KINGTON ST MICHAEL PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES

Council Meeting

held at 7.15pm Kington St Michael Social Club, Kington St Michael SN14 6JB

6th October 2022

Present: Cllr Gamble (Chair), Cllr Allen, Cllr Hocking (Vice Chair), Cllr Macdonald, Cllr Roe and Cllr Twisse.

Also Present: Wiltshire Councillor H Greenman, Margaret Pratley and Mr V Vines MBE Clerk of the Council.

NOTICE OF MEETING – Public Notice of the Meeting was given in accordance with Schedule 12, para 10 (2) of the Local Government Act 1972.

QUEEN ELIZABETH II and KING CHARLES III

Since the Parish Council had last met Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II had died on the 8th September 2022 having served as Monarch for over 70 years. The Parish Council and the UK had only recently celebrated her Platinum Jubilee and wished to place on record their sincere thanks to her for her commitment and service over her whole reign. In doing so the Parish Council offered their full support and good wishes to her son and successor King Charles III.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no Questions.

REPORTS FROM UNITARY COUNCILLOR, PARISH COUNCILLORS & COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

i) Wiltshire Councillor Howard Greenman reported on Wiltshire Council matters.

Wiltshire Council Supports Residents with Cost of Living

The Wiltshire Council's Cabinet had received a comprehensive update on the steps that the Council was taking to support people across Wiltshire with cost-of-living issues over the next few months. Assistance had already been provided to residents through schemes such as the Household Support Fund (£2.7m to vulnerable households), the Energy Rebate to residents in Council Tax bands A-D and the School Holidays Activity and Food programme.

The Wiltshire Council was focused on supporting residents, businesses (including schools) and Wiltshire Council staff. Area Boards were being asked to work with their communities to ensure that local support was in place for the most vulnerable, including food banks. Meanwhile the

Wiltshire Wellbeing Hub would support residents with financial wellbeing concerns. The 09:30hrs restriction on concessionary fare bus passes had been lifted, so that they could be used at any time, thus supporting the elderly and vulnerable to access essential services, and Warm and Safe Wiltshire would continue to offer free and impartial energy advice to reduce fuel poverty.

New Strategy for Helping People with Mental Disabilities Enjoy Fulfilled Lives

Cllr Jane Davies, the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, SEND and Transition and Inclusion, had presented the Wiltshire Independent Living Strategy which maximised the independence, choice and control for people with a mental health condition, learning disability and/or autism spectrum condition by providing the right accommodation and support in the right place at the right time. The strategy would reduce dependence on residential care and ensure that people were supported to live independently, with their own tenancy wherever this was possible. This meant developing new supported accommodation and providing innovative, flexible care to enable people to live in the community

£1.3m Extra Funding to Tackle Substance Misuse

Wiltshire Council had secured additional funding from the Home Office to tackle illicit drug use, including enforcement, diversion, and treatment and recovery. This funding was in addition to the core substance misuse services already delivered in Wiltshire. The additional £1.3m would ensure enhanced focus on improved outcomes across both young people and adults substance misuse services - with a particular focus on the transition period to adulthood and criminal justice.

There were no further Reports.

22/42 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Hall, Cllr Ingham and Cllr Newton.

22/43 Declaration(s) of Interest – In accordance with Kington St Michael Parish Council's Code of Conduct and Standing Orders

There were no Interests declared.

22/44 MINUTES Members had previously been circulated with the Minutes.

The Council received, approved and signed as a true record the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 21st July 2022. Cllr Macdonald proposed, Cllr Hocking seconded and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY

22/45 PLANNING

Planning Applications: Prior to the consideration the Planning Application received, the opportunity was given for Applicants and their Representatives and any other interested parties to address the Council. There were no representations received.

a) PL/2022/05246 - Prior Approval Part 3 Class R: Agricultural Buildings to a
Flexible Commercial Use
Prior Notification under Class R for a Proposed Change of Use of Existing
Storage Barns to a Commercial Workshop Space Falling within Use Class E
(Commercial, Business or Service)
Agricultural Storage Barns, Kington Farm, Allington Lane, Kington St Michael
SN14 6DH
For Kington Farms Ltd

* The application was for a determination as to whether the prior approval of the Wiltshire Council would be required on technical issues relating to transport, highways and noise impacts of the development and whether there are any contamination or flooding risks on the site.

