



## MINUTES

### Minutes of a meeting of Kingsmead Parish Council held on **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2023**

Present: Cllrs Boylan, Chappell, Hoey, Jewitt (Chair), Reed, Weltman

Also Present: Mrs W Maddock (Clerk to Council), PCSO Robertson and seven members of the public

The meeting started at 7.30pm.

204	<p><b>Apologies</b> Cllr Bannister (personal), Cllr Logan (family), Cllr Martin (work), Cllr Van Gordon (work)</p>
205	<p><b>Declarations of Interest</b> There were no declarations of interest made.</p>
206	<p><b>Public Forum</b> The members of the public attending the meeting expressed their concerns about the siting of a bench at Duke's Way pond, as it could lead to a rise in anti-social behaviour in the area and they felt that it should be removed. The PCSO commented that he was not aware of issues at the duck pond as the police had not received any reports, but that the area would now be added to the patrol list and encouraged residents to report issues. The Chair confirmed that the issue was to be fully debated by council as an agenda item and pointed out that some residents had responded positively about the bench and its current position.</p>
207	<p><b>PCSO Report</b> PCSO Robertson detailed his report for January that included: <b>ASB Reports</b> – youths on mopeds in Regency Way play area, several reports of a white van in the area whose occupants were removing items from skips, possible drug activity and premises being vandalised. <b>Theft</b> – Items being stolen from a freezer of a vulnerable person. There were no issues reported regarding parking/highway disruption, burglary, vehicle/bicycle theft. <b>Issues on social media</b> – school/college parking, dog attacks, a suspicious vehicle, parking on Moreville Close. Police surgeries would be held on the following dates: 15<sup>th</sup> March – Rose Meadow (Kingsmead School) at 18.30 (TBC) 24<sup>th</sup> March – Tesco (Regency Way) at 19.00</p>
208	<p><b>Minutes</b> The minutes of the following meetings were circulated prior to the meeting and assumed to be read.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Full Council meeting held on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2023.</li> <li>• An Extraordinary meeting of the council held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2023.</li> </ul> <p><b>It was resolved to accept</b> the minutes of both meetings as a correct record and the minutes were then signed by the Chair.</p>
209	<p><b>Finance &amp; Administration</b> 209.1. <b>To receive</b> the bank statements and <b>to approve</b> bank reconciliations to the end of January 2023. Bank statements and reconciliations were provided for the Unity Trust, Nationwide 45-day and Virgin Accounts. <b>It was resolved to approve</b> the bank statements and reconciliations to the end of January 2023. 209.2. <b>To consider and approve</b> the financial reports to the end of January 2023.</p>

	<p><b>It was resolved to approve</b> the following financial reports to the end of January 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cashbook Summary as at 31-01-2023</li> <li>• Trial Balance for Current Year</li> <li>• Detailed Income &amp; Expenditure by Budget Heading as at 31-01-2023</li> </ul> <p>209.3. <b>To consider and approve</b> the payments for February 2023.</p> <p><b>It was resolved to approve</b> the payments listed for the period 1<sup>st</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> February 2023 (noting that a payment had already been made to ATB Groundworx on 14<sup>th</sup> February (agenda item 188)).</p> <p>209.4. To consider and approve the following finance/admin expenditure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rialtas Year End Close Down support – Cost £755. Proposed by Cllr Hoey, Seconded by Cllr Chappell – <b>resolved to approve</b> expenditure.</li> <li>• Rialtas Year End Preparation Training (I&amp;E) – Cost £230. Proposed by Cllr Hoey, Seconded by Cllr Boylan – <b>resolved to approve</b> expenditure.</li> <li>• SLCC Stationery Purchases (Clerk’s Manual &amp; Minute Taking) – Cost £62.45. Proposed by Cllr Hoey, Seconded by Cllr Jewitt – <b>resolved to approve</b> expenditure.</li> </ul> <p>209.5. <b>To approve</b> expenses for the Clerk for the period of January 2023. <b>It was resolved to approve</b> the Clerk’s expenses for January 2023, which would be paid in March 2023.</p>
210	<p><b>Planning</b></p> <p>The following planning application was circulated prior to the meeting as the closing date was 14<sup>th</sup> March. No comments were submitted.</p> <p><b><u>31 Blenheim Close</u></b></p> <p>Ash (T5) - 2-2.5m crown reduction to reduce the size of the tree and maintain its structure and shape. Removal of crossing branches to allow more light through the tree.</p> <p>The following application was received on 20<sup>th</sup> February and was therefore not on the agenda but was included for consideration in the meeting:</p> <p><b><u>15 Coronet Avenue</u></b></p> <p>Oak Tree - Reduce the size of the tree by no more than 25% to cut out dead branches to aid new growth.</p> <p><b>It was resolved to submit</b> a consultee comment requesting the work to be approved only if carried out by a reputable tree surgeon.</p>
211	<p><b>Environment</b></p> <p>211.1. <b>To consider and approve</b> a proposal to move and re-site the bench at Duke’s Way pond.</p> <p>A discussion was held about moving the bench at Duke’s Way pond, taking into account the opinions expressed by members of the public attending the meeting and also the comments received in response to the council’s consultation with residents close to the pond.</p> <p><b>It was resolved to approve</b>, by a majority vote, moving the bench to a new position behind the jetty. Cllr Boylan voted against the motion, wanting the bench to be removed entirely.</p> <p><b>Cllr Reed proposed (seconded by Cllr Hoey)</b> that the re-siting be done on a trial basis for a period of 6-months, with the option to review the positioning of the bench before the end of the trial period.</p> <p><b>It was resolved to approve</b> this motion with a majority vote of four in favour. Cllr Jewitt voted against it being for a trial period and Cllr Boylan abstained from voting.</p> <p>The Clerk was asked to make this a fixed agenda item during the trial period.</p>

