limit applications are open til the end of April.

¹Local Government Act 1972, schedule 12, paragraph 7 (2).

Signed by Chairman _____

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0073/03-23 To receive an update from the Local District Councillors.

Budget passed by HDC with a £5 increase per household. This increase will continue over the next 5 years.

A Green bin tax will be introduced for all residents to have their bin emptied.

The local plan is being revised and will have consultations sent out.

Brown field register of interests are being encouraged for all Councils to understand where these areas are.

Member allowances are being reviewed by the district council.

0074/03-23 To approve minutes of the meeting on 31st January 2023.

Proposed - PB

Seconded - PR

Vote Results - All in favour - **RESOLVED**

The Chairman signed the minutes.

0075/03-23 Matters arising from minutes of 31st January 2023.

0075/03-23.1 Camp Beagle Protest – Clerk

Correspondence from Highways received – Appendix A

JA continues to write a letter to the County Council requesting answers regarding the expenditure of road signs when there are other roads within the Parish which have had fatalities.

0075/03-23.2 Mobile Library – Next Date for visit

14th April 2023

2nd Friday of the month – School Lane – 1520 til 1600.

Item to remain as a reminder for the Parish.

0075/03-23.3 Speedwatch – Alternative Battery

No update

0075/03-23.4 Road Sweep Request – Clerk

Requested 20/3/2023

0075/03-23.5 Defibrillator Training – Clerk

Awaiting dates from Community Heartbeat Trust

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0075/03-23.6 Public Footpath Work – Clerk
All issues have been raised with Highways

0075/03-23.7 Highways issues – Clerk

30ph road sign has rusted through opposite Walden Close.

0075/03-23.8 Warm Hubs – Cllr P Rayner

Very successful programme of 4 events. Supporting social inclusion and drawing more residents to attend. 13 residents have been attending. 2nd wave of funding applied for.

0075/03-23.9 Sale of Parish Council Land – Clerk
Resolution required further in the meeting

0076/03-23 Allotments

▪ Any updates.
No updates.

0077/03-23 Planning

0077/03-23.1 New Applications
None Received

0077/03-23.2 Update on all planning applications for the last 6 months

None to report

0078/03-23 Finance

0078/03-23.1 To approve accounts for payment.

Date	Payee	Description	Amount
ASAP	Kings Ripton Farms Ltd	Post maintenance – February 2023	£60.00
ASAP	Kings Ripton Farms Ltd	Post maintenance – November 2022	£60.00
31/03/23	Samantha Sharp	Clerk Salary – March 2023	Confidential
31/03/23	HMRC	Clerk Tax and NI	£50.20
31/03/23	Samantha Sharp	Working From Home Allowance	£10.00
31/03/23	Samantha Sharp	Underpayment – Standing Order Amendment Required – January and February Pay	£27.20

Date	Payee	Description	Amount
30/04/23	Samantha Sharp	Clerk Salary – March 2023	Confidential
30/04/23	HMRC	Clerk Tax and NI	£50.20

Signed by Chairman _____

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30/04/23	Samantha Sharp	Working From Home Allowance	£10.00
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0078/03-23.2 Monthly bank reconciliations – January and February 2023.
Appendix B

0079/03-23 To resolve the purchase of a valuation survey on the land next to the Parish Allotments

PR has requested a close session to discuss a valuation the Council would be prepared to sell the land for. Prior to a formal valuation being requested.

0080/03-23 Dangerous parking in the village

Planning was approved for parking numerous months ago however this is yet to be actioned for Priory Cottage. The Clerk has been actioned to research the current planning permission for this property.

Caravan in the village has been obstructive in its current parking position which has raised concerns by residents.

Clerk to write a notice to Parishioners requesting access for a Fire Appliance at all times and impede the parking of other Parishioners.

PR Approved the meeting to continue past the 2hours, as per the Standing Orders.

0081/03-23 To resolve Council Action surrounding the issue of dog fouling in public areas

Polite notice requesting that dog fouling is cleared and disposed appropriately. Clerk to research options for signs at a value of under £50.00.

0082/03-23 To resolve the enhanced funding request received from Kings Ripton Village Hall

To issue an enhanced grant of £1000.00

Proposed RR

Seconded JA

RESOLVED

0083/03-23 Clerk Report

To receive an update from Mrs Sharp (Clerk)

No personnel issues to report, Clerk appraisal is due in April 2023.