Following consideration of the application the Council resolved that there were no objections to the proposals.

Cllr Macdonald proposed, Cllr Hocking seconded and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY

 b) PL/2022/06293 – Householder Planning Permission Conversion of Existing Double Garage to Form Self-Contained Annex 27 The Ridings, Kington St Michael, Nr Chippenham, Wiltshire SN14 6JG For Mrs Mead

Following consideration of the application the Council resolved that there were no objections to the proposals.

Cllr Allen proposed, Cllr Macdonald seconded and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY

c) PL/2022/07364 - Full Planning Permission Conversion of Existing Agricultural/Livery Buildings to provide 3 No New Dwellings including modest Single-Storey Extensions, Rebuilding of Historical Buildings, New Oak Frame Carport/Workshop and Associated Hard and Soft Landscape Works. New Package Treatment Systems, Photovoltaic and Air Source Heat Pump Installations Broomfield Farm, Easton Piercy, Kington St Michael SN14 6JU

* The application was not within the Parish and the Council had not been consulted. Attention had recently been drawn to the proposals by Yatton Keynell Parish Council who felt the Council might wish to consider any comments.

Following consideration of the application the Council resolved that they had no comments to make.

Clir Macdonald proposed, Cllr Gamble seconded and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY

There were no further applications considered. (noted)

Planning General: Planning Decisions received and other Planning related Matters.

a) PL/2022/05353 – Hedgerow Removal Notice
 The removal of one 6 metre section of hedgerow is required for access in order to install new water main. Once the works have been completed, the hedgerow will be reinstated as per attached STD/836, using a mix of species to mix and match the surrounding hedgerows.
 4C, Town Close, Kington St Michael, Nr Chippenham, Wiltshire SN14 6JN
 For Wessex Water Authority No objections raised by Wiltshire Council 8th
 August 2022

b) PL/2021/06100

The Installation of a Solar Farm of up to 49.9MW of Generating Capacity, comprising of the Installation of Solar Photovoltaic Panels and Associated Infrastructure including Customer Cabin, Customer Substation, DNO Substation and Equipment, Inverter and Transformer Substations, Spare Part Container, Associated Battery Storage, Access Tracks, Fencing, Security Cameras, Landscape Planting and Associated Works
Land to the South of the M4 at Leigh Delamere, to the West of Leigh Delamere Motorway Services, Chippenham
For Eden LD Solar Ltd

Approved with Conditions 11th August 2022

• The application, having been approved, raised the issue of the possibility of grants from a community benefit fund to host communities over the lifetime of the solar farm either through annual payments or a one-off payment once the solar farm was first commissioned. In normal circumstances the funding would be administered by a local Trust or Committee to which organisations could apply. The Clerk would approach Eden LD Solar Ltd for their intentions.

There were no further planning matters reported. (noted)

22/46 FINANCE The Council considered financial matters.

a) Payments to make: The Council considered and approved the following Payments:

Idverde Limited. grass cutting contract. Inv 10853842 23.08.2	2 £	431.76
KSM Village Hall. Meeting Room Hire. 27.07.2	2 £	30.00
Mayer Brown. Tor Hill Project Consultancy Fees. Inv 70800		,420.00
Idverde Limited. grass cutting contract. Inv 10857319 23.09.2	22 £	431.76
PKF Littlejohn LLP. AGAR Review 2021/2022 fees Inv SB20	22298 £	360.00
Community First-Zurich Insurance. Additional premium for 05	.11.22 £	112.00

Cllr Gamble proposed, Cllr Roe seconded and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY

- b) Payments made: The Council noted that no Payments had been made since the last Council Meeting. (noted)
- c) Receipts: The Council noted the following Receipt since the last Council Meeting. (noted)

Wiltshire Council. BACS CIL payment PL/2021/0820 01.09.22 £ 5,161.00

d) **Bank Accounts:** The Council noted that the Council's Bank Account balances at 5th September 2022 were:

HSBC Main Business A/c No 31545043	£ 55,327.15
HSBC Reserves A/c No 21545078	£ 45,747.39
HSBC Charities A/c No 71545051	£ 764.75
HSBC Defibrillator A/c no 51563041	£ 851.91

e) Annual Governance and Accountability Return Year End 31st March 2022

Notice of Conclusion of Audit

The Council recalled that there had been a requirement to submit an Annual Return to the External Auditor, PKF Littlejohn LLP, to carry out the limited assurance review under Section 9 of the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015. This had been because Council spending and income was above the £25,000.00 threshold for being exempted. In any case, the Council had been randomly chosen (5% sample) for an Intermediate Review for Year 2021/2022.

In these circumstances, the Parish Council had needed to complete the Annual Governance process and submit to PKF Littlejohn LLP and publish on the website in the required timescales.

All of this had been completed and on the 26th September 2022 PKF Littlejohn LLP had notified the Council that they had completed their review and issued their report and certificate with no issues being raised. There had been a need to prepare a Notice of Conclusion of Audit and publish online for a minimum period of 14 days together with the Certified AGAR pages. The Clerk had completed by the required timescale of 30th September 2022 and was thanked for his work in the matter. (noted)

22/47 HIGHWAY MATTERS

- a) Parish Stewards Programme/Requirements: general issues for the Local Highway & Streetscene Community Team. Cllr Macdonald reported that the requested clearance of the Public Footpath growth/obstructions at The Ridings had been carried out. Also general pothole filling had occurred in Stanton Lane. Parish Steward visits had been on the 8th August, 5th September and 3rd October 2022. Further visits were scheduled for 31st October, 28th November and 27th December 2022. (noted)
- b) Rights of Way: general issues in regards to Public Footpaths and Bridleways within the Parish. Cllr Hocking reported that Idverde Limited had recently completed maintenance works as required to The Ham, The HaHa and Tor Hill footpaths. (noted)
- c) Highway & Footpaths Conditions and Maintenance: general issues in regards to Highway Conditions and Maintenance within the Parish.

There were no issues raised on this occasion.

22/48 UPDATE ON STANDING ITEMS

a) Recreation Ground -

- i) QE2 Recreation Field Group. Cllr Hocking reported that the Group was concentrating on the arrangements and organisation of the Bonfire Night. (noted)
- ii) QE2 Recreation Field Capital Works. There was no update required on this occasion. (noted)
- iii) QE2 Recreation Field Maintenance. There was no update required on this occasion. (noted)
- iv) QE2 Recreation Field Bonfire Night. The Council had been advised that the event was planned for Saturday 5th November 2022 from 5.30pm with bonfire lighting at 6.15pm and fireworks at 7.00pm. There was a need for the Council to approve the use of the Field for the event. In addition the Council would need to insure the event and it was normal to advise affected landowners and emergency services. The Clerk would write to all parties. The Council agreed to the use of the Recreation Ground for the event and to take out the special event insurance. Clir Allen proposed, Clir Hocking seconded and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY
- v) QE2 Recreation Field-Football pitch. The Council had been advised that there were a "lot of rabbit holes" on the pitch creating danger. A volunteer had offered to fill in the holes before the next football training session was planned, if the Council reimbursed the costs of the materials. The Clerk had agreed to this under delegated powers. (noted)
- b) Notice Boards There were no issues raised. (noted)
- c) Flooding & Drainage There were no issues raised. (noted)
- d) Parish/CommunityWebsite/Social Media The Parish Council website had now gone live www.kingtonstmichaelparishcouncil.gov.uk All Council Members could now use a Council email address. Members could also include their personal email address on the Contacts Page should they wish. The website was intended to contain Council related information and was not intended to replace or to be in competition with the community website www.kingtonstmichael.com and the community website was being promoted in several places on the new website. All Council Members confirmed that they had been unable to create email accounts and access emails using the log-in details provided by the website designers. The Clerk agreed to investigate further. (noted)
- e) Tor Hill Footpath Project -The Council had agreed that in principle the proposals appeared acceptable and that they should be taken forward to the next stage/s. Cllr Hocking updated Council Members on on-going work since the last Council Meeting to firm up the proposals and continuing consultation would take place with all before any final decisions were made. There would be a need for the Council to appoint a Planning Consultant to take the proposals through the planning application stages. (noted)

