

Minutes of the Kimpton Annual Parish Council Meeting held in Kimpton Village Hall on Monday 3rd of June 2024 at 7.00pm

Present: Cllr Mr G Michalczyk - Chairman

Cllr Mrs J Hart

Cllr Mr B Girling

Richard Waterman – Parish Clerk

Members of the Public – Mrs Michalczyk, Mr I Field and Mr G Field

Apologies: Cllr Mr N MacGinnis, Cllr Miss P Nelson, Borough Councillor Mr P Lashbrook and County Councillor Mr C Donnelly.

WELCOME. Cllr Mr G Michalczyk welcomed everyone to the meeting.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN.

CHAIRMAN – Cllr Mrs J Hart proposed Cllr Mr G Michalczyk as Chairman. This was seconded by Cllr Mr B Girling. There were no other nominations. Cllr Mr G Michalczyk was elected Chairman.

VICE CHAIRMAN – The election of Vice Chairman will take place at the next Parish Council meeting on the 24th of June 2024.

CHAIRMANS REPORT.

The Year 2023/24 has been a year of change for the Parish Council, following Klaus Tamke and Cindy Goddard stepping down at the Annual Meeting last year, Howard Floyd in November and Mike New last month have also stepped down and I would like to thank them all for their service over the past few years.

This does mean we have a number of new faces on the Council with Judy Hart, Paula Nelson, Ben Girling and myself all being co-opted at various times during the year. We have also been supported by Cllr Donnelly from HCC and Cllr Lashbrook from TVBC during the year. We do though still have one vacancy for a councillor. As the majority of councillors have no previous experience in the role the parish has joined the Hampshire Association of Local Councils (HALC) and the National Association of Local Councils (NALC), this will provide access to training and networking opportunities helping us benefit from experience elsewhere.

The major capital spending this year has been on the purchase of the flashing speed warning sign which is now installed on Deacon Road. We hope it has some impact on traffic speeds and will be able to use the data it collects to support any future traffic calming proposals. Cllrs Girling, Hart and Michalczyk will all be studying the data in due course.

I would like to thank Cllr Hart for her work both in clearing paths and cutting back hedges but also in contacting villagers to request that private hedges are kept under control. This has been very effective and the council received thanks from the public cutting in our November meeting which was nice to hear. Cllr Hart is also working with the Lengthsman to plan any major works in the Parish.

Our other major activity this year was the review of the Test Valley Local Plan 2040. Cllr Nelson led the review and we submitted our comments on three areas of the Plan, thanks to her for her work. We await the next version of the Local Plan in early 2025 with interest.

In terms of work in the village I am sure we all remember the chaos and confusion caused at the start of the sewer lining works by Southern Water back in January. The work was made harder by the seemingly continual rainfall from the beginning of the year. The work has though been completed and we have no need for tankers to support sewer network in the village despite having ground water levels higher now than when tankers first needed to be deployed. We hope that this risk of and problems caused by overflowing sewers has been solved once and for all.

The parish have made two donations to support local community activities this year, a one-off donation to the Three Village Sports Trust to support football on the playing field next to the school. The group running this have just announced their plans and we wish them every success. We also made a donation to the Pillhill Brook Association to help fund water quality monitoring test kits which will be used across the length of the Brook to monitor water quality. The first use of the kit was here in Kimpton after some suspicious looking puddles formed on farmland off Cow Lane. The good news was that the tests confirmed that all water tested was within permitted guidelines. The Association will soon have a new website where results will be published on a regular basis.

We also as in previous years arranged for a Christmas tree on The Green with the now traditional carols sung around the tree one evening just before Christmas. Thanks to Cllr MacGinnis for organising this annual tradition.

And finally, as you may be aware, our Clerk of around 25 years, Richard, has announced that he is planning to retire in the coming years and as part of his plan will be stepping down from his position with Kimpton Parish soon. I believe you will attend one more Parish Council meeting before stepping back, on behalf of all councillors you have worked with I would like to thank you for your support and guidance over the years. We are recruiting for a new Clerk and hope that process will not take too long.

Once again, I would like to the Parish Councillors and the Clerk for their support for Kimpton over the last year."

END OF YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT.

The Clerk ran through the end of year accounts explaining each item. The Clerk reported that the Accounts have been Audited by Paul Reynolds the internal Auditor and they have been signed off.

