

**Due to the current Covid-19 Pandemic Kimpton Parish Council have suspended Standing Orders and are not holding Public Meetings due to Social Distancing.**

**If you like to raise issues with the Council members or Clerk, please do it via our website or by telephone or email.**

**Minutes of the Close Kimpton Parish Council Meeting held via the Zoom App on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2020 at 7.30pm**

Present: Cllr Mr K Tamke – Chairman  
Cllr Mr M New – Vice Chairman  
Cllr Mrs H Shaldon  
Cllr Mr N MacGinnis  
Cllr Mrs C Godard  
Richard Waterman – Parish Clerk

**WELCOME.** The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The Chairman spoke about the sad deaths of Richard Hart and John Southern, both men had served for many years on the Parish Council. The Parish Council's thoughts are with their families.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.**

There were no Declarations of Interest recorded.

**MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING.**

The Minutes of the last Meeting were agreed as a true record.

**PLANNING.**

There were no new planning applications to discuss.

**FINANCE.**

BANK ACCOUNT BALANCE – 7<sup>th</sup> December 2020

After movements below - Lloyds TSB Current Account = £8,313.17

Payments made November and December

R.N. Waterman	Wages – November & December	£420.00
Mr R Welch	Grass Cutting	£40.00
Mr M Pope	Village Green Grass Cutting	£650.00
Andover Garden Machinery	Mower Service	£138.30
		<b><u>£1,248.30</u></b>

**LENGTHSMAN.**

The Lengthsman has laid the Turf in the Play Area and has confirmed that he will be digging out the ditches in January 2021.

**TELEPHONE NETWORK.**

BONFIRE.

The recent fire damage to a hedge and the loss of a main telephone line caused by the bonfire was discussed.

The majority of residents in Kimpton were affected by the loss of the telephone line (Kimpton Lane, Deacon Road, Cow Lane and Down Road). The last villagers were fully re-connected after 10 days. It has highlighted how unpredictable bonfires can be. So please use the Andover Skip whenever possible. But if you have a bonfire please take care.

Government GIGABITE Grant Scheme to improve rural Broadband speeds:  
It was noted that Hampshire County Council have launched a scheme to help residents improve their Broadband Speeds. Grants of £3000 per line are available to assist with the cost. Details are available on the Hampshire County Council Web Site.

Cllr Niall MacGinnis is finding out more about the scheme and will assess viability for Kimpton and any cost left to be carried by the householders despite the grant. In order to do so he needs to know how many villagers would be interested in such upgrade. Please let Niall know if you are interested via: nialmacginnis@aol.com

### **VILLAGE GREEN.**

A £200 Grant has been given to the Parish by the Three Villages Trust. It was decided to use some of this money to put a Christmas Tree on the Village Green to help add a bit of Christmas Cheer in this difficult year.

Some residents have expressed an interest in refurbishing the Telephone Box lending library. It was agreed that those residents would be asked to put their proposals in writing for the Parish Council to look at.

Having a Community Garden was briefly discussed, it was thought that the Village Green may not be the ideal site as it would take valuable car parking space needed for major events (weddings, funerals, village fete). It was suggested siting a Community Garden on the Playing Field, this will be further investigated in the new year.

### **FOOTPATHS.**

Cllr Mr M New reported that the Village Footpaths are all clear and walkable. It was reported that a branch has come down on the footpath from Down Road to Snoddington Lane. Cllr Mr M New will look.

Cllr Mr M New and Cllr Mrs C Goddard will carry out a survey of all the stiles in the Parish with the view of replacing them with gates to make selected footpaths more accessible for the elderly and disabled. Landowners will be contacted once the list has been completed to see if they would be willing to have a gate.

### **ENVIRONMENT.**

The Chairman reported that Groundwater Levels are still high and over pumping on the Village Green may start again in the new year if the rain predicted by the environment dept. should materialise.

The Chairman re-capped on the recent power cuts that were experienced in the village.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

The Chairman reported the that he had received correspondence on the

following issues:

- Dog thefts in the area are continuing.
- Kimpton School are seeking two Governors
- The Hampshire County Council Hampers for the needy scheme
- The 2021 National Censuses.

**CLOSE OF THE MEETING**

The Chairman thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting.

**DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

25<sup>th</sup> January 2020 – The nature of the meeting will be confirmed nearer the time depending on the latest Government Rules on Social Distancing.