- f) Kington St Michael Village Hall Clir Allen reported that the Xmas Fayre was scheduled for the 3rd December 2022, 10.00am to 1.00pm. (noted) She also raised the issue of the difficulty that the Village Hall Treasurer had in banking cheques, the Council's method of payment, and suggested that the Council moved to an online banking, BACs, method of payment. The Clerk advised that the two-signature cheque method, being signed at a Council Meeting was the method agreed under Council Standing Orders. These would need changing if the Council determined to move to online banking arrangements. The Council agreed that the possibility of online banking should be investigated further.
- g) Kington St Michael Neighbourhood Plan There had been no change in circumstances since the last Council Meeting. (noted)
- h) Kington St Michael Emergency Plan Cllr Twisse reported that there had been no further local progress since the last Meeting. The Council had been approached by Kington Langley PC for advice on the appointment of a Community Emergency Volunteer since a longstanding volunteer had retired and they were having difficulty in finding a replacement. They had asked if the Council had appointed one and what had they been asked to take responsibility for in an emergency. Cllr Twisse suggested that in major emergencies the blue light emergency services would take over and would require a local contact point to assist them if necessary. The Community Emergency Volunteer role depended on the requirements of the Emergency Plan, acting as a coordinator for area volunteers in a similar manner as Neighbourhood Watch Teams and being the link with Wiltshire Emergency Team. The Community Emergency Volunteer held the database of local emergency volunteers making contact with them when required. It was suggested that the "job" was what the person made of it and could facilitate a yearly emergency training event on similar lines that Wiltshire Council held. (noted)
- i) Village Newsletter There were no issues raised. (noted)
- j) Council Award Scheme There was no update. (noted)
- k) Asset Register There was no update. (noted)
- 1) Insurance There was no update. (noted)
- m) Lych Gate/Village Shop/Hall Road Area Maintenance/Conditions Upgrade (LGVSHRU) including the Registration of Land and Buildings. Since the Council last met they had been invited by Wiltshire Council to submit comments or information on the proposal to upgrade Path No 12 to a Byway Open to All Traffic. A comprehensive response had been submitted by former Councillor Sandra Eaton, the Council's nominee, on the Council's behalf. She was thanked for her continuing efforts in the matter. Cllr Gamble reported that he had been able to ascertain the historic boundaries of land and buildings and the registration plan could now be produced and forwarded to the Council's Solicitor. (noted)
- n) Community Safety/Neighbourhood Watch: There was no update on this occasion. (noted)
- o) Data Protection. GDPR There was no update required. (noted)
- p) Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebration Bench. The Council had purchased a Platinum Jubilee Bench and the preferred site remained at The Ham as previously

agreed. The Council agreed to ask Wiltshire Highways if there was a suitable position on public land that did not interfere with highway visibility. Cllr Allen advised that she was willing to organise any local celebrations in connection with the Coronation of King Charles III in 2023. (noted)

22/49 CLERKS REPORT

The following items were received for decision, information, and circulation and for future discussion and matters arising and updates from previous Meeting/s.

a) Chippenham Local Highway and Footpath Group (LHFIG) Formerly CATG). The LHFIG had met on the 26th July 2022. The (Note Tracker (Minutes) from the Meeting had been received and circulated. The Advisory Crossing improvements had been estimated to cost £5,350.00 with the Parish Council support requested being £1,600.00. The Council agreed to this request. Cllr Gamble proposed, Cllr Allen seconded and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY

The next LHFIG Meeting was scheduled for 4th October 2022 at 10.00am being held by Microsoft Teams. The Agenda for the Meeting had been received and circulated. The Meeting link had been circulated. (noted)

- b) Wiltshire Operational Flood Group North. Flood Group Hybrid Meetings had been held 21st July 2022. (Notes of the Meeting had been received and circulated) and 22nd September 2022. The Council was always invited to attend and to raise any local concerns. The next Meeting was scheduled for Thursday 24th November 2022, 9.30am to 11.30am at a venue to be confirmed. (noted)
- c) Highway Parking The Ham. The Council had considered the issue of highway parking at The Ham and the resulting highway safety issues. The Council had agreed that rather than taking a formal approach through requesting Police action the Council felt that in the first instance a polite leaflet drop and an article in the Newsletter raising general concerns on highway parking may persuade "culprits" to think twice. There had been little impact to date and the Council agreed that they would seek the advice of the Community Police Officer who may provide assistance to resolve the issues.
- d) A350 Traffic Light Cross Roads. The Council had advised Kington Langley Parish Council that they were supportive of remedial measures. The request had been considered by LHFIG on the 26th July 2022 and the Officers were to investigate further. (noted)
- e) Stanton Lane 4 way Highway Fingerpost Sign. The Council had agreed to replace the Stanton Lane fingerpost sign with a traditional historic cast metal design including a fourth finger indicating Easton Piercy. The order had been placed with delivery costs shared by Seagry and Dauntsey Parish Councils. (noted)
- Community Speedwatch-Speed Indication Devices (SIDS)-Autospeedwatch Devices. There was no change in circumstances since the last Council Meeting. The Council had requested the highway survey and had been advised by Wiltshire Highways that there was to be a delay in completing this. (noted) Cllr Twisse suggested that with the delay in traffic survey, Community Speedwatch, Autospeedwatch and SIDs and no immediate progress likely an option might be the installation of personal speed detectors that would be a start in identifying

speeding problems. She offered to purchase and site one on her property. The Council agreed to reimburse the costs involved. Cllr Allen proposed, Cllr Gamble seconded and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY

- g) Community Speedwatch Team. There was no change in circumstances since the last Council Meeting. (noted)
- h) Speed Identification Devices (SIDs). There was no change in circumstances since the last Council Meeting. (noted)
- i) Pavement Parking-Provision of Bollards. There was no change in circumstances since the last Council Meeting. (noted)
- j) Asset of Community Value The Plough Inn, Kington Langley. There was no update on this occasion. (noted)
- k) Parish Council Database. There was no change in circumstances since the last Council Meeting. Council Members were reminded again to invite those within their own "Address Book" to register. (noted)
- 1) Parish Council Grants Policy. The Parish Council had adopted their Grants Policy in June 2010. A copy was circulated to Council Members. It was appropriate for the Council to consider whether the Policy was still appropriate for 2022. Following consideration the Council agreed that no changes were required and that, although limited by Statute, the availability of Section 137 grants should be locally publicised. Cllr Allen proposed, Cllr Macdonald seconded and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY
- m) Wiltshire Council Chippenham and Villages Area Board and Chippenham Community Area Parish Forum. The Area Board had met on Monday 26th September 2022 in Yatton Keynell Village Hall, Biddestone Lane, Yatton Keynell. The Council had been made aware that Mr Ollie Phipps, the Community Engagement Manager, had now left Wiltshire Council. The next Area Board Meeting was scheduled for Monday 12th December 2022 at a venue to be confirmed.

