KINGSTON ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY, 9th DECEMBER 2019

Item No	Item	Action By
1.0	**Attendance and apologies for absence** In attendance: Cllr P Townsend (Chairman) Cllr S Farnham Cllr S Hancock Mrs K Gibbins (Parish Clerk) Cllr D Darch (SWT Councillor) Four members of the public attended the meeting. Apologies: Cllr A Wilcox Cllr N Townsend	
2.0	**Councillors' Declarations of Interest** None	
3.0	**Approval of Minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 11th November 2019** **Resolved:** The minutes were approved and signed as a true record.	
4.0	**Planning** **a) Applications** **Case Ref: 20/19/0021** – Erection of a 4-bay carport, erection of extension and alterations to conservatory, replacement of chimney and conversion of garage into ancillary accommodation at Millfield House, Kingston Road, Kingston St Mary (resubmission of 20/18/0025). The Council agreed to make no comment. **b)** **Case Ref: 20/19/0022** – Erection of an agricultural building for housing of livestock at Church Lane Farm, Church Lane, Kingston St Mary (resubmission of 20/19/0019). The Council does not object to the application but decided to make the following comments: The Parish Council is concerned the amended application will be more damaging to the landscape than the original scheme and will result in the loss of a quantity of semi mature trees on the east side of the bund. The number and mass of trees affected is significant. The applicant has stated that excavated soil will be placed on top of the existing bund to the depth of 1m which would be extremely detrimental to the health of the existing trees most probably leading to the destruction of the trees. The Parish Council feels more must be done to mitigate the presence of this building in the landscape. It is not clear from the plans if it is intended to set the building lower into the site as suggested by the AONB Officer. If this development is granted permission, the Council suggests that any excavated soil is landscaped sympathetically with regard to the natural landscape and not added to the top of the existing bund but used to raise the height of any proposed western extension as stated by the AONB Officer. The Council does not object to the construction of this agricultural building but suggests that approval be conditional upon agreeing a mandatory tree planting scheme with the relevant landscape/tree officer, in such a way that will create a natural and healthy planting belt. The Parish Council would like to know if a limit can be put upon the extent to which this site can be developed in the future, in view of its sensitive siting in the landscape.	

5.0	**Citizens Advice Funding 2020/21** The Councillors discussed the Charity and its work locally and the fact that its funding has been severely cut. Cllr P Townsend suggested the Council donate £200.00 to Citizens Advice which Cllr Farnham proposed. The proposal was seconded by Cllr P Townsend. **Resolved:** The Council agreed to donate £200.00 to Citizens Advice.	
6.0	**Strengthening police powers to tackle unauthorised encampments** The Council discussed the consultation document. The Clerk advised the Council that a response was not required until 5 March 2020. Cllr P Townsend agreed to review the document in more detail and draft responses to the consultation questions.	Cllr P Townsend
7.0	**Improving Lives Grant** SCC R Williams advised the Council in the public forum of the November meeting about an Improving Lives Grant available for £600. He outlined the type of spend that would be deemed appropriate and asked the Council to put forward any requests which might meet the criteria. The Council submitted an application for a hearing loop to be installed in the Village Hall and had hoped for an update on the application but unfortunately Cllr Williams was not at the meeting.	Cllr R Williams
8.0	**Actions from the Previous Meeting** **a) Playing Field –** Cllr P Townsend and the Clerk advised the Council that work continues to be done to try to resolve the situation with the playing field committee and replace the damaged play equipment. b) **Natural environment –** SCC R Williams met with Cllr Wilcox, the Clerk, SWT Cllr D Darch and a member of the public to walk the village and look at sites of concern. SCC R Williams agreed to take the Council's concerns to County and feedback. As SCC R Williams was not at the meeting it was agreed to carry this item forward. c) **Highways –** Cllr S Farnham advised there was no further news from SCC and agreed to chase. The Clerk advised she had reported the missing reflector post to SCC and was awaiting a response. She told the Council that Cllr R Williams had also agreed to raise the missing reflector post with SCC Highways. d) **The Swan at Kingston –** The Clerk advised the Council's Standing Orders and Minutes had been sent to the relevant person at SWAT and was awaiting confirmation the ACV application had been accepted. e) **Council Reserves** - i. Clearing of roadside verge on Kingston Road by the Grange and the Spinney ii. Furniture for the Playing Field Pavilion f) **Housing Needs Survey** – The Councillors discussed the pros and cons of undertaking a Housing Needs Survey. It was agreed to reconsider the item at the January meeting to get the views of the absent Councillors. g) **Speed Indicator Device** – The Clerk advised she was awaiting clarification from SCC of the questions raised regarding the MofU.	C/F - Cllr P Townsend, Clerk C/F - Cllr R Williams, Cllr A Wilcox, Clerk C/F – Cllr S Farnham, Cllr R Williams, C/F - Clerk C/F C/F - All Cllrs C/F - Clerk
9.0	**Financial Matters** **Payments** ❖ £500.00 - KSM Parochial Church Council, Annual grant (2019/20) for cemetery maintenance ❖ £205.64 - Mrs K E Gibbins, Clerk's back wages from 1 December 2018 ❖ £25.00 – SALC, Councillor Essential Training ❖ £90.00 – SALC, Responding to Planning Applications Training **Resolved:** The Parish Council agreed to make the above payments. The Council reviewed and approved the bank reconciliation. Cllr P Townsend presented the draft budget for final approval. Cllr Farnham thanked him for his hard work. Cllr P Townsend proposed the Council approve the budget. Cllr Farnham seconded the proposal. The Council approved the budget for the 2020/21 financial year.	

	The Council reviewed and signed a letter to HSBC advising of amendments to the Clerk's wages.		
10.0	**Items for Next Agenda** Housing Needs Survey Any other items for the agenda should be passed to the Clerk prior to the next meeting.		
11.0	**Items for Link Up and KSM Website** The Chair agreed to submit a brief report for Link Up and KSM Website. **Date of Next Meeting – 13th January 2020** The meeting closed at 21.55		
Signed:		**Date:**	