

KINGSTON ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY 9th MARCH 2015

Item Nr	Item	Action By
1.0	<p>Attendance and Apologies</p> <p>In attendance: Cllr R M Stokes (Chairman) Cllr M Anderson Cllr I Barrie Cllr J Clarke Cllr S Phillips Cllr K J Taylor Cllr N Townsend Cllr A Wilcox</p> <p>Miss C Roche (Parish Clerk) and 9 members of the public were in attendance.</p> <p>Apologies were received from Cllr C Miles, Cllr A Wedderkopp, Cllr B Notrodt and Cllr E Waymouth.</p>	
2.0	<p>Approval of Minutes of Last Annual Parish Meeting dated 10 March 2014</p> <p>The Minutes were approved and signed as a true record.</p>	
3.0	<p>Matters Arising</p> <p>None were received.</p>	
4.0	<p>Report from the Chairman</p> <p>Cllr Stokes welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave his report as follows:</p> <p>1. Review of the Year</p> <p>The Parish Council had held 11 meetings during the past year and had discussed a wide range of issues affecting our community including roads, flooding, the effect of the cutbacks in SCC and the proposed Staplegrove Urban Extension, a 1,500 house development that will extend into Kingston St Mary parish.</p> <p>Cllr Stokes was pleased to report that progress had been made on a number of issues and detailed reports on some of these would be given by those more closely involved.</p> <p>Most of the Parish Councils discussions had centred on planning and highways issues, so Cllr Stokes started with these.</p> <p>2. Planning</p> <p>The Parish Council had been consulted on 29 planning applications during the year and had objected to three of these.</p> <p>Cllr Stokes confirmed that on the 22 July 2014, along with the clerk and representatives of Staplegrove Parish Council, the Whitmoor Area Residents Group (WARG) plus our local SCC and TDBC councillors, met Taunton Deane planners to gain an understanding of how the Staplegrove Masterplan was progressing. At the meeting, strong opposition to the building of 1,500 homes on prime agricultural land was expressed. However, it was stressed that if the development was to go ahead, it was imperative that a spine road was built, in its entirety, before work started on houses.</p> <p>On the 9 February 2015, the Parish Council held a consultation with representatives of GL Hearn Ltd and Ptarmigan Land (Planning Consultants for the prospective developers), and Rockpool Media, the public relations consultants, to discuss the progress being made with regards to the Staplegrove Urban Extension. The Parish Council was informed that a single master plan was being submitted to TDBC during the summer 2015. The Parish Council re-emphasised its view that any proposed development would significantly impact on the surrounding highway network and that the Northern Outer Distributor Road was required before any houses were</p>	

built.

The Parish Council had also discussed the village development limits. It had now received the final consultation document from the TDBC Planning Policy Team which indicated that the parish development limit would be extended westward of Kingston Court and to the north of Lodeshill. However, following objections from the Parish Council and others, the parish development limit would not be extended adjacent to Copper Hill, Lodes Lane.

3. Highways

The Parish Council continues to work with SCC Highways to ensure that highway issues, such as potholes, road signs and surface dressings are dealt with promptly.

During the year a hole in the road at Nailsbourne had caused problems. At the time of the meeting, work was being carried out to repair the damage. At Yarford there were problems with the poor quality highway surface dressing that was laid in summer 2013. This was now subject to a legal dispute between SCC Highways and the contractor.

4. Flooding

Looking back through old minutes, Cllr Stokes noted that flooding has been an issue in the village for more than 60 years.

The PC had been in regular contact with Somerset Highways following the flash flooding in the vicinity of The Swan Pub and Alpha Cottages that occurred in June 2014. Remedial work had taken place and riparian owners had been contacted and asked to clear the watercourses that run through their land.

Work at Nailsbourne should resolve some of the flooding issues, however, the Yarford remedial work (highway flooding in early 2014) had still not been resolved. SCC Highways had ordered a second trash screen as the first one did not fit.

5. Kingston St Mary Playing Field

The Parish Council became the sole trustee of the Playing Field. This will safeguard the long term future of the playing field - an extremely valuable community asset.

6. Policing

The Staplegrove Beat Team had once more been re-organised. The Parish Council awaits the Beat Team's details.

7. Finance

The Precept is £5815 for 2015/2016. Cllr Stokes was pleased to report that there had been no increase in Precept for seven years.

8. Communication

The Parish Council, as part of its responsibility to keep residents informed had four notice boards at KSM Village Hall, Fulford, Mill Cross and Nailsbourne. These notice boards are an excellent source of local information including social events.

Cllr Stokes also writes the monthly article for LinkUp which highlights issues discussed at the previous month's Parish Council meeting.

Minutes of Parish Council meetings are uploaded onto the village website. Cllr Stokes thanked those who maintain the website.

9. Kingston Relief In Need Charity

Mrs Bradley told the Parish Council that the charity gives to those who live in the parish who are in need and the Trustees make visits to the elderly or those on their own. It also gives small gifts to those who contribute in some way to the life of the village. Mrs Bradley confirmed that in 2014, the charity donated £535 and that the Trustees are Jan Hughes, David Preston, Ken Taylor and Dilly Bradley.

	<p>10. Public Footpaths</p> <p>The Footpath Liaison Officer Peter Crea confirmed that the footpaths have been maintained and are in good condition. Recently two volunteers had come forward but more volunteers were required.</p> <p>11. Village Hall</p> <p>The Village Hall Committee Chairman confirmed that the bank account held a healthy balance and that grant applications were regularly made. During the last year, minor projects had been undertaken such as white lines laid in the parking area outside the hall and the gentleman's cloakroom water heater was replaced. Projects being considered for 2015 include replacing stage and window curtains and a public address system.</p> <p>12. Thank You</p> <p>Cllr Stokes thanked Cllr Elaine Waymouth, Cllr Bruce Nottrodt and Cllr Danny Wedderkopp for their help and advice, the Parish Councillors, the Parish Clerk for her support and efforts during the year and the many people who contribute to the life of the village through charity events, meet the village, litter picking, cleaning of village green.</p> <p>The meeting closed at 7.50PM.</p>	
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Signed: Date: