

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SPORTS PARK COMMITTEE OF KINGS HILL PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 24 JUNE 2025 AT 6.30 P.M. IN THE KINGS HILL COMMUNITY CENTRE

Present: Cllrs. Barker, Hartman (Chair), Mclymont & Petty
Also Present: K. Bell (Parish Clerk), M. Sharp (K hockey), E. Wood (TMA) & K. Brimstead (TMA)
Apologies: Cllrs. Colman and Sherlaw (both on holiday)
Absentee: Cllr. Kirk

Cllr Hartman opened the meeting and welcomed all present

SP 14 **Apologies for Absence:** Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs. Colman and Sherlaw. **Unanimous**

SP 15 **Declarations of Interests / Lobbying / Intention to Record:** None
Noted

SP 16 **Minutes**

SP 16.1 **Minutes from meeting held on 20 May 2025:** It was proposed, seconded and:
RESOLVED: That the minutes from the meeting be approved as an accurate record. **Unanimous**

SP 16.2 **Matters Arising**

SP 11.2 **Fence Damage:** Repair order passed to contractor. **Noted**

SP 17 **TMBC S106 Allocations:** Awaiting a response from TMBC regarding reconsideration of funding for the new water connection, essential for the irrigation project. **Noted**

SP 18 **Irrigation:** Attention was drawn to the following **Noted**

- New mains connection
 - Order processed and passed to SE Water.
 - Following a request from SE Water requested trench photos. Cllr Petty met with a representative from SE Water on site and had been able to clarify with them the extent of the requirements for the trench and to confirm that the new mains connection was required for the purpose of external pitch irrigation only.
 - Further information would be considered at the next committee meeting on 22.07.25 meeting and recommendations arising would then be considered by Full Council on 31.07.25.
 - It was noted that pitch irrigation had been allocated circa £160K by TMBC via S106 funds
- Existing Irrigation Foat Tank: TMA has progressed remedial works

SP 19 **Expansion of Sporting Facilities**

SP 19.1.1 **Padel Tennis:** Attention was drawn to the following
Noted

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- The younger children's play area was now the preferred location for the 2 x Padel Tennis Courts. The younger children's play area would be relocated and incorporated within the other play areas.
- Costs would be circa £270K for 2 x covered Padel Tennis Courts to be met by S106, grant funding and some PC funds.
- Grants were being applied for.

SP 19.1.2

Kings Hill Football Club: Cllrs. Petty and Hartman reported on a positive meeting held with representatives from KHFC, Kent FA, and the Football Foundation. The meeting focused on grant funding opportunities to support the proposed expansion plans for the football facility. Cllrs. Petty and Hartman would be continuing discussions with KHFC on 26 June 2025 to further explore their funding application. It was noted that KHFC might seek funding in the region of £35,000 from Kings Hill Parish Council (KHPC) as part of their overall funding strategy.

Noted

SP 19.1.3

Kings Hill Hockey: An update was received on progress. Notts Sports had completed all necessary preparations, and England Hockey was working with the Hockey Club to secure a compensation package for being displaced from Cobdown Sports. Support for the hockey club was also being provided by Sport England. It was noted that without formal arrangements in place for the displaced sports such as hockey, the Lionesses Master Plan could not move forward. It was further noted that details previously shared by KH Hockey regarding container club houses and changing rooms had been circulated to committee members.

Noted

Cllr Barker drew attention to an email she and the Clerk had received from the Medway Croquet Club, requesting that they be considered for inclusion in the sporting facility expansion plans at the Kings Hill Sports Park. It was agreed that the Clerk would respond acknowledging their interest and explaining that, while Kings Hill Parish Council was progressing with an expansion of sporting facilities, regrettably, there was no spare capacity to include croquet facilities within those plans. The response would also acknowledge that this would be disappointing and would encourage the Club to remain in contact. The Council would also express its willingness to assist in signposting or supporting engagement with Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council or other relevant stakeholders.

Agreed

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SP 19.2 Prologis Liaison: A formal proposal had been submitted, and initial feedback had been positive. The committee noted the meeting notes from the meeting held on 9 June 2025, which had been previously circulated. Also noted was the suggestion from Prologis that the 3G pitch viewing area be included within a broader licence to alter application. **Noted**

SP 19.3 Planning Applications: Attention was drawn to the following

- The Parish Council had approved a budget of up to £10,000 to cover planning application fees and the licence to alter.
- The Committee was keen to engage early with the planning process to ensure smooth progression.
- Pre-application advice would be sought, it was noted that submission requirements would include scaled plans, architectural drawings, site photographs, a detailed proposal description, and clarification of land ownership.

Noted

SP 20 Outside Drinks Area: In the absence of Cllr Kirk this item was deferred. **Agreed**

SP 21 TMA Liaison

SP 21.1 Financial Report (30.04.25): The financial report and accompanying annotations from TMA's CEO were noted. It was further noted that audit and VAT inspections had delayed the release of financial data for the period ending 31.05.25, which would be available by 27.06.25. TMA's CEO also highlighted an anticipated increase in water costs. **Noted**

SP 21.2 Joint Bank Account: The Committee noted correspondence regarding the setup of the joint bank account for Kings Hill Sports Park (KHSP) and Kings Hill Parish Council (KHPC). It was acknowledged that mandate forms would be completed as required and that the proposed banking arrangement with NatWest met the operational criteria, including dual authorisation from both parties, online banking access, and a daily auto-sweep facility to maximise interest. Following a discussion, it was proposed, seconded and:

RESOLVED: That the KHPC account signatories would be the Clerk/RFO and Cllr. Hartman, with the Deputy Clerk/Deputy RFO granted transactional entry rights. **Unanimous**

SP 21.3 Fire Alarm: KHPC had been advised that the fire alarm system required urgent remedial work due to expired sensor lifespan and a fault identified in one of the alarm zones. It was noted that TMA had been instructed to proceed with the necessary repairs. **Agreed**

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TMA took the opportunity to advise the committee of their concerns regarding discomfort caused to customers by glare from strong sunlight in the clubhouse and asked the committee to consider giving approval to install anti-glare film; this was declined due to concerns over its limited durability and the potential difficulty of removal. As an alternative, Cllr Petty suggested that TMA obtain quotations for solar glass which could be reviewed by the committee at its next meeting, with a recommendation to be presented to Full Council.

Agreed

SP 22 **Date of Next Meeting:** Confirmed as Tuesday 22 July 2025 at 6.30 p.m.

SP 23 **Consideration in Private**

SP 23.1

Leases: The Committee noted that Trustee support had been given for the draft agreement, with terms verbally confirmed. The solicitor would be instructed to proceed. **Agreed**

There being no additional business the meeting closed at 7.23 p.m.

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