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2024.

20223/2024

RECEIPTS	£
Precept	9,500.00
Grants	1,000.00
Bank Interest	1.04
	<u>10,501.04</u>

PAYMENTS

Administration	1,028.50
Clerks Salary	3,600.00

Insurance	719.53
3 Village Sports Trust	250.00

Storage	120.00
Street Lighting	175.10
Village Signs	284.00
Village Path Cutting/Maintenance, Playing Field, Village Green and General Maintenance	3,434.40

Flashing Speed Sign	2,339.99
Kings Coronation Celebrations	495.92
New Bench for Play Area	399.00

Section 137 Payments	Nil
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Defibrillator Battery and Pads	232.95
VAT on Payments	814.39
	<u>13,893.78</u>

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS SUMMARY

Balance Brought Forward 1 April 2023	6,140.55
Add Receipts	10,501.04
	<u>16,641.59</u>

Less Total Payments	13,893.78
	<u>2,747.81</u>

Mr G Field felt that the maintenance costs were excessive and that the Parish Council needed to go out to tender to get a better price. However, Mr I Field disagreed and stated that with his experience of grass cutting costs for a group he is involved with, he felt that the maintenance work undertaken in the Parish was a fair price. The Clerk stated that the Parish Council have always tried to use local contractors and the Parish Council have always been happy with the work they do for the price they charge.

The Chairman noted Mr G Fields comments and stated that the Parish Council will review their maintenance contracts in the future.

CERTIFICATE OF EXEMPTION – AGAR 2023/2024

The Parish Council agreed to submit a Certificate of Exemption as the turnover was below £25,000. Proposed by Cllr Mr G Michalczyk and seconded by Cllr Mrs J Hart. All agreed.

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2023/2024

The Clerk read out the Annual Governance Statement 2023/2024 ensuring that there is a sound system of internal control, including arrangements for the preparation of the Accounting Statement.

The Annual Governance Statement was approved by the Parish Council. Proposed by Cllr Mrs J Hart and seconded by Cllr Mr B Girling. All Agreed.

ANNUAL ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS 2023/2024

The Annual Accounting Statement 2023/2024 was approved by the Parish Council. Proposed by Cllr Mr G Michalczyk and seconded by Cllr Mrs J Hart. All agreed.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

Mr I Field thanked the Parish Council for the work they undertake and wished to thank the volunteers in the village for the ditch clearing.

CLOSE OF THE MEETING.

The Chairman closed the meeting.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING.

The Parish Council agreed that as there was only three members present, they would postpone the Parish Council meeting until the 24th of June 2024 when it was hoped a full Council would be present.

The Chairman opened up the meeting to Members of the Public to raise any issues.

Mr G Field raised the following:

- Had the Parish Council received any feedback from Hampshire County Councillor Mr C Donnelly regarding the issues raised with the Distribution site in Down Road? The Chairman reported that the Parish Council had not and that he would contact Cllr Mr C Donnelly.
- An up-date on the Nettles on the bank by the stream outside Manor Cottage have not been cleared. Cllr Mrs J Hart reported that she had reported this to highways, and they have confirmed that it is Highways land and that they will add the cutting of the nettles to their programme of works.
- Parked Contractors vehicles working at Summer Cottage in Down Road have reduced the road width resulting in passing vehicles damaging the verge in that area, this needs to be repaired. Mr G Field suggested that the Parish Council contact Ray Ferguson the builder who carried out the work on Summer Cottage.

PARISH COUNCILLOR REPORTS.

CLLR MRS J HART – Reported that Hampshire County Council will no longer be cutting three of the Footpaths in the Parish.

Cllr Mrs J Hart stated that she intends to delegate Fridays to cut the village footpaths and would welcome any volunteers to assist.

CLLR MR B GIRLING – Reported that he has made contact with Johnathon Bambridge at Hampshire County Council Highways regarding repairs to the damages shoulder of the road along Water Lane. Highways will not carry out any work that will widen the road and are working with Southern Water to find a solution – possibly fitting bollards to define the edge of the road.

The Parish Council discussed several highway issues including a joint effort with all the Parishes along the Pillhill Brook to keep drainage ditches clear. The Chairman will raise this at the next Pillhill Pan Parish Forum.

CLOSE OF THE MEETING.

The Chairman thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting.

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING.

24th of June 2024 at 7pm