

# KILMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON MONDAY 12<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2023 AT 7.30PM IN THE CRICKET PAVILION

**Present:** P. Ball (Chair), S. Seward, A. Dare, K. Veberth, O. Miller,  
A. Collier, N. Bayley, B. Reed

**In Attendance:** A Jenkins (Clerk/RFO),

**Members of Public:** 1

The Chair welcomed everyone to the Council meeting and outlined / reminded everyone of the Covid-19 measures which had been adopted for Council meetings.

### **OPEN SESSION**

A parishioner questioned why the Council is not maintaining Kilmington Common as it used to do and is now leaving parts full of brambles which are now waist high. He said that this is affecting people's access and enjoyment of the Common and asked when something will be done to clear the brambles.

Cllr. Ball explained that certain areas of the Common needed to be managed in a different manner to other areas and that the Council were in the process of developing a Management Plan for the whole Common. This would set out how the different diverse woodland, heathland and meadow areas and habitats would be maintained and managed, such as the central lowland heath area following the advice received from EDDC to minimise the nutrient level in the soil in order to encourage wild flowers including the very rare Heath lobiellia. Other areas would be managed to allow some wild growth (including brambles) for wildlife diversity whereas other areas such as the bottom pointy bit would be cut to allow people's access and enjoyment/use of the area. Any areas where brambles and other plant growth was encroaching onto the road would be trimmed back. There were some small areas with Japanese Knotweed present which were presently taped around and requiring licensed use herbicide treatment.

Cllr. Ball said that the Council would press ahead with the management plan and would publish it once it has been adopted, in order that parishioners will better understand the different areas and how they will be managed.

He thanked the parishioner for highlighting the brambles issue but also suggested that he and other parishioners go along to the Go Wild on the Common event on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June to find out more about the conservation work being done on the Common by local volunteers from Kilmington

### **COUNCIL BUSINESS**

**1. To receive apologies for absence and to approve reasons given (LGA 1972 S.85 (1))**

Cllr. M. Jones

2. **To receive any declarations of interest relating to items outlined in this agenda (this does not preclude the duty to declare further interests as applicable)**

Cllr. Seward – Item 7c3

3. **Minutes of the Meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2023**

The minutes were declared a true record of the proceedings, proposed by Cllr. Seward seconded by Cllr. Collier, all in favour

4. **Matters arising from the Minutes**

None

5. **Reports:**

- a) **Police**

The Clerk advised that Newsletters had been received which again referred to the Police.Uk website for details of crime in your area but no crime data was shown. He had emailed the Police asking them to advise why was no crime data available and was presently awaiting a reply.

- b) **District and County Councillors**

None

- c) **Clerk**

None

- d) **Highways Matters**

- 1) **20 mph Speed limit submission to DCC**

Cllr. Ball reported that Cllr. Seward and himself recently had a video conference meeting with Chris Parkes and other officers from Devon Highways regarding reducing the Kilmington 30mph speed limit down to 20 mph. Whilst Kilmington was not one of the 6 successful areas in the recent 20 mph application process, Devon Highways had researched the speed limit in Kilmington and would in principle be prepared to undertake a design survey/plan to further investigate the matter of a 20mph speed limit if the Parish Council were prepared to fund the £1,500 cost of this work.

In order to progress matters, Cllr. Collier proposed that the Parish Council fund this design work and make a payment of £1,500 to Devon Highways, seconded by Cllr. Bayley, all in favour.

- 2) **Speed Watch Scheme**

Cllr. Seward reported that 7 volunteers had now completed their online training. Six operating sites had been identified and the Police had approved and accepted 4 of these sites. They were now waiting for the equipment and that hopefully the scheme will be operational in a few months time.

- 3) **A35 Walk Through / Meeting with National Highways**

Cllr. Ball reported that Cllr. Seward and himself had met with the two National Highways (NT) officials on the 9<sup>th</sup> June for the walk through meeting to discuss the A35 issues through Kilmington. DCC Cllr. Hall also attended.

The officials said that the plan was for a Village Gateway at either end of Kilmington on the A35, with a 40 mph speed limit through the whole of Kilmington with average speed cameras at both ends. There would also be lots of signage changes along the A35 and that the overall scheme will start this financial year.

Whilst this was welcome news, Cllr. Ball and Cllr. Seward had expressed the following concerns to the officials:-

1. request for a 30mph maximum speed limit through the eastern section of the village (ideally 30mph from the Gammons Hill village gateway, extending westward to just after the war memorial Shute Rd/ George Lane junction. From this junction westerly to the end of village gateway to remain as NT propose - designated as 40mph). They appreciated our concerns and reasoning for the request. They also agreed there had been a significant increase in vehicle movements this year with the development of the MFG service station adding Greggs fast food and the reintroduction of sewer tankers visiting Southwest Water treatment works on Whitford Road.