	<p>211.2. <b>To receive an update</b> on actions taken regarding the management of village litter. It was confirmed that letters had been written to SJD college and the lunchtime take away outlets on Kingsmead Square requesting their assistance in litter management.</p> <p><b>To consider and approve</b> further proposals for routine bin emptying and regular litter picking of specified areas.</p> <p>The council considered quotes provided by Countrywide for additional bin emptying and weekly litter picking. <b>It was resolved to approve</b> that bin emptying and litter picking would continue to be carried out by Countrywide on a Thursday, which is a change from the previous routine of bin emptying on a Friday. This would be at no additional cost to the council and the change would be monitored for effectiveness.</p> <p>211.3. <b>To consider and approve</b> where to site 15x boulders that are surplus to requirements from the Fisherman’s Wharf refurbishment.</p> <p>It was noted that there were in fact approx. 32 boulders surplus to requirements. <b>It was resolved to request</b> Countrywide remove all surplus ones and that an invoice be raised only for those boulders needed to provide the fencing alternative at Fisherman’s Wharf.</p> <p>211.4. <b>To consider and approve</b> quotes for the re-design of the clock tower and cenotaph flower beds.</p> <p>The council considered three quotes that had been received for the re-design of the flower beds. <b>It was resolved to approve</b> a quote from Amazing Gardens at a cost of £375, which also included for the design of a new flower bed alongside the Kingsmead wall.</p> <p>211.5. <b>To consider and approve</b> a quote for a repair to the manhole cover at the clock tower.</p> <p><b>It was resolved to defer</b> a decision on the manhole cover to the March meeting, pending further investigation.</p> <p>211.6. <b>To consider and approve</b> a quote for the topping of fir trees at 4-6 Prestbury Close.</p> <p>The council considered a quote from Countrywide but <b>resolved to request</b> further advice and another quote before deciding whether this work should be completed.</p> <p>211.7. <b>To receive</b> any other updates.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It was noted that the work was being carried out to replace some of the street name signs (as part of CWaC’s Neighbourhood Pride Scheme). Cllr Weltman agreed to follow up on the remaining money that had been requested to carry out tidying up of the roundabouts.</li> <li>• The proposal for a wildflower meadow on spine road/Monarch is under review by CWaC.</li> <li>• Countrywide has carried out “winter work” including tidying up along the spine road wall, reducing the height of the hedge at Monarch play area and edging off in the play parks.</li> </ul>
212	<p><b>Play Parks</b></p> <p>212.1. <b>To receive</b> a report from the Parks Committee following a meeting held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February.</p> <p>Cllr Weltman (Chair of the Parks Committee) outlined that new equipment had been approved for Kingslawn Close play area, further investigations of the drainage problems at Kensington Way are to be carried out and further quotes are being sought for the replacement of the Kensington slide. Possible grant funding is being investigated, but several are currently closed for applications.</p> <p>212.2. <b>To consider and approve</b> a proposal to merge the Parks Committee and Environment Working Group. <b>To agree</b> a meeting date for the committee if approved.</p>

