

MINUTES OF A FULL MEETING OF KINGS HILL PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT 7.30 P.M. ON TUESDAY 10 JANUARY 2023 IN THE KINGS HILL COMMUNITY CENTRE

Present: Cllrs: S. Barker, M. Coleman, M. Hartman, D. Hurring, S. Kirk, F. Mclymont, T. Petty (Chairman), D. Rush, N. Sherlaw, D. Waller & A Vincent

Officer Present: Parish Clerk Karen Bell

Apologies: S. Falzon-Thomas

Public Session: 2 members of the public present
The members of the public were welcomed to the meeting and invited to put questions to the council.

01/2023 **Apologies for Absence:** It was proposed, seconded and:
RESOLVED: To approve the apologies received from Cllr. Falzon-Thomas (Work Commitment) **Unanimous**

02/2023 **Declarations of Interests and / or lobbying**
02/2023.1 Declarations of Interests: None received
02/2023.2 Declarations of Lobbying: Cllr. Barker declared that she had been lobbied in respect of items 05/2023 and 08/2023.

03/2023 **Declarations of Intention to Record:** None received

04/2023 **Review of Members Allowances:** It was reported that whilst parish councillors did not stand for office for financial gain, an allowance could actively support someone in the councillor role and could attract parish councillors from a wide range of backgrounds. It was further reported that in England, a local council may pay a basic allowance to its chairman only or to each of its elected Councillors (but not to Councillors who had been co-opted) and that the amount paid to the chairman might differ from that of other Councillors in light of the extra duties and responsibilities that were required of the chairman but otherwise the sum was the same for each Councillor. It was noted that the payment of Councillors' allowances was subject to a statutory process involving a local remuneration (independent of the local council) panel, whose role was to make recommendations as to the level of the allowances that a council could pay and that the Southeast Employers recommendation was for allowances to be 30% of the basic allowance paid to borough councillors. Following a discussion, it was proposed, seconded and:
RESOLVED: That Councillors did not stand for office for any financial gain but as a service to the community and would not therefore claim allowances which represented a cost saving to the council more than £8,000. **Unanimous**

05/2023 **2023/2024 Budget:** The Clerk was thanked for preparing comprehensive and thorough budget papers which had been copied to members. Following a discussion, it was proposed, seconded and:
RESOLVED: To approve the budget **By Majority**
(1 abstention)

These minutes are not a verbatim record of the meeting, but a summary of discussion and decisions made at the meeting

Chairman: **Date:** 19 January 2023

It was further

RESOLVED: That the budgetary requirements for 2023/2024 would be £706,887 which required a 3% increase in the precept from £536,745 to £552,847. It was noted that the number of Band D equivalent properties in Kings Hill as notified by TMBC for 2023/2024 was 4,493.17 which resulted in a Kings Hill Parish Council tax Charge for a Band D Council Taxpayer of £123.04.

By Majority
(1 abstention)

- 06/2023** **Review of Community Centre Charges for 2023/2024:** Following a discussion, it was proposed, seconded and:
RESOLVED: That the charges would increase by the November CPI which was 11.1%. **Unanimous**
- 07/2023** **2023/2024 Internal Audit Appointment:** Following a discussion, it was proposed, seconded and:
RESOLVED: To confirm the reappointment of Mulberry & Co as the Councils Independent Internal Auditor for 2023/2024
By Majority
(4 abstained)
- 08/2023** **Finance and Governance**
- 08/2023.1** **Reserves:** It was reported that at 31.03.23 it was expected that reserves should be between £400K to £420K and there would be a review of reserves at year.
- 08/2023.3** **Reserves Policy:** Following a discussion, it was proposed, seconded and:
RESOLVED: To defer to a future meeting. **Unanimous**
- 08/2023.3** **Internal Controls:** Following a discussion, it was proposed, seconded and:
RESOLVED: To defer to a future meeting. **Unanimous**
- 08/2023.4** **Risk Assessments:** Following a discussion, it was proposed, seconded and:
RESOLVED: To defer to a future meeting. **Unanimous**
- 08/2023.5** **Procurement Policy:** Following a discussion, it was proposed, seconded and:
RESOLVED: To defer to a future meeting. **Unanimous**
- 08/2023.6** **Risk Management Policy:** Following a discussion, it was proposed, seconded and:
RESOLVED: To defer to a future meeting. **Unanimous**
- 09/2023** **Warm Spaces Cosy Club:** It was reported that Warm Spaces was designed to signpost anyone in need of warmth and company to a warm space to share with others. It was further reported that KHPC had been offered £300.00 from County Councillor Hudson's members fund towards start-up costs of a Kings Hill Warm Spaces Cosy Club. Following a discussion, it was proposed, seconded and:

These minutes are not a verbatim record of the meeting, but a summary of discussion and decisions made at the meeting

Chairman: **Date:** 19 January 2023

RESOLVED: That KHPC would set up, arrange and promote a Warm Spaces Cosy Club on Monday afternoons with free refreshments. **Unanimous**

10/2023 **Matters for Inclusion on the Next Agenda:** None

11/2023 **Matters for Consideration in Private:** None

12/2023 **Date and time of Next Meeting:** Confirmed as Thursday 19 January 2023

These minutes are not a verbatim record of the meeting, but a summary of discussion and decisions made at the meeting

Chairman: **Date:** 19 January 2023