

MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of Kingsmead Parish Council Parks and Environment Committee
held on Monday 10th November

Present: Cllr Herring, Cllr Reed, Cllr Swift (Chair), Cllr Weltman
Also present: Mrs W Maddock (Clerk and RFO)

The meeting started at 7.31pm.

149	Apologies Cllr Jewitt (work)
150	Declarations of Interest No declarations of interest were made.
151	Public Forum No members of public were present.
152	Grounds Maintenance Contract
152.1	To consider and approve retrospectively the following changes to the final tender documents: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An amendment to the schedule for the hedge maintenance. An update to the timetable for the tender process. <p>Resolved – to approve the decision made by the Chair of KPC, the Chair of the P&E Committee and the Clerk to amend the schedule for the hedge maintenance to provide all measurements in sq.m and not linear m. This was done to ensure transparency and consistency across the maintenance schedule and to facilitate the tender process. As a result of this amendment, the timetable for the tender was adjusted; the tender was published on Friday 7-Nov with the submission deadline changed to Monday 22-Dec.</p>
152.2	To note the tender documents are to be published on the Gov.uk “Find a Tender” website on Friday 7 th November. Noted – that the final tender documents were published on Friday 7-Nov on “Find a Tender” and locally on the council website and noticeboard.
153	Maintenance & Landscaping
153.1	Countrywide update: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> To receive reports and to approve any actions as appropriate. Noted – the reports received and the works to be scheduled for the following month, including re-planting of the flower beds at the clock tower and filling grit bins at Stapeley Close and Capesthorne Close. The committee commented on the excellent appearance of the memorial garden on Remembrance Sunday and thanked Countrywide for completing this work on the 7th. To consider and approve the use of “school-friendly” weedkiller in the play areas. Resolved – to defer a decision pending further information from Countrywide about the weedkiller.
153.2	To approve ordering signs to be installed along Top Path requesting that short-cuts are not used (noting that this action was communicated in the recent newsletter). Resolved – To approve ordering signs to be supplied and installed by Northwich Town Council (under resolution 2025/09/08 - 087.2) and to further agree the wording of the signs.
153.3	To consider and approve the following quotes: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Supply and installation of new gate posts for the Simmonds Close entrance to Kensington Park (to replace the current gate posts that are rotten). Resolved – to approve a quote from Tatton Fencing for £690 (+VAT) to supply and install 2x gate posts at Kensington Way and to then re-hang the gates afterwards.

153.4 153.5	<p>b) Supply and installation of new bins:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dukes Way 1 play area x1 (to replace a vandalised bin) • Kensington play area x2 (new bins in the top-field area) <p>Resolved – to purchase 3x new bins at a cost of £397.50 (+VAT) per bin to be installed at the above locations.</p> <p>To consider a request to install a flag pole in the memorial garden area. Resolved – following a good discussion of the pros and cons of erecting a flag pole in the memorial garden, it was agreed that the request should be denied.</p> <p>To consider a request to fell a tree on council land at the end of Waverton Close. Resolved – that the request to fell a tree at Waverton Close would be refused, as the reasons given for the tree's removal conflict with the council's Tree Policy.</p>		
154	<p>Play Areas</p> <p>To receive the results of the resistograph tests carried out on all timber play equipment and to note actions being taken. Noted – the committee commented that the resistograph testing had been very useful and highlighted some areas where remedial work is required. Quotes will be obtained for these works for review at the next committee meeting.</p>		
155	<p>Pear Technology</p> <p>To receive an update from the recent training session and to consider any follow up actions. Noted – The committee members who attended the training commented how helpful and worthwhile the session had been and were surprised at the amount of information available from the mapping software. It was discussed that two councillors require their trial software to be made permanent and also about the long-term sharing of a master copy of the Kingsmead map.</p>		
156	<p>AOB</p> <p>Items to be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A request for tree work to be carried out to an oak at the rear of Stretton Walk. 		
157	Next Meetings	Kingsmead Parish Council	Monday 17 th November at 7.30pm in Kingsmead School
		Parks & Environment Committee	Monday 8 th December at 7.30pm in Kingsmead School

The meeting ended at 8.35pm.