	<p><b>It was resolved to approve</b> merging these groups and it was agreed that the new committee should meet monthly, for the time being, on the second Monday of the month.</p> <p>212.3. <b>To receive</b> any other updates. There were no other updates to receive.</p>
<b>213</b>	<p><b>Community</b></p> <p>213.1. <b>To receive</b> an update regarding latest communications with CWaC regarding the roundabout advertising boards and <b>to approve</b> any further actions as appropriate.</p> <p>It was confirmed that a response has been sent to the CEO of CWaC regarding the advertising boards. Following a discussion of the issue, it was agreed that the Clerk would contact a qualified traffic engineer for further advice about challenging the legality of the boards.</p> <p>213.2. <b>To consider and approve</b> a proposal for the installation of a defibrillator unit within Kingsmead.</p> <p><b>It was resolved to approve</b> the purchase of a defibrillator unit. The Clerk and Cllr Jewitt will research possible funding, suitable sites and obtain approvals where necessary.</p> <p>213.3. <b>To receive</b> an update following a visit to the Davenham Day Care Centre (DDCC) and <b>to approve</b> any further actions.</p> <p>The findings of the visit were discussed, and it was agreed that the council is not able to pursue using DDCC as a possible community building due to the cost of refurbishment and lease complications. There were no further actions needed on this project.</p> <p>213.4. <b>To consider</b> a request from The Joshua Tree to support Children’s Cancer Awareness Month (CCAM) by lighting the clock tower gold/yellow in September.</p> <p><b>It was resolved to approve</b> a request to light the clock tower gold/yellow in September and Cllrs Chappell and Boylan agreed to manage this project.</p> <p>213.5. <b>To receive</b> any other updates.</p> <p>A further request has been received from The Joshua Tree to advertise its events on the roundabout at Kingsmead square. <b>It was resolved to approve</b> this request under the council’s advertising policy. Councillors also confirmed they would like to accept an invitation to visit The Joshua Tree.</p>
<b>214</b>	<p><b>Events</b></p> <p>214.1. <b>To receive</b> an update from the Events Working Group for a celebration of the King’s Coronation and <b>to approve</b> the proposed expenditure.</p> <p>An update from the Events Working Group will be provided at the next meeting.</p>
<b>215</b>	<p><b>Clerk’s Report &amp; Resident Issues</b></p> <p>To consider issues not covered elsewhere on the agenda and to note any actions to be taken.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ash dieback project to start 23<sup>rd</sup> February. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ information is to be posted on the website explaining the background.</li> <li>○ Clerk to investigate funding/donation of new trees from the Woodland Trust.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• BT is to be contacted about its access to telephone lines at the rear of Dobell’s Way.</li> <li>• An update was provided regarding the Local Elections on 4<sup>th</sup> May and confirmation of briefing sessions being run by CWaC – see noticeboard and website for further information.</li> <li>• Cheshire Wildlife Trust is to be contacted about works being carried out in Poors Wood.</li> <li>• The path repair has been completed at Kensington Way park.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional signage ordered for Kensington way play area.</li> <li>• The Clerk is to attend an “Introduction to CiLCA” session on 23<sup>rd</sup> February.</li> </ul> <p>The clerk confirmed that the following new queries had been raised by residents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Permission for house improvements and planting a hedge.</li> <li>• Lack of maintenance adjacent to Headworth Close.</li> <li>• Queries regarding house sales.</li> <li>• Concerns about the maintenance of the tow path.</li> <li>• A query regarding the responsibility for maintenance of shared access driveways.</li> <li>• Notification of a tree being felled at Styal Close.</li> <li>• Request for maintenance to the trees at the rear of Dobell’s Way.</li> <li>• A thank-you to the council for the installation of the bench at Coronet pond.</li> <li>• Complimentary feedback about the use of boulders to replace the rotten fence at Fisherman’s Wharf.</li> </ul>						
216	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <p>Items to be placed on the agenda for future meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion regarding the spine road wildflower strip</li> <li>• Review of advertising by Harlequin theatre</li> </ul>						
217	<table border="1"> <tr> <td><b>Next Meetings</b></td> <td>Parks Committee</td> <td>Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at 7.30pm in Kingsmead School (tbc)</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Kingsmead Parish Council</td> <td>Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at 7.30pm in Kingsmead School</td> </tr> </table>	<b>Next Meetings</b>	Parks Committee	Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> March 2023 at 7.30pm in Kingsmead School (tbc)		Kingsmead Parish Council	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> March 2023 at 7.30pm in Kingsmead School
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218	<p><b>Exclusion of Press &amp; Public</b></p> <p>It is recommended that Council considers a resolution under Section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 to exclude the public and representatives of the press from the meeting during the consideration of Items 1 on the grounds that matters contain sensitive information and by reason of the confidential nature of the business being transacted.</p> <p><b>It was resolved to approve</b> a motion to exclude the Press &amp; Public for the remainder of the meeting.</p>						
219	<p><b>St George’s Way</b></p> <p><b>To receive</b> an update from CHL regarding the agreed Deed of Easement for St George’s Way and <b>to approve</b> any actions.</p> <p>The latest update regarding the Deed of Easement was discussed and <b>it was resolved to approve</b> that the Chair and Vice Chair should sign the supplementary document provided.</p>						

The meeting closed at 9.31pm.