KINGSTON ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

HELD VIRTUALLY ON 12th APRIL 2021

Item No	Item	Action By
Public Forum	SCC Cllr R Williams gave a lovely tribute to HRH Prince Philip, The Duke of Edinburgh, which is included with these minutes.	
1.0	**Attendance -** In attendance: Cllr P Townsend (Chairman) Cllr T Bedford Cllr S Hancock Cllr A Simpson Cllr D Stripp Cllr D Taylor Cllr N Townsend Cllr A Wilcox Mrs K Gibbins (Parish Clerk) Cllr R Williams (SCC) Cllr D Darch (SWT) Apologies: None 1 member of the public attended the meeting.	
2.0	**Councillors' Declarations of Interest – N**one	
3.0	**Approval of Minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 8th March 2021 and Extraordinary Meeting held on 6th April 2021-** **Resolved:** The minutes were approved and will be signed as a true record at a future date.	
4.0	**Planning –** **a) Applications:** **Case Ref: 20/21/0005** – Replacement of attached garage with the erection of a single storey extension to the side and erection of detached garage at Newtons, Nailsbourne Road, Nailsbourne. Application Type: Full Planning Permission The Council considered the above planning application and resolved to support the proposed building of a detached double garage and single storey extension. The Council could not identify any harm to the countryside arising from the proposed development, which would not be visible from the nearby lane. **Case Ref: 20/21/0007/LB** - Demolition of sunroom to south east elevation, construction of wall to property boundary and various alterations/replacement of windows, doors and pipework at Grove Farm, Pickney Lane, Kingston St Mary. Application Type: Listed Building Consent: Works The Council considered the above planning application and resolved to support the proposed changes to Grove Farm. It was felt that the removal of inappropriate changes to this Grade II Listed Building and its sympathetic restoration, using appropriate materials and methods, would improve the historic nature of the property. **b) Appeals:** **Case Ref: 20/20/0026/CQ** – Prior approval for proposed change of use from agricultural building to dwelling house (Class C3) and associated building operations at The Greenhouse, Newtons, Nailsbourne. Application Type: Class Q Notification The Council discussed the above planning appeal and would like to make the following comments. The Council wishes to reiterate its support for the proposed change of use from an agricultural building to a dwelling house at The Greenhouse, Newtons in Nailsbourne. The design of the proposed dwelling will occupy the same footprint as the original commercial greenhouse and retain the integrity and fabric of the original building. The external appearance of the proposed dwelling will closely mirror the	

	existing commercial greenhouse and the internal layout will incorporate conservatories, covered terraces and an interior greenhouse, reflecting the horticultural nature and character of the existing structure. The proposed design is considered to be innovative and an imaginative use of a derelict agricultural building, which ceased trading as a horticultural business many years ago. The proposed dwelling will be positioned between two existing residential properties and will not extend the Newtons curtilage. To preserve the natural environment the existing hedgerows, which shield this agricultural building from the nearby lane and neighbouring house, should be retained. The Council could not identify any harm to the countryside from the development of this brownfield site and concluded that the proposed conversion of this agricultural building will make a positive contribution and improve the appearance of the local area.	
5.0	**Local Authority Remote Meetings Consultation –** The Chair explained the situation to the Council concerning legislation which was passed last year allowing councils to meet remotely. He went on to say the legislation expires on 7th May which is prior to the Council's May meeting. The Chair was unsure if the May meeting would be COVID compliant if held in the Village Hall. Cllr Wilcox advised the Council it could hold a meeting in the Village Hall which would be restricted in certain ways to ensure it was COVID compliant. The Council discussed the matter and felt the virtual meetings to date had been very successful and had encouraged residents to attend the meetings. The Council was satisfied that its virtual meetings met the legal requirements for public access and voted unanimously to continue to hold virtual meetings in May and June of this year. The Clerk was requested to respond to the consultation document on behalf of the Council.	Clerk
6.0	**HM The Queen's Platinum Jubilee –** The Chair asked SCC Cllr R Williams to talk to the Council about the plans for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. SCC Cllr Williams spoke briefly to the Council about the Platinum Jubilee which will celebrate the Queen's 70 years on the throne. He explained that the May bank holiday in 2022 has been adjusted to recognise this event and an extra day awarded to make the bank holiday a 4-day weekend which will take place at the beginning of June to coincide with the Platinum Jubilee. His question to the Council was what does KSM want to do to recognise this very important event as it is intended to be celebrated at a local level. The Council discussed the possible events which might be appropriate. Cllr Stripp talked about the summer fayre which is currently being planned for 7th August this year. This event will be organised in conjunction with CHSW, KSM PFC and KCP. The Council resolved to build on this year's event and use it as a dress rehearsal for a bigger and better event in 2022 to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. It was hoped the event might extend into the evening hours with food and entertainment provided.	Whole Council
7.0	**Happy to Chat Bench –** The Chair asked Cllr Taylor to talk about the 'Happy to Chat Bench'. Cllr Taylor would like the Council to consider designating the bench it is planning to locate on the site of the old telephone box across the street from the Swan to be a 'Happy to Chat Bench' to encourage people to sit and chat and help tackle loneliness. The Council discussed this idea and Cllr N Townsend suggested the Council might like to consider commemorating the bench to HRH Prince Philip, The Duke of Edinburgh. The Council resolved to make it a 'Happy to Chat' bench and one which commemorates HRH Prince Philip. Cllr Taylor will investigate composite material benches of a sympathetic design as they will require less maintenance and comeback to the Council with competitive quotes. The Council will look to purchase the bench using the allocated budget and have it installed by 21st June when any remaining lockdown restrictions are hoped to be lifted. Cllr Bedford asked the Council to consider recycled materials for any prospective bench, budget permitting, particularly in view of the importance of the climate and ecological emergency.	Cllr Taylor

