



## *Kington Town Council*

The Old Police Station, Market Hall Street, Kington HR5 3DP  
Telephone 01544 239098 email: clerk@kingtontowncouncil.gov.uk



### **Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

At The Old Police Station, Market Hall Street, Kington

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Cllr M. Fitton - Chair  
Cllr. J. Atkinson  
Cllr. E. Banks  
Cllr. R Banks  
Cllr. J Dennis  
Cllr. F. Hawkins  
Cllr. R. MacCurrach  
Cllr P. Prior  
Cllr. E. Rolls  
Cllr. R. Widdowson  
Cllr I. Wood-Johnson

#### **IN ATTENDANCE**

1 member of press  
28 members of the public  
  
Liz Kelso – Clerk  
Mary Tolhurst – admin assistant  
  
Ward Councillor T. James

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Minute Ref</b>
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In view of the interest of members of the public in attendance, it was **agreed** that item 15 would be taken earlier in the meeting than originally indicated.

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|----------|---------------|--|
| <b>1</b> | <b>038-19</b> | <b>TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE, DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION</b><br>Apologies were noted from Cllrs C Forrester and T Bounds.<br>There were no declarations of interest and no requests for dispensation.   |
| <b>2</b> | <b>039-19</b> | <b>TO CONFIRM MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 4<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2019</b><br>It was <b>agreed</b> that the minutes of the meeting of 4 <sup>th</sup> February 2019 be approved, and that the Chairman be authorised to sign the minutes as a true record of proceedings at that meeting. |

**15      040-19      CLIMATE EMERGENCY PROPOSAL**

**a      To consider proposal to declare a Climate Emergency**

The Mayor introduced this subject and Cllr Dennis gave the background to this proposal that had previously been discussed at the last Environment Committee meeting.

A member of the public was invited to speak: the local KLEEN group is already working on this and is very willing to work with the Town Council in order to progress the work in hand.

It was proposed by Cllr Dennis and seconded by Cllr MacCurrach that Kington Town Council declares a Climate Emergency.

**RESOLVED**

Kington Town Council declared a Climate Emergency. This was passed by all in favour.

**b      To set up a working party to consider the implications of the resolution and make recommendations on an action plan**

After discussion it was agreed that although the Town Council was approaching the Purdah Period and could not make any decisions until after the elections in May, there was an opportunity for preparatory work.

**It was agreed** that the working party set up would be deferred to the new Town Council in May.

**c      To consider proposal to write to Herefordshire Council to encourage a county-wide declaration of a Climate Emergency**

**It was agreed** that Kington Town Council would write to Herefordshire Council to encourage a wider debate.

Members of the public showed much support and appreciation for the Town Council's decisions.

**3      041-19      PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

**a      Police report**

There was no Police report for this month.

**b      Ward Councillors report**

Ward Councillor James updated members on several matters including:

- The forthcoming Herefordshire Council debate on Climate and energy saving
- The new student accommodation building on the site of the old Rockfield stores.  
Ward Cllr James also commented on the good reputation of Herefordshire College of Art, which has a very high standing nationally but is not always recognized locally.
- A £1.2m bid for improving the environments within the Market Towns.

**c      Matters raised by members of the public**

A member of the public thanked the Town Council for the Information day. Councillors had answered all of his questions and the information display had been very educational.

**4      042-19      MAYOR'S REPORT**

The Mayor gave a verbal report updating members on his recent work including:

- Attending a symposium on the Health and Social Services

- The approaching end of the Kington Health Commission project. The Mayor was reasonably hopeful of a good outcome in spite of many loose ends that still needed to be tied up
- The Town Council's pages for the relaunched Kington Chronical had been submitted: Cllr Fitton thanked Cllr Richard Banks for his part in this.
- The Community Champions Awards: Possible candidates for the Community Champions Award were discussed
- His recent attendance at the Mayor's event hosted by the Mayor of Hereford. This had been particularly interesting as there had been much discussion on the Market Towns and the possibilities of their future working together.
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The Garth Care Home were congratulated on winning a recent award.

It was agreed that the Town Council would write to the Garth and congratulate them on recent achievements.

## 5      **043-19      CLERK'S REPORT**

The Clerk's report, as attached to these minutes was noted. The Clerk added that there was to be a 'Stop the Drop' day in the County, as part of a nationwide litter picking campaign.

## 6      **044-19      FINANCIAL MATTERS**

### (a) **Payments**

Payments as per the attached schedule totalling £1,654.21 were **agreed**.

### (b) **To consider recommendations of the grants panel**

All recommendation from the recent Grants Panel meeting were **approved**.

It was generally **agreed** that the Grants criteria were in need of refreshing and that this would be referred to the Finance & General Purposes Committee.

## 7      **045-19      TO AGREE FUTURE MEETING DATES**

The Clerk presented the coming financial year's schedule of meeting dates and suggested an additional meeting of the full council on 25<sup>th</sup> March to agree all 2018-19 payments. This was **agreed**.

## 8      **046-19      TOWN COUNCIL ELECTIONS**

### a **To note feedback from Town Council Information Day**

The Clerk reported a better attendance than expected with members of the public engaging in discussions and with one potential new interested candidate.

### b **To note update on Election Timetable**

The Clerk now has nomination packs available for anyone wishing to put themselves forward as a candidate for the Town Council at the May elections.

All nomination papers have to be completed and hand delivered by the candidate or a nominated party to the Elections office no late than Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April.



Should there be 15 or fewer candidates then there would be no need for an election for seats on the Town Council; should there be 16 or more candidates then there would need to be a contested election.