The Parish Forum had recently contacted the Council to advise that there was an intention to re-start Meetings and for the Council to advise who their appointed representative/s were. Cllr Gamble and Cllr Allen advised that they would be interested. The Council suggested that an appropriate Agenda item for the Forum would be traffic calming so that the whole Community Area could be involved in solutions. (noted)

- n) Wiltshire Council Chippenham Climate & Ecological Emergency Forum. The Council was reminded that a "Community Conference" was arranged for the 6th and 7th October 2022 in the Neeld Community and Arts Centre. (noted)
- o) Community First AGM. The Council had received an invitation to attend the Community First AGM to be held on Wednesday 12th October 2022, 5.30-7.30pm in Devizes Town Hall. (noted)
- p) **CPRE Wiltshire AGM.** The Council had received an invitation to attend the CPRE Wiltshire AGM held on Thursday 22nd September 2022 in The Corn Exchange, Devizes. (noted)

- q) Wiltshire Council Briefing Note 22-18. The Council noted receipt of a Briefing Note in regards to the Wiltshire Community Governance Review, commencing 19th August 2022. (noted)
- r) Wiltshire Council Briefing Note 22-19. The Council noted receipt of a Briefing Note in regards to the Wiltshire Community Governance Review Stage 3. On this occasion there were no implications for the Parish as they related to the Calne and Malmesbury areas. (noted)
- s) St John Ambulance. The Council had received a request for financial support towards the funding of a new Community Support Vehicle. Following consideration the Council agreed not to provide support. Proposed Clir Gamble, seconded Clir Allen and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY
- t) Wiltshire Citizens Advice. The Council had received a request for financial support towards the funding of the service. The Council had previously supported a Section 137 Grant. Following consideration the Council agreed that a donation of £100,00 should be made. Proposed Cllr Gamble, seconded Cllr Allen and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY

The Council in acknowledging the valuable service given by Citizens Advice and the declining economic circumstances suggested that these should be advertised in the Newsletter and on the Community website.

- u) Autumn Planting Financial Support. The Council had financially supported the replanting of the High Street walled flowerbed by volunteers for the Platinum Jubilee Celebrations. The volunteers had now approached the Council for support towards the planting of the flowerbed with a range of bulbs for the Spring that would re-grow year on year. Following consideration the Council agreed that a donation of £50,00 should be made. Proposed Clir Gamble, seconded Clir Allen and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY
- v) Wiltshire Flood Warden Training Day Wednesday 21st September 2022. The Council had received notification, together with an invitation to join an interactive day of presentations and tabletop exercises. The event had been postponed because of the death of Queen Elizabeth II and would be re-arranged (noted)
- w) KSM Information Booklet. The Council had historically funded and produced a Village Information Booklet, intended to assist "newcomers" to the Village and others. Recent copies had often been held in the Community Shop. The content was being regularly updated and held in readiness for a future print run. The Council had been approached to see if there were any plans to print any more copies. The Council felt that the usefulness of hard copy may be limited and that it could be more beneficial if the information was published online and through other mediums. Before any decision was made the Council asked to be reminded what information was contained in the booklet and whether all details were accurate. A recent copy would be obtained and circulated for further consideration.
- x) Bybrook Homes For Ukraine. This small group of volunteers were supporting both Ukrainian refugees and their hosts within the Bybrook Community. In early April this year (2022) they had not been sure if they would be needed or if any Ukrainian refugees would come to the local area. They had advised that Kington St Michael was currently home to six refugees, the youngest being 4 years old.

There was an opportunity for them to explain what help they could offer and the Council agreed that they be invited to the next Council Meeting to update the Council.

y) Neighbourhood Watch Association AGM. The Council had received an invitation to attend the Wiltshire NHW Association AGM to be held on Saturday 8th October 2022, 10.00am until midday at Wiltshire Police HQ, Devizes SN10 2DN. It was a Hybrid Meeting and the Agenda and link details have already been circulated to Members. (noted)

22/50 COUNCILLORS REPORTS AND ITEMS FOR NEXT FULL COUNCIL MEETING

There were no issues raised.

22/51 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next Council Meeting was confirmed as 7.15pm, Thursday 17th November 2022.

Signed:

Chair, Kington St Michael Parish Council

Date: 17th November 2022