Signed by Chairman _____

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Grounds maintenance contract has not been renewed and an alternative will need to be sought.

0084/03-23 Correspondence and Communications

Several Parishioners have requested further information on the sale of Parish Council land.

Cllr Criswell sent an update regarding Camp Beagle.

0085/03-23 Matters as agenda items for future consideration

No decision can be made under this item²

Secret Garden Party to be requested to attend
Coronation celebrations

0086/03-23 To note the proposed date of the next Parish Council meeting.

- Annual Parish Meeting of the Electorate– 7pm – Wednesday 10th May 2023
- Annual Parish Council Meeting – 7.30pm – Wednesday 10th May 2023

Meeting Closed – 2120

Closed Session

The Council discussed the matter of selling a small amount of land that the Parish Council owns. Due to the commercial nature of this discussion, no further information can be shared.

² Local Government Act 1972, s12 10(2) (b)

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Appendix A

Update for Kings Ripton Parish Council on the Protestor Encampment on Sawtry Road – Camp Beagle. Date – 14/2/23

Cambridgeshire County Council as Highway Authority has been managing the road safety implications of the protestor encampment outside MBRAcre since the start of the protest. As Highway Authority our duty is to keep people on and using the highway as safe as we can. At the outset of the protest we had no idea of the duration planned by the protestors. Over time we have developed our approach to managing the encampment whilst we seek its permanent removal.

The protest encampment differs from a traveller encampment. Travellers intend to move on. The protestors are not transient in the same way. Their purpose is to be resident and visible to MBRAcres so will and do work to stay in their current location. This is what makes it difficult for us to successfully remove the encampment from the highway.

Our powers under the Highways Act are somewhat limited. We can enforce the removal of the specific items such as tents, on the verge. However this could result in the protestors simply placing another tent in another location on the road near to MBRAcres. We could end up having to go through the enforcement process repeatedly multiple times with the end result of just moving the encampment up and down the road.

Our approach is to manage the encampment where it is on the basis that we are unlikely to achieve its sustained removal; we risk it moving to a less safe more difficult to manage location on the highway; the cost and effort of successful enforcement is likely to be much higher than an approach of engagement and management for no overall benefit to the local community or road users.

In its current location the encampment can be managed in a reasonably safe manner through the speed limit and safety measures we have had to put in. The safety measures are to help keep the travelling public warned of the encampment and safe from the potential risk the encampment presents to them. The measures also serve to protect the protectors from the traffic using the road. All the measures are temporary, as is the speed limit and will be removed when the encampment and protest ceases to affect the highway. Due to the length of time that is taking we have concreted in signs etc to help avoid constant costs of putting temporary signs up following wind and storms or having them moved around on days of protest.

The costs of the safety measures have to be borne by us as Highways Authority as it is our duty to take reasonable measures to protect those on or using the highway. The cost of the measures come from our Highways Maintenance funding and does not take away from funding for local highways improvements or road safety schemes. The costs to our highways maintenance budgets are not insignificant and if we could reliably remove the need for them through the removal of the encampment we would.

The actions of the protests are not something we can manage through our powers directly. We work closely with the Police and Huntingdonshire District Council to minimise the disruption the protestors are causing as best we can through our combined approach. The three organisations work closely to manage the protest and encampment. We are jointly seeking Legal Counsel advice on the situation and how we might manage it better and/or remove the protestors. Until we receive the advice we will continue to do all we can to maintain safety on the highway and minimise the disruption the encampment causes for the local community. If our approach changes we will liaise with the Parish Council.

Jon Munslow Assistant Director Highways Maintenance

Signed by Chairman _____

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Appendix B

Kings Ripton Parish Council Bank reconciliation. 31st January 2023

Account Balance @1.1.2023

Unity Trust Bank Current Account	£25,216.20
Total	£25,216.20

Receipts

£
75.00

January Payments

£
676.09

Adjusted Balance at the 31st January 2023	£24,615.11
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Kings Ripton Parish Council Bank reconciliation. 28th February 2023

Account Balance @1.2.2023

Unity Trust Bank	
Current Account	£24,615.11
Total	£24,615.11

Receipts

February Payments

£
243.55

Adjusted Balance at the 28th February 2023	£24,371.56
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Signed by Chairman _____