**C Poll cards**

It was agreed that the event of a contested election, that Poll Cards would be requested at an approximate cost of 50p per elector.

**9 047-19 TO APPROVE/ADOPT DATA PROTECTION POLICY AND POLICY ON SUBJECT ACCESS REQUESTS**

It was agreed that the Data Protection Policy and Subject Access Request Procedures, as attached to these Minutes, be adopted.

**10 048-19 PLANNING MATTERS**

To consider the following planning application:

Ref: 190449  
Site: Arrow Mills, Island Terrace, Kington  
Dev: Proposed replacement feed store

After discussion the Town Council made no objection to this application.

**11 049-19 UPDATE ON REQUEST FOR REDUCTION IN SPEED LIMIT WITHIN THE TOWN CENTRE**

Members noted that the survey is still open and that responses are still being sent in. A 20mph within the town would link in with the climate change discussion as a fuel saving / less polluting aspect.

**12 050-19 COMMUNITY ASSET TRANSFERS: UPDATE**

Green Spaces: The Clerk and some of the Councillors had met with Herefordshire Council earlier, where it has been made clear that the Town Council would not be accepting responsibility for the additional footpath running alongside of Crooked Well.

Old Police Station and Market Hall had also been discussed but there was much to be clarified about the facilities and the general liabilities for these buildings. Discussions will be deferred until after the Elections.

**13 051-19 TO AGREE DRAFT REVISED MARKET OPERATORS LICENCE AND CONSIDER IMPLICATIONS FOR FUTURE USE OF THE MARKET HALL**

As a result of the ongoing discussions with Herefordshire Council, this item was deferred to a later meeting.

**14 052-19 REPORT FROM WORKING PARTY ON THE FUTURE OF KINGTON POST OFFICE**

Members noted that the sorting office is to close in the near future although it is not clear what the implications of this on the Postal Service in Kington would be. There was some discussion about the problems about from where to collect undelivered parcels.

Is it hoped that the retail space in the Post Office can be expanded during the new tenure, to increase the business in the building.

**16      053-19      TO CONSIDER MARKING 40<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF TOWN TWINNING**

Members had several ideas as to how this anniversary could be noted, including a sapling tree, a plaque and a 'road sign' in the Place de Marines pointing to France. It was agreed to defer this decision to the April meeting of Full Council.

Members noted that the Marches Makers were planning on making something that could be taken over to Marines as a gift from the Town.

**17      054-19      REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS ON MEETINGS ATTENDED**

Cllr Rolls: Lady Hawkins Foundation and school Endowment meeting.

Cllr Rolls reported that Lady Hawkins School is amongst the top 20 schools in the country for exam results. It was also reported that the school will be introducing an electronic system for the management of the school meals system.

Cllr Dennis: Footpaths meeting.

Cllr Dennis reported a good attendance and a wide spread of interest at the recent meeting to discuss a joint Footpaths Maintenance Group. Kington Walks are keen to start and might be seen as the lead organisation. The possibility of all members of the Footpaths Maintenance Group joining The Ramblers Association had been mentioned as they could then be covered by that organisation's insurance.

There will be a follow-up meeting once dates can be agreed.

**18      055-19      REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES**

**a      Planning Committee**

Cllr Hawkins reported that the Committee had looked at four applications at the last meeting and had made no objections to any of them.

The Lyonshall NDP was now available to view on line, as was the Minerals and Local Waste Plan.

**b      Services Committee: the meeting had been inquorate so did not take place.**

**c      Finance & General Purposes Committee**

Cllr Widdowson reported on the recent Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting at which the level of reserves had been discussed.

The Committee is investigating the possibility of buying a financial a software package for accounting. The Grants Policy was also discussed and would be referred to Council for consideration at a later meeting. Work has also started on a five year financial plan.

**19      056-19      ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA**

Asset Transfers/ Market Holders Licence

Town Twinning 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations

Pharmacy update

20      057-19      **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will take place on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019 at the Old Police Station, Market Hall Street, Kington, commencing at 7.00 pm

There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed at 8.50pm

A. M. H. Wilson

Chairman  
01.04.2019

1/4/19



**KINGTON TOWN COUNCIL**  
**Meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2019**  
**Agenda item 5 - Clerk's Report**

This report identifies activities of the Clerk since the last meeting other than those addressed elsewhere on the agenda or addressed by other Members as part of their report.

**1. Clerk's absence**

Due to a family bereavement, the Clerk was absent from work from 20<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> February. As a result, some items have not progressed as anticipated.

**2. Casual Vacancies**

To date there have been no requests to co-opt a candidate to fill the two casual vacancies.

**3. Christmas Lights**

Due to the Clerk's absence, the Christmas Lights working party has not yet met.

**4. Herefordshire Council Rubbish & Recycling Collections**

Herefordshire Council has announced changes to the rubbish and recycling collections from 18<sup>th</sup> March 2019. Full details are not yet known but individual households can check their collection day online by inputting their postcode. All households affected by a change will receive a letter through the post about any changes proposed.

**5. Grit bin on Kingswood Road**

The agreed request for a bin to be re-sited has been passed to Herefordshire Council/Balfour Beatty and action is awaited

**6. Great Herefordshire Spring Clean – Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March to Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April**

Herefordshire Council and Balfour Beatty are running a Great Herefordshire Spring Clean promotion, encouraging communities to get involved in a litter pick. This will coincide with the Great British Spring Clean. Litter picking kit can be borrowed from Balfour Beatty who will also arrange to collect litter collected via the scheme. There are competitions with prizes for the oldest and most unusual piece of litter. Details are available from the Clerk or from the Herefordshire Council website.