2. Pedestrian Crossing – light controlled. The walk-through meeting was focused on the safety issues and not severance. However, during the discussions they did state that work had been started on the provision of a light controlled crossing across the A35. Cllr. Ball asked them do they have any further details or a contact we could discuss it with, as the Parish Council wished to understand what crossing solution might be proposed in order to offer our comments . Cllr. Ball pointed out to them that our local knowledge, including the planned provision of new village footpaths, could impact on the location of a crossing.

**4) Other matters**

None

**e) Playground**

The Clerk advised that he was awaiting confirmation from HAGS that they had carried out the required maintenance work. He is to contact Dave Cook from EDDC to seek his advice on the matter of the safety matting with the colour transfer issue. Forms from Sally.

**f) Trees**

**1) Kilmington Common Management Plan**

**g) Footpaths Report**

**1) Footpaths Leaflet**

The Clerk said that he had included this on the agenda as he understood that the stock leaflets was starting to run low. Cllr. Ball said that he believed there was sufficient stock for the time being but that the Council should review the leaflet and seek to commission a revised new one before the end of the year.

**2) Footpaths Map**

The Clerk advised that he had obtained from the PROW team a pdf document of the Definitive Map of the public rights of way in Kilmington Parish. He will forward a copy to Tom Cook the footpaths officer and also seek to put the map onto the website. He will also arrange to meet Tom Cook to discuss the footpaths and pass over documents etc passed to him by Elaine Penzer.

**h) Defibrillator**

Cllr. Ball advised that following the Annual Parish Meeting parishioners had expressed an interest in an additional defibrillator being installed in The Hill area and that parishioners had asked The New Inn if they were willing to have one installed there. Palmers Brewery have agreed one can be installed at the New Inn, subject to planning agreement, and the landlord is already planning fund raising events. Cllrs. felt to have one outside their premises would be an ideal accessible location for it and

the matter with costing /possible funding sources should be further discussed. The Clerk said that he would obtain a costing for a defibrillator from Community Heartbeat Trust. The Kilmington Community Association has agreed to support the funding with a £500 donation.

**i) Any Other Reports**

None

**6. Correspondence**

The Clerk advised that an email had been received from a Dunkeswell Councillor regarding a police advocates meeting with the police inspector for East Devon on the 29<sup>th</sup> June. Cllr. Ball agreed to attend this meeting.

**7. Finance**

**a) Current Financial Position**

The Clerk advised that the present balance in the Lloyds Account was £7,338.39

This did not include any payments to be approved at this meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> June 2023.

NSI Account £42,397.33

Santander Account £ 1,095.66

**b) Expenditure to be ratified**

None

**c) Expenditure to be approved for which bills have been received**

1) Payments to A. Jenkins for the Clerk's net amount of salary after tax/NIC deduction for the month of June 2023 (25/05/2023 to 29/06/2023) and to HMRC for the appropriate amount based on a gross salary amount of £491.20.

2) Payment of £27.50 to Kilmington Village Hall for room hire on 15-05-2023.

3) Payment of £528.00 to C S Garden Services SW Ltd for work carried out 10/05, 17/05 and 24/05/2023.

4) Payment of £ 42.00 to All Saints Parish Council for Kilmington AED insurance as per ongoing agreement.

Payments proposed by Cllr. Dare, seconded by Cllr. Veberth, all in favour. ( except for Cllr. Seward who took no part in voting)

**d) The King's Coronation Celebration events report**

Cllr. Ball presented a report on the events together with a financial report which showed that the celebrations organised by The Kilmington Community Association had almost been self-funding. Therefore the contribution requested from the Parish Council is only £15.88. Cllr. Dare proposed a payment of £15.88, seconded by Cllr. Veberth, all in favour.

**e) Change of bank signatories**

The Clerk gave Cllrs. Reed, Collier. Miller and Bayley forms to be completed and signed and to be returned to him.

**8. Planning Applications:**

**a) 23/1107/FUL - The Oaks, Shute Road. Kilmington EX13 7ST**

**Side and rear extensions to create larger kitchen family room and larger master bedroom**

Cllr. Seward proposed that the Parish Council had no objection to this application, seconded by Cllr. Collier, all in favour

**9. Honours, Awards. Gift Policy**

Deferred to next meeting

**10. Code Of Conduct Policy**

Cllr. Seward proposed adoption of the draft policy, seconded by Cllr. Ball, all in favour.

**11. Councillor training**

The Clerk said that he would seek to liaise with Offwell, Shute and Widworthy and seek to arrange with DALC an inhouse new councillor training session at Kilmington for August or September.

**12. Agenda Items for Next Meeting**

Honours, Awards, Gift Policy

Allotments

Kilmington Service Station Licensing hearing

**13. Date and Time of Next Meeting**

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2023 at the earlier time of 6.30pm (as requested by Councillors)

Signed *P. Ball*

Date **10/07/2023**