



Minutes of the meeting of the Kings Walden Parish Council held in the Village Hall, Breachwood Green on Monday 20th June 2022 at 7.30pm

Councillors: Maria Cann, Owen Connolly, Joe Graziano, Brenda James, Paul Harman (Chair)
Amanda King

In attendance: the clerk and RFO, Lisa Lathane, County and District Councillor David Barnard, 3 representatives of Evolution Power and 42 members of the public

2.1 (Agenda 1) Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Chamberlin due to a work commitment. Members resolved to accept his apologies.

2.2 (Agenda 2) Chairman's Remarks

Members were reminded of the council's code of conduct and the requirement to make Declarations of Pecuniary Interest.

2.3 (Agenda 3) Public participation.

1. