

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF KINGS HILL PARISH COUNCILS PLANNING, TRANSPORTATION, ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE COMMITTEE HELD ON 18 MAY 2023 AT 7.30 P.M. IN THE KINGS HILL COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**Present:** Cllrs: S. Barker, J. MacKay, F. Mclymont (Substitute), S. Kirk & D. Rush

**Officers Present:** Parish Clerk K. Bell & Assistant Clerk D. Bayley

**Others Present:** Cllr. A. Vincent (Observer) & Mr C Hawkins (On behalf of Planning Applicant)

**Apologies:** Cllrs. M. Colman, A. Petty & N. Sherlaw

It was agreed by those present that Cllr. Barker would open the meeting:

**P59/2023 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** It was proposed, seconded and:

**RESOLVED:** To approve the apologies received from Cllrs. Colman (Holiday), Petty (Holiday) and Sherlaw (Holiday) **Unanimous**

**P60/2023 ELECTION OF COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN**

Nominations were invited for the position of Committee Chairman for the 2023 / 2024 Civic Year. Cllr. Rush stated that as the meeting was quorate, Cllr. Mclymont was not required as a substitute committee member and could not put himself forward as either Committee Chairman or vote on the proceedings. Cllr. Mclymont accepted that as a substitute member he would not put himself forward as Committee Chairman but would like to vote on the proceedings. The Clerk would clarify to Committee the TOR's relating to Substitute members.

The Committee was advised that in her absence. Cllr. Colman wanted to be considered for the position of Committee Chairman. Cllr. Barker advised the committee that Cllr. Colman wanted to be appointed Committee Vice Chairman. Cllr. Barker then proposed that she be elected Committee Chairman, this proposal was seconded by Cllr. Rush. Cllr Kirk then proposed that Cllr Colman be elected Committee Chairman this was seconded. A discussion then followed and a vote was taken with the result as follows:

Cllr. Barker 3

Cllr. Colman 1 (excl. Cllr. Mclymonts Vote)2 (incl. Cllr. Mclymonts vote)

**P61/2023 ELECTION OF COMMITTEE VICE CHAIRMAN**

It was proposed by Cllr. Barker, seconded by Cllr. Kirk and:

**RESOLVED:** That Cllr. Colman be elected Committee Vice-Chairman.

**Unanimous**

**P62/2023 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND / OR LOBBYING:** Cllr. Barker declared that she had been lobbied in respect of item P66/2023.5.

**P63/2023 DECLARATIONS OF INTENTION TO RECORD:** There were none

**P64/2023 MINUTES:** It was proposed, seconded and:

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes from the meeting held on 27 April 2023 be confirmed and signed by the Committee Chairman as a true record of the proceedings. **Unanimous**

Cllr. Rush asked whether any new information had been received in respect of the TPO tree on KCC land. The Clerk advised that no new information had been received and the matter was being progressed directly with KCC.

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

**Chairman:** ..... **Date:** 01 June 2023

**P65/2023 PLANNING ISSUES**

**P65/2023.1 Planning application for consideration:** It was proposed, seconded and:

**RESOLVED:** That the following representation would be submitted to TMBC: **Unanimous**

**TM/23/00859/FL** 50 Gibson Drive, Kings Hill. Demolition of existing office (Use Class E) building and construction of a 78- bed care home (Use Class C2) with associated parking and development.

**OBJECTION** on the following material planning grounds

- Overdevelopment
- Detrimental impact on the environment, trees of local importance, Kings Hill history and existing infrastructure
- Inadequate parking provision
- Size, scale & mass of planning proposal

**P65/2023.2 Planning Decisions Noted**

**TMBC had APPROVED the following:**

**TM/23/00656/FL** 47 Mitchell Road. West Malling. Single storey rear extension (Renewal of TM/19/01875/FL)

**TM/23/00651/LDP** 15 Crabtree Close, Kings Hill. Lawful Development Certificate - Single storey side extension

**TM/23/00626/FL** 11 Braeburn Way, Kings Hill. Construction of wrap around single storey extension, changes to rear fenestration and moving of garden wall