	The Council agreed unanimously to this resolution.	
8.0	**Monthly Activity/Event Planner –** The Chair asked the Clerk to talk the Council through the monthly activity/event planner she had produced. The Clerk explained it was a working document and was compiled using the records left by her predecessor. It outlined some of the important things the Council is required to do monthly and annually. She asked the Councillors to let her know if anything was missing or needed amending particularly those Councillors who had been in post for a longer period. The Clerk advised she was in correspondence with the KSM Relief in Need Charity and was hoping they may attend a future meeting and provide details about this Charity to the Council. Cllr Taylor asked the Council about another local charity which his family benefitted from years ago focussed on travel and education and supporting local people in endeavours around these areas. Cllr Stripp told the Council this charity was known as the Educational Trust and he understood it was still active but possibly not well publicised. Cllr Taylor asked about the constitution of the charity and whether the Parish Council had any responsibilities to it. Cllr Stripp agreed to found out more about it. Cllr Wilcox said as far as he knew it was completely independent of the Parish Council. Cllr Taylor mentioned the Council's wish to encourage wider public attendance at the next Annual Parish meeting and this would be a good occasion to invite the Educational Trust to participate.	Clerk/Cllr Stripp
9.0	**Dog bins –** The Chair advised the Council that a request had been made by a resident for a new dog bin to be sited in the Mill Cross area of the village. This would be in addition to the one at Leaches Field. The cost to empty the bins has recently been increased to £6.00 and the bins are currently emptied twice a week making the annual cost, £624.00. If a second bin were purchased this would increase the annual maintenance cost to £1,248.00. The Chair advised we have allocated a budget of £1,500.00 for the natural environment which includes dog bins and grass cutting and that the purchase of a second bin could mean this budget would be exceeded but he felt this didn't mean the Council should not consider a second bin. The Council discussed the matter and issues around it in detail. The question was raised whether the Council can change the maintenance schedule and consider having two bins in the village one at each end and emptied only once a week. The chair advised the cost to purchase and install a second bin using SW&T was c£380.00. The Clerk was asked to contact SW&T to determine whether the frequency of emptying the bins could be changed and whether SW&T would service a bin the Council purchased and installed independent of SW&T.	Clerk
10.0	**Quotations for Website Services –** The Chair asked the Council to accept and approve the quotes provided to manage the Council's web pages and to make the webpages accessible as required by law. The Council voted unanimously to accept and approve the quotes.	
11.0	**Active Travel Funding –** The Chair asked Cllr Taylor to talk to the Council about this agenda item and reminded the Council that unfortunately, the Council's bid to the climate emergency fund was not successful. Cllr Taylor summarised the scheme the Council is hoping to implement which has been designed and costed by SCC Highways. The cost of the scheme is as follows: £4,000.00 – Kingston Road, £1,500.00 – Parsonage Lane and £8,000.00 for the 20mph limit through the centre of the village, coming to a total cost of £13,500.00. Cllr Taylor reminded the Council this project has been ongoing for several years and the Council now needs to consider how it will be funded. SCC Cllr R Williams is in negotiation with Highways about contributing to the cost of the scheme and in	SCC Cllr Williams

