



Kington Town Council

The Old Police Station, Market Hall Street, Kington HR5 3DP
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Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on Monday 3rd February 2020

At The Old Police Station, Market Hall Street, Kington

MEMBERS PRESENT

Cllr. R. Widdowson (in the Chair)
Cllr. E. Banks
Cllr. T. Bennett
Cllr. J. Cooke
Cllr. J. Dennis
Cllr. P. Edwards
Cllr. M. Fitton
Cllr. R. Griffiths
Cllr. F. Hawkins
Cllr. R. MacCurrach
Cllr. E. Rolls

IN ATTENDANCE

Liz Kelso – Clerk
Merrie Kent – Green Spaces Administrator
7 members of the public
Cllr. T. James, Ward Councillor Herefordshire Council
1 member of the press

Agenda

Item	Minute
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1	015-20	Apologies, declarations of interest and requests for dispensation.
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Apologies were noted from Cllrs. T. Bounds and R. Banks. There were no declarations of interest and no requests for dispensation

2	016-20	Minutes of the meeting held on 13th January 2020
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It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 13th January 2020 be approved and that the Chairman be authorised to sign the minutes as a true record of proceedings at that meeting.

3	017-20	Town Councillor Vacancies
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One member of the public presented themselves as a candidate to fill the current vacancy which was created by the resignation of Ian Wood-Johnson. In accordance with the Town Council's Co-option policy, Mr. Ian Spencer gave a brief presentation to the Town Council and it was proposed that he be co-opted to the Town Council. On a show of hands vote, the Chairman declared Cllr. Spencer to be duly co-opted. Cllr. Spencer signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office and took his place and was

welcomed to the Town Council.

4 018-20 Public Participation

a Police report

The Clerk presented a written report from West Mercia Police, which was noted, with thanks, by Members.

b Ward Councillors Report

Members noted the verbal report from Cllr. James, including:

- The withdrawal of funding from the Local Enterprise Partnership in connection with the delays to the Hereford By-pass whilst under review, and the cost of consultants to undertake the review
- Concerns about the performance of the public realm contractors particularly with regard to the installation of dropped kerbs in Kington which he felt were expensive.
- Herefordshire Council has had a poor Ofsted report on child safeguarding with no progress reported from the previous inspection.

c Matters raised by members of the public in attendance

During the period for members of the public to raise matters of interest, the following was noted:

- Representatives from Kington Surgery explained changes within the partnership which is moving to Taurus Healthcare. The change will be seamless for patients but will providing better support for the surgery and a more local management structure. The surgery were congratulated on a much improved service and culture within the surgery.
- In connection with the Neighbourhood Development Plan a query was raised regarding the policy to support green spaces within Kington and how this relates to a proposal to allow access to a potential development site through an area of identified green space. It was explained that the access would represent a very small proportion of land at the edge of the open space.
- A comment in support of the public realm contractor and the installation of the new dropped kerbs which were welcomed by those with disabilities.

5 019-20 Mayor's Report

The report from the Mayor on attendance at meetings and civic events was noted. In addition, Cllr. Widdowson reported on the Mayors meeting he had attended when it was agreed to reconvene the Market Towns Forum. He also noted that the Chamber of Trade were considering activities to commemorate VE day and he reported on a Tri Towns meeting he had attended.

6 020-20 Clerk's Report

The Clerk's report as attached to these Minutes, was noted.

7 021-20 Financial Matters

a Payments

Payments as per the attached schedule totalling £2,186.73 (including VAT) were agreed.

b Grants

After due consideration, it was agreed to offer a grant of £500.00 to Kington and District Operatic Society to support the pantomime this year.

8 022-20 Neighbourhood Development Plan

a To reconvene Neighbourhood Development Plan Steering Group

Following the decision at the last meeting to review the Neighbourhood Development Plan with a view to resubmission of the plan, it was confirmed that Cllrs. M. Fitton, E Banks, F. Hawkins and R. Widdowson be duly authorised to represent the Town Council on the Steering Group. It was further confirmed that the processes for public consultation from Regulation 14 onwards would be part of the review process moving forward and the importance of ensuring the public are made aware of each consultation was stressed.

b Proposals for amendments to the draft plan

Cllr. Fitton explained that following the agreement at the last meeting to revise the draft Neighbourhood Plan and resubmit to Herefordshire Council, it is proposed that the only amendment to the draft plan would be to Policy KANP H2, Housing Delivery, and a draft was presented for consideration which brings the site north of Headbrook, which has outline permission for housing, into the policy. After due consideration, the policy was approved by the Council and it was confirmed that this would be subject to public consultation as noted above.

In response to queries from members of the public with regard to other housing sites, Cllr. Fitton advised that the draft which was submitted at Regulation 16 had been subject to advice, guidance and direction from the Highways Authority with regard to access arrangements to the proposed site.

9 023-20 Community Asset Transfers

a Update

It was noted that there has been little progress since the last meeting with regard to buildings.

b Legal advice on asset transfers

An alternative quote for legal work on the transfer of Crooked Well has yet to be obtained for consideration. However, the Clerk has now obtained a copy of the transfer document from Herefordshire Council and members expressed disappointment that despite many months of negotiations, the transfer includes land not agreed as part of the transfer so will need to be referred back to Herefordshire Council. It was agreed to request an urgent meeting with the Cabinet Member for Herefordshire Council will responsibility for Community Assets.

