KINGSTON ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY, 14th OCTOBER 2019

Item Nr	Item	Action By
1.0	**Attendance and apologies for absence** In attendance: Cllr S Farnham (Chairman) Cllr A Wilcox Cllr N Townsend Cllr P Townsend Mrs K Gibbins (Parish Clerk) Cllr R Williams (SCC Councillor) Cllr D Darch (SWT Councillor) Cllr E Firmin (SWT Councillor) Seven members of the public attended the meeting. Apologies: None received	
2.0	**Councillors' Declarations of Interest** Cllr Wilcox declared an interest in Agenda Item 5giii Cllr P Townsend declared an interest in Agenda Item 5gvi	
3.0	**Approval of Minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 9th September 2019** **Resolved:** The minutes were approved and signed as a true record.	
4.0	**Planning** **a) Applications** **Case Ref: 20/19/0017** – Erection of an agricultural building for storage at Lower Portman Farm, Fitzroy Road, Norton Fitzwarren **Resolved:** The Council agreed to make no comments. **Case Ref: 20/19/0019** – Erection of an agricultural building for housing livestock at Church Lane Farm, Church Lane, Kingston St Mary **Resolved***:* The Council agreed not to object to the application but made the following comment, it is important that views over the countryside from the Village are protected.	
5.0	**Actions from the Previous Meeting** a) **Playing Field** - Cllr N Townsend reminded the Councillors that the Parish Council as Trustees of the Playing Field had delegated management of the facility to the Playing Field Management Committee. It was agreed that Cllr P Townsend would offer guidance to the committee in respect of drafting a booking policy. The Playing Field Committee would be asked to provide the Parish Council with a copy of the final document for information purposes only. b) **Natural environment** - Cllr Darch advised the Council that a SWT representative had said the footpath from the playing field to the pub would be cleared before the end of the month. Cllr Darch agreed to follow this up to ascertain what SWT plans are to keep the path cleared during the growing season. Cllr Darch also advised the Council that a member of the public was currently walking the village and mapping out the areas where attention was needed. This individual was planning to attend the November meeting and report back to the Council on their findings. Cllr Darch reminded the Council that a Village Litter Pick had been set for 22 November and asked all present to put the date in their diaries. c) **Highways** - Cllr R Williams summarised the current position regarding blocked drains at Lodes Lane. SCC has agreed to undertake exploratory work to identify the network of drains and put together a proposed plan of action to help ensure the drains run more freely. A bid has been submitted to Somerset Rivers Authority for funding to carry the work out and a response to the bid is expected in December. A member of the public in attendance stated that there were problems further up Lodes Lane requiring attention	Cllr P Townsend Cllr D Darch Cllr R Williams