**TMBC has Refused the following:**

**TM/23/00481/LDP** 22 Atlas Close, Kings Hill. Lawful Development Certificate - Single storey rear extension

**KCC had approved the following:**

**TM/88/1002/R18A** Trial blasts of 25kg maximum instantaneous charge at Blaise Farm Quarry

**P65/2023.3 Broadwater Farm Update:** No new information **Noted**

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Committee Chairman: ..... **Date: 01 June 2023**

**P65/2023.4 TMBC Planning Obligations – Parish Infrastructure Statement (PIS):** Following a discussion, it was proposed, seconded and:

**RESOLVED:** That the 2022 PIS would be resent to all members and considered at the forthcoming Strategic Planning Meeting which involve all council members. **Unanimous**

It was further.

**RESOLVED:** That as TMBC had requested any amendments to the 2022 PIS by 22 June 2023 that the matter would be considered at the next committee meeting. **Unanimous**

It was noted that no new information had been received regarding the allocation of S106 monies. **Noted**

**P65/2023.5 Blaise Farm Quarry:** Attention was drawn to the following:

- Gallagher Aggregates Ltd were undertaking a series of trial blasts to ascertain the environmental impact of an increase in the Maximum Charge Weight of explosive in each individual discrete charge. It was noted that the trial blasts began with two blasts on consecutive days on 17 and 18 May 2023 and would be monitored by third party specialist environmental consultants, Blast Log Ltd.
- Blaise Farm would be maximising the data capture per visit by firing on consecutive days.
- KHPC would be notified of the trial blast dates with all trials being completed within ninety days of the first blast.
- Blaise Farm Quarry did not anticipate the environmental impact of the trial blast's to be significantly different to usual blasts and the same planning permission constraints would apply. **Noted**

A discussion followed during which Cllr. Rush suggested that the trial blast data be made available in a timelier manner. Cllr. Mclymont also raised concern at Gallagher vehicles speeding along the rural highways. It was proposed, seconded and:

**RESOLVED:** That KCC be asked to make the trial blast data available in a timelier manner.

**Unanimous**

It was further.

**RESOLVED:** That Gallaghers be advised of the speeding vehicles. **Unanimous**

It was further.

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk would liaise with Offham PC who's residents were similarly affected by quarry activities. **Unanimous**

It was further:

**RESOLVED:** That the matter would remain a standing agenda item for the time being. **Unanimous**

**P66/2023 TRANSPORT ISSUES**

**P66/2023.1 KHS - Parish Fault Reports:** The fault reports for Kings Hill, Mereworth and West Malling as copied to members were received and noted. **Noted**

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Committee Chairman: ..... Date: 01 June 2023

**P66/2023.2 2023 / 2024 Kings Hill Highways Improvement Plan (HIP):** It was reported that the previous HIP was one prepared in 2020 and had included a request for a crossing at Discovery School. Following a discussion, it was proposed, seconded and:  
**RESOLVED:** To obtain clarification from Discovery School if the request for a crossing was still active request.  
**Unanimous**

It was further.

**RESOLVED:** That Pending a response from Discovery School, no further action would be taken in 2023 / 2024.  
**Unanimous**

Cllr. Barker stated that independent of KHPC she would be progressing a Speedwatch scheme and would like to use KHPC equipment.

**P66/2023.3 Parking Update:** TMBC had advised that they would review be reviewing the Kings Hill Parking Review with the newly elected Borough Councillors and were currently unable to confirm when parking work would come forward for Haden Road and Milton Lane. Following a discussion, it was proposed, seconded and:  
**RESOLVED:** That TMBC would be asked to provide an update on the possible one-way system between Queen Street, Milton Way, and fortune Way and invited to attend the next committee meeting.  
**Unanimous**

**P66/2023.4 Potholes Gibson Drive:** KHEM had advised that quotations were being obtained and that a road closure might be required whilst the works take place.  
**Noted**

**P66/2023.5 KCC proposed diversion of footpath MR144 (part):** An application had been made by the landowners to divert part of Public Footpath MR144 from its current route which would run through the landscaping of the development to a proposed new alignment that would run mainly through a green corridor of the new development. It was noted that should the path be diverted, it was the intention of KCC and the landowner to seek to upgrade Public Footpath MR144 to a bridleway via creation agreement in the future. It was further noted that KCC had recommend a site visit to view the proposed route and consider the benefits to the landowner, and the affect it might have on enjoyment and convenience. Following a discussion, it was proposed, seconded and:  
**RESOLVED:** That whilst KHPC had no objection in principle, the councils would prefer a bridleway and not a permissive route. KHPC would also like to undertake a site visit.  
**Unanimous**

**P66/2023.6 Parish Alliance Buses Draft agreement:** It was noted that this issue arose at a recent meeting of the KALC Area Committee. Following a discussion, it was proposed, seconded and:  
**RESOLVED:** That this matter be deferred **Unanimous**

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Committee Chairman: ..... Date: 01 June 2023

**P66/2023.7 Possible Community Transport Scheme for Kings Hill:**  
Following a discussion, it was proposed, seconded and:  
**RESOLVED:** That a representative from Nu Venture would be invited to attend a committee meeting following which the matter would be considered.  
**Unanimous**

**P66/2023.8 2023/2024 Highways Soft Landscaping Schedule: Noted**

**P67/2023 ENVIRONMENT ISSUES**

**P67/2023.1 Open Spaces:** A meeting had been held with the contractor who had put together proposals for committee consideration in respect of long grass maintenance and a wildflower meadow at Lapins Lane and replacement tree planting. Following a discussion, it was proposed, seconded and:  
**RESOLVED:** That the quotation in respect of long grass maintenance and wildflower meadow at Lapins Lane would be declined. **Unanimous**

It was further:

**RESOLVED:** That consideration of the quotation in respect of replacement tree planting would be considered at the next meeting. **Unanimous**

It was further:

**RESOLVED:** That the committee would revisit the issue regarding the goalposts at Lapins Lane at the next meeting. **Unanimous**

It was further:

**RESOLVED:** That Cllrs. Barker, Kirk & MacKay would undertake a site visit of the open spaces and bring forward proposals for consideration at the next committee meeting. **Unanimous**

The following were noted: **Noted**

- Funding could be from the unspent Coronation Grant which included environmental projects within Kings Hill
- Clarification had been received from the contractor regarding No Mow May; swathes of grass would be left uncut at Anson Avenue and Garden Way, all the grass within the play area at Anson Avenue would be cut, all of the trees and shrubs would have a mowed border around them and the grass as it is at Lapins Lane would be cut as usual.

**P67/2023.2 Kings Hill Tree Wardens:** Cllr. Rush reported that 22 people had so far expressed an interest in attending the Kings Hill Tree Walk on 04 June 2023. Following a discussion, it was proposed, seconded and:  
**RESOLVED:** That Tree Wardens would be invited to attend a future committee meeting and to submit frequent reports on their activities. **Unanimous**

**P67/2023.3 Kents Plan Bee:** The April newsletter had been copied to members and would be put on the council's social media.  
**Noted**

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Committee Chairman: ..... Date: 01 June 2023

**P68/2023 CLIMATE CHANGE ISSUES:** Cllr Barker reported that as she had been unable to attend the recent meeting the CC Working Group had not met, however she would rearrange the meeting which would be held over the Zoom platform so that Cllrs. Colman and Sherlaw who were currently overseas could attend. Cllr. Barker also reported that she had attended a recent Climate Change Meeting which was held in West Malling. It was noted that former Parish Councillor Shakira Falzon-Thomas wished to be a resident member of the Climate Change Working Group. **Noted.**

**P69/2023 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING:** Confirmed as 01 June 2023

There being no additional business, the meeting concluded at 9.33 p.m.

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