	particular the Kingston Road and Parsonage Lane elements leaving the cost of the 20mph limit through the village to be funded by the Council. Cllr Taylor proposed the Council agree to fund the £8,000.00 in the expectation that Highways will fund the other £5,500.00 but if Highways does not the Council pick up the entire cost of the scheme. The Council discussed Cllr Taylor's proposal and the pros and cons of whether the Council should fund the scheme in its entirety or just the 20mph segment through the centre of the village. The Chair proposed the Council agree in principle to fund the 20mph limit through the centre of the village starting at Cala and wait to hear from SCC Cllr Williams regarding funding for the other elements of the scheme. The Council voted on the matter with 6 Councillors in favour and 2 against.	
12.0	**S106 and CIL Funding -** The Chair asked the Clerk to take the Council through the information she put together regarding S106 and CIL funding. The Clerk informed the Councillors that the Parish Council will be receiving c£6,400.00 in April in respect of CIL money for the development at Cala. She went on to say that S106 funding is likely not to continue other than for larger scale developments so in the future we will receive CIL and that KSM falls in the charging zone of £125.00 per square metre predominantly for new developments. CIL is payable upon commencement of the work and is paid twice a year and the Council will be required to submit a CIL return annually detailing how the money has been spent. Cllr Taylor raised a question about the CIL money and whether the Council would receive another CIL payment in respect of the second dwelling being constructed at Cala. The Clerk said she would investigate but it was felt CIL relief may be applicable on self-builds.	Clerk
13.0	**Climate Questionnaire – update** The Chair asked Cllr Bedford to update the Council on progress with the Climate Change Questionnaire. Cllr Bedford said the paper copies had been collected and in total 160 responses to the questionnaire had been received which was positive news. Cllr Bedford went on to say he was in the process of putting the results into the database for analysis and would hopefully report back with the findings in the next month.	Cllr Bedford
14.0	**Path from Lodes Lane to the Church – update** The Chair asked Cllr Stripp to update the Council on this agenda item. Cllr Stripp said he had submitted a lot of information to the Footpath Officer at SCC and was waiting to hear back from him. He felt the evidence which had been submitted was very positive and said he would report back to the Council once he had feedback from SCC.	Cllr Stripp
15.0	**Housing Needs Survey – update** The Chair asked Cllr Stripp to update the Council on the Housing Needs Survey. Cllr Stripp advised the Council that there were 76 online completions and 60 hard copies submitted so in total 136 responses which reflected a 35% completion rate and was considered a very good response. He went on to say analysis of the data was being conducted and he was hoping to report back to the Council with the findings next month.	Cllr Stripp
16.0	**Kingston Community Partnership – update** Cllr Stripp advised the Council there was not much to update on. He did mention the following 2 more wider community issues. The Wednesday Café has been disbanded due to the loss of helpers and participants and the current reluctance of older people	Cllr Stripp

	to gather. It is hoped this may be picked up in a slightly different format and a couple of volunteers have already come forward to support this. He also mentioned the whole village event on 7th August and asked everyone to put this date in their diary. He said volunteers are needed to help organise the event and if anyone would like to help, please could they let him know.	
17.0	**Financial Matters -** • £40.00 – Information Commissioners Office, Data Protection Fee • £170.40 – HMRC, Clerk's PAYE for Jan/Feb/Mar 2021 • £20.00 – SALC, Mental Health Event, 3rd March • £75.00 – SALC, Councillor Essentials Remote Training, 4th March • £42.00 – David Taylor – Taunton Timber, materials for damaged village green posts • £103.68 – SW&T Council, Dog bin x 1 emptied twice weekly, 2nd Feb to 31st Mar 2021 **Resolved**: The Council agreed to make the above payments.	
18.0	**Items for Next Agenda –** Please pass to the Clerk.	
19.0	**Items for Link Up and KSM Website -** Chair to do a write up for both	Chair
20.0	**Actions from March 2020 Meeting – Not discussed but to be carried forward to a future meeting.** a) **Natural environment** – The Clerk advised that a meeting had been scheduled for 23 March with SWT. b) **Council Reserves** - i. Clearing of roadside verge on Kingston Road by the Grange and the Spinney **ii.** Furniture for the Playing Field Pavilion	Whole Council
21.0	**Date of Next Meeting – 10th May 2021** The meeting closed at 21.29	
Signed:	Dated:	

KINGSTON ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL
– PARISH TRIBUTE TO HRH PRINCE PHILIP, THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH

The death on Saturday of His Royal Highness Prince Philip, The Duke of Edinburgh, came as a shock to me. It was put well by a member of the Royal Household. Although we knew he was 99 years old, and had recently come out of hospital after a month of treatment, his death – when it came – still came as a shock. Death has a finality. He died on the 99th day of the year, two months before his 100th birthday.