	as well. Cllr Farnham advised the Council that temporary road closures were scheduled for Dodhill and Rectory Road. d) **The Swan at Kingston –** The Clerk advised the Council the ACV nomination had been submitted on 22 September by Cllr P Townsend, but no further communication had been received. The Clerk agreed to chase SWT on this matter. e) **IT Strategy –** The Clerk advised the invoice for the ongoing maintenance and updating of the Council webpage would be submitted at the end of the current financial year. f) **Councillor Training –** The Clerk advised training had been booked and confirmed with SALC and she would e-mail the Councillors individually with the relevant details. g) **Council Reserves** - i. **Clearing of roadside verge on Kingston Road by the Grange and the Spinney** – The Council discussed a request from a member of the public to clear a stretch of the Kingston Road. It was agreed this was a dangerous stretch of road and clearing it would need more consideration. Cllr R Williams agreed to identify if SCC was responsible for clearing the verge as well as SCC's responsibility to keep road signs clear as a speed limit sign on this stretch of road was partially obstructed by the growth. The Council agreed to defer this item to the next meeting and discuss it once feedback from Cllr Williams was available and the current mapping exercise completed. ii. **Grant to KCP for contribution towards liability insurance for Good Neighbours Scheme** - A KCP representative advised the Council that CCS had intended to fully fund this expenditure but was then unable to do so and a shortfall of £110.52 had occurred. Cllr Farnham proposed the Council make up the shortfall of £110.52. This was seconded by Cllr N Townsend. The Council members felt the Good Neighbours Scheme was a very worthwhile cause. iii. **Sound System for Village Hall** – It was noted that the minutes of the previous meeting had incorrect information and the initial quote for the sound system was £1645.00 not £645.00. The Clerk agreed to amend the minutes. Cllr N Townsend felt the proposal to upgrade and improve the village hall sound system was excellent. He mentioned that one of the suppliers had a very good reputation and was well known for fitting sound systems in village halls. Cllr N Townsend proposed the Council support the proposal and Cllr Farnham seconded the proposal. It was resolved that the Council would contribute GBP 1822.50 towards the cost of the sound system for the village hall. iv. **Marquee –** The Council discussed the possibility of purchasing a second-hand marquee but decided against this for several reasons including storage, maintenance and insurance implications. v. **Furniture for the Playing Field Pavilion** – Cllr Farnham proposed the Council give a grant to the Playing Field Committee to purchase comfortable chairs for use in the pavilion. The fabric on the chairs was discussed and it was felt it should be hardwearing, easily cleaned and waterproof in case the chairs were left outside. Cllr Farnham agreed to do more research on possible suitable options. vi. **Kingston St Mary Primary School Gardening Club** – Cllr P Townsend asked the Council to consider a grant to the KSM Primary School Gardening Club to contribute towards the cost of suitable plants for a wildlife pond. The Council agreed in principle this was a good idea but asked Cllr P Townsend to obtain a quote for the plants required. The Council also asked the Clerk to confirm it was within its powers to give money to this type of cause.	Clerk Clerk Cllr R Williams Clerk Clerk Cllr Farnham Cllr P Townsend/ Clerk
6.0	**Housing Needs Survey –** The Council discussed the possibility of having a housing needs survey conducted by SWT and agreed an initial consultation with the appropriate person was the best way forward predominantly as a fact-finding exercise. The Clerk was asked to arrange a meeting prior to the November or December Council meeting. The Clerk was also asked to obtain a quote for the survey to ensure the cost wasn't prohibitive.	Clerk
7.0	**Speed Indicator Device –** The Clerk asked the Council to consider the Memorandum of Understanding provided by SCC for operating the SID. It was agreed the Clerk would meet with a representative from the KCP to go through the MofU and highlight any questions/concerns to raise with SCC prior to signing the document. It was reported the Speed Indicator Device was currently in spy mode and still collecting data which	Clerk

	was going to be compared to the data collected when in warning mode. It was felt that the device continued to have a positive impact on the speed of motorists.	
8.0	**Financial Matters** **Payments** ❖ HMRC £153.20 – PAYE/NIC payments ❖ David Taylor £144.93 – Accessories for the SID **Resolved:** The Parish Council agreed to make the above payments and noted the September bank reconciliation. It was agreed the Clerk and Cllr P Townsend would meet up to discuss the budget for 2020/21 and prepare a draft budget for presentation at the next meeting. Cllr N Townsend felt the precept for 2020/21 should be increased by the rate of inflation. Cllr Farnham was not sure the Council could justify an increase in the level of the precept.	Clerk/Cllr P Townsend
9.0	**Vote on Co-option of New Councillor** The Council voted on the Co-option of a new councillor. The votes were counted at the end of the meeting and the Council unanimously voted to Co-opt the member as a Councillor.	
10.0	**Items for Next Agenda** Any items for the agenda should be passed to the Clerk prior to the next meeting.	
11.0	**Items for Link Up and KSM Website** ❖ Planning applications decisions ❖ Relocation of the defibrillator The Chair agreed to submit a brief report to include the above items. **Date of Next Meeting – 11th November 2019** The meeting closed at 22.05	

Signed:		**Date:**	