KINGSTON ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON 8th MARCH 2022

Item No	Item	Action By
1.0	**Attendance -** In attendance: Cllr P Townsend (Chairman) Cllr S Hancock Cllr S Harris Cllr A Simpson Cllr D Stripp Cllr D Taylor Cllr A Wilcox Mrs K Gibbins (Parish Clerk) Cllr D Darch (SWT) Cllr R Williams (SCC) Apologies: Cllr T Bedford No members of the public attended the meeting.	
2.0	**Councillors' Declarations of Interest –** None	
3.0	**Approval of Minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 8th February 2022 -** **Resolved:** The minutes of the meeting were approved and signed as a true record of the meeting.	
4.0	**Planning –** There were no new planning applications for consideration.	
5.0	**Matters Outstanding from Previous Minutes –** **i. Happy to Chat Benches** – Cllr Taylor advised the Council he will be installing the first bench in the alcove across from the Swan hopefully this week and there will need to be further discussions about where the other benches will be sited. **ii. Active Travel Funding/Speed Limit Restrictions –** The Chair advised the Council the work to install the new speed limit restrictions in the village is scheduled to start on 19th April and will take approximately 6 working days. **iii. Church Lane Road Safety -** Cllr Taylor described the signage which he will be installing on the village green to ensure motorists use the road layout properly. A mirror will also be installed on the existing Church Lane sign to further improve road safety. **iv. Path from Lodes Lane to the Church -** Cllr Stripp advised the Council that the options available regarding the path were still being considered. **v. Church Lane Flood Prevention -** SCC Cllr Williams has been made aware of the drainage problems and water lying on the Kingston Road together with the need to have the silt traps regularly cleaned to hopefully prevent these problems. SCC Cllr Williams agreed to chase this item with highways.	Cllr Taylor Cllr Taylor Cllr Stripp SCC Cllr Williams
6.0	**County and Town/Parish Elections** – Thursday, 5th May The Clerk advised the Council that any Councillor who wants to put themselves forward for another term must complete the nomination pack and return it by hand to the Returning Officer at the Council Offices in either Taunton, The Deane House or Williton, West Somerset House, by no later than 4pm on Tuesday, 5th April. Elisa Day, the Electoral Services Specialist can be contacted if anyone has questions regarding the	

	nomination pack. The Clerk advised the Council that elections will take place on 5th May if there is a contested election.	
7.0	**Annual Parish Meeting** – update The Clerk advised that the attendance for the meeting was looking healthy and there had been 11 positive responses from village organisations. The Council discussed the format of the meeting and how it would be followed by the Neighbourhood Plan Open Meeting.	
8.0	**Community Governance Review for the Unparished Area of Taunton** – update The Chair advised he felt the Council had got all it had asked for in terms of the review. He also advised that depending on the outcome of the consultation the rural part of Staplegrove Parish which is not recommended to be included in TTC will be merged with KSM Parish. The Chair also advised that Stage 2 of the Consultation begins in June and he suggested the Council wait until after this stage to put forward any additional comments.	
9.0	**Taunton International Middle School** – The Grange The Chair advised he was invited to meet with the Headmaster of the International Middle School to talk about the international school and the Grange. Taunton School's plans are to develop the international school on the main campus so the Grange may become surplus to their requirements in 2026/28. This all depends on planning permission being given to do what they want to do on the main campus which means the Grange could become available to purchase in 2026/28. The Council discussed the Grange and its possible uses in terms of the community and whether the Council should consider putting the building forward as an Asset of Community Value. No decision was taken on this.	
10.0	**Neighbourhood Plan** – update The Chair asked Cllr Stripp to update the Council on the NP. Cllr Stripp was pleased to advise that they have a good team in place with a lot of skilled people. He summarised the roles of different members of the team and said they will be looking for more volunteers to join the team on the 17th at the Open Meeting. Cllr Stripp said he had a call this evening with Stuart Todd, the Consultant. He also said that Sustrans had agreed to do a feasibility study for an active travel route from the centre of Taunton to The Swan. He advised he would be going back to Groundworks to discuss the funding and the budget allocations and hopefully get a few alterations to the budget approved.	Cllr Stripp
11.0	**The Queens Platinum Jubilee** – update The Chair advised the Council its application for £2.5k of funding towards the Jubilee celebrations had been approved. Cllr Stripp updated the Council on the plans for the Jubilee weekend and said a member of the community has stepped forward and agreed to organise the big lunch on the Sunday which will now be held outside the Village Hall. The outline plan for the weekend is: Thursday pm - Lighting of the Beacon Friday – Afternoon fete and evening entertainment Saturday – Film in the Village Hall and live Music at the Swan in the evening Sunday – The Big Lunch Street Party Cllr Taylor discussed the planning around the lighting of the beacon. He said this event is being nationally co-ordinated and will be taking place across the country at 21.45. Cllr Stripp explained the order of events for the Thursday evening leading up to the lighting of the beacon.	Cllr Stripp

12.0	**Climate Action Planning** – update SW&T Cllr Darch advised the Council there was no update on Climate Change and she was hoping to catch up with Cllr Bedford on this item soon.	Cllr Bedford / SW&T Cllr Darch
13.0	**Kingston Community Partnership** – update Cllr Stripp advised the main activity of the KCP presently was the Queen's Jubilee preparations which were covered earlier in the meeting.	
14.0	**Financial Matters –** Quote for bin collections 2022/23 – The Council approved the quote and the Clerk agreed she would ask SW&T Council to correct the information on the quote before it was signed and returned. The Council approved the following payment: • £227.18 – Jean Alger-Green, Litter picking equipment	Clerk
15.0	**Items for Next Agenda –** Please pass any agenda items to the Clerk.	
16.0	**Items for Link Up and KSM Website –** The Chair will do a write up for Link Up.	
17.0	**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	
18.0	**Date of Next Meeting – 12th April 2022** The meeting closed at 21.15	
Signed:	**Dated:**	