- 10 024-20 Provision of Sandbags**
After the proposal to provide sandbags to residents had been rejected several months ago, Cllr. Cooke proposed that this be reconsidered following research he has undertaken. It was agreed that this be reconsidered and a proposal be brought back to the next meeting.
- 11 025-20 Kington in Bloom**
In accordance with a recommendation from the Environment Committee, it was agreed that authority be delegated to the Clerk plus two Councillors to purchase items required in accordance with the Kington in Bloom initiative, such authority not to exceed the budget limit of £800 in total and to be reported to the Environment Committee and Full Council at the next available meeting.
- 12 026-20 Membership of Herefordshire Association of Local Councils**
The Clerk noted that a decision had been taken several years ago not to continue with membership of the Herefordshire Association of Local Councils, the county body for the National Association of Local Councils. Noting a paper presented by the Clerk outlining the advantages and costs of membership, on a show of hands vote, members rejected the proposal to rejoin HALC.
- 13 027-20 Reports from Councillors**
 - Cllr. Rolls reported on a meeting of the Museum that she had recently attended. Cllr. Widdowson also noted that he had attended a meeting of the History Group which is merging with the Museum and a new constitution and name have been agreed for the group.
 - Cllr. Cooke reported on the visit to the recycling centre and will prepare a piece for the Mid Border news in due course.
 - Cllr. Dennis noted that the Climate Change working group was currently working on establishing the carbon footprint for the Town Council.
- 14 028-20 Reports from Committees**
Members noted reports from Committees that have taken place since the last full council meeting:
- Planning Committee held 20th January 2020
 - Environment Committee held 20th January 2020
- 15 029-20 Extraordinary meeting**
It was agreed that an extraordinary meeting be scheduled for Monday 30th March 2020 so that payments for this financial year can be approved before the end of the financial year on 31st March.

16 030-20

Annual Town Meeting

It was agreed that, subject to confirmation of venue availability, that the Annual Town Meeting take place on 29th or 30th April 2020, commencing at 7.00pm. Venue to be confirmed.

17 031-20 **Date, time and agenda for next meeting**

The next meeting of the Town Council will take place on Monday 2nd March 2020 at 7.00pm at the Old Police Station, Market Hall Street, Kington. It was requested that sandbags and Armed Forces Day be items for that meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed.

Chairman: 2.3.2020

Appendix 1

Mayor's engagements

January 2020

27th January - Mayors meeting

- Meeting was attended by Cllr Harrington and CEO Alistair Neill.
- Agreed to trial a re-start of the Market Towns Forum by holding a meeting on 6th March 3pm -5pm with 2 reps from each council. Main agenda items to be S106 and the scope for joint working across market towns and with HC.
- The pro tem Terms of Reference will be as set out in my paper of April 2018.

28th January - Tri Towns meeting

- The Kington Chronicle is being relaunched in May to cover Knighton and Presteigne. Knighton Town Council has agreed to fund a page or possibly two pages and Presteigne will consider doing so at its next meeting. It's working title will be Mid Border Chronicle.
- Powys CC Travel officers are attending the next meeting to discuss public transport issues across the area.
- A future meeting will consider opportunities for developing and linking circular walking routes across the three towns.

29th January - History Society EGM

VE/VJ Day commemorations

- A short service will be held on the 8th May outside of the cathedral to which WW2 veterans will be invited. Towns are asked to nominate possible attendees and arrangements will be put in place to ensure their safety and comfort during and after the service. Nominations to be made to the Chairman's Office.
- Church bells to be rung at 7pm.
- On VJ day - 16th August - a service will be held at 3.30 at the cathedral.

Armed Forces week this year will begin on 22nd July and Armed Forces Day will be 27th July.

February 2020

16th February - Kington Tourist Group Annual Lunch

25th February - Tri-Towns meeting Knighton.

3rd January 2020

Appendix 2

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. Heartstart Course

A Heartstart Course has been arranged in conjunction with Border Care to take place in the Old Police Station on Thursday 5th March at 7.00pm. The course is free of charge but donations are welcome. If you would like to attend, please see the poster on notice boards and book directly with Herefordshire Heartstart.

Kington Town Council
Meeting held on 3rd February 2020
Schedule of payments approved at the meeting

Voucher #	Payee	Payment type:	Detail	Minute Ref.	Net	VAT	Total Payment
144	PEAC Finance	DD - 8.2.2020	Admin - Photocopier lease payment		£ 163.40	£ 32.68	£ 196.08
145	Npower	DD - 27.1.2020	Rec. Grant - Electricity		£ 76.70	£ 3.84	£ 80.54
146	HMRC	BACS	Admin - Salaries		£ 902.00	£	£ 902.00
147	Amazon EU	BACS	Admin - stationery		£ 18.29	£ 3.66	£ 21.95
148	Amazon EU	BACS	Admin - stationery		£ 25.03	£ 5.01	£ 30.04
149	Amazon EU	BACS	Admin - Stationery		£ 25.04	£ 5.01	£ 30.05
150	HMRC	BACS	Rec. Grant - Salaries		£ 22.80	£	£ 22.80
153	W. Spooner	BACS	Rec. Grant - Cover		£ 90.00	£	£ 90.00
154	T. Protheroe	BACS	Rec. Grant - repairs		£ 50.00	£	£ 50.00
155	BOSS	BACS	Admin - printing		£ 219.39	£ 43.88	£ 263.27
156	KADOS	BACS	Grant	FC-021-20b	£ 500.00	£	£ 500.00
						£	£
						£	£
			Total payments this month excluding salaries		£ 2,092.65	£ 94.08	£ 2,186.73

FOR INFORMATION

Total of payments made through grants received:			
Total of payments made as a grant			
Recreation Ground Trust	£ 239.50	£ 3.84	£ 243.34