Her Majesty The Queen expressed her 'sorrow' at her husband's death. The feeling of sorrow was shared by the nation and, I'm sure, by the people of this Parish. But amidst the sorrow, and in light of the very extensive media coverage, I think we all feel gratitude for an extraordinary life, marked by service and very understated achievement.

It seems that much of Prince Philip's life was shaped by his time at school and in the Royal Navy. The Headmaster of Gordonstoun, Kurt Hahn, was an unusual Headmaster for his time, who believed that a physical outdoorsy life was as much a part of education as the classroom; indeed, the outdoors could be the classroom. I think this gave Prince Philip his down-to-earth, no nonsense, enterprising and practical attitude. He was Head Boy at Gordonstoun.

Immediately, he joined the Royal Navy as an officer cadet and took to the Britannia Royal Naval College, Dartmouth, like a duck to water. After passing out as Best Cadet, from what must have been a peer group of several hundred cadets, he served as a Midshipman in three different ships in 1940. In 1941, at the age of 20, he joined the battleship HMS Valiant. In her, he fought in the Battle of Cape Matapan, off south west Greece, in which Valiant sank two Italian cruisers in five minutes, partly thanks to Lieutenant Mountbatten's operation of the ship's searchlights. He was awarded a Mention in Despatches for 'bravery and enterprise'. Only two months later, he took part in the Battle for Crete, in which Royal Navy ships underwent heavy bombing from Italian and German aircraft. After spending 1942 escorting North Sea convoys he was involved in the Allied invasion of Sicily in 1943. In 1945, he was in the British Pacific Fleet escorting the battleship HMS Duke of York to Tokyo Bay for the signing of the Japanese surrender on board USS Missouri.

After the war, and after marrying The Queen in 1947, he became the youngest First Lieutenant in the Navy and was then given command of HMS Magpie, based in Malta. The Queen has said that this was one of the happiest periods of her life. Prince Philip's active Navy career effectively ended in 1951. After retirement, he was made Admiral of the Fleet. In the same year, 1953, he was appointed Captain General Royal Marines, a post he held for an extraordinary 65 years until stepping down in 2017. He was a great champion of the Royal Marines, and presented Afghanistan campaign and gallantry medals to 40 Commando at Norton Manor Camp in 2010.

After retiring from the Navy, in a sense the hardest part of his life lay ahead of him. As The Queen's Consort, his role had never been defined and it was for him to win acceptance in the Royal Household, in the country and in the Commonwealth. In modern parlance, he had to 'transition' from service life to civilian life, find a role and establish his reputation.

From the recent media coverage, I have taken away three particular aspects of Prince Philip's life that I will try to learn from. He was that rare thing – a man of ideas and a man of action.

- He was a voracious reader, with a personal library of some 11,000 books. Apparently, after a stimulating conversation with a friend, he would send about 8 or 9 books to the friend's house with a note that said 'When you've read these, tell me if you're sure you're still right'. He welcomed people challenging him, provided they were masters of the evidence.

- Once he had accepted an idea, he would ask 'Now, how we can make that useful?'' He was a thoroughly practical man. He was a great fan of 'getting on with it'. Among his 800 or so charities, the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme was a perfect example of challenging the young to do something practical that was quite difficult but showing them that they could succeed at it.

- Third, he had a global outlook. Many years before the Environment became a widely supported cause, Prince Philip championed what was called Conservation and habitat loss, and warned of the consequences of continuing population growth.

He had a remarkable ability to talk to everyone, from the highest to the lowest, and put them at ease with a down-to-earth joke or remark. He had no time for pretentiousness or pomposity. I gather that the small bubble that he and The Queen lived in in Windsor Castle was known as HMS Bubble.

Looking at his life as a whole, I think he was a man of his era, who set an extraordinary example of unstinting service, of support to Her Majesty The Queen, and of encouragement to all. He was ahead of his time in much of his thinking, and he would have been pleased to see many of his beliefs accepted and taken up, however much later on. It may be that our admiration of him becomes greater after his death when the full scale of his achievements becomes better known.

For now, our thoughts are with his family as they come to terms with the passing of an exceptional man, moulded by the Royal Navy that he loved so much. I'm sure the people of Kingston St Mary would welcome their Parish Council expressing their sincere condolences to Her Majesty The Queen and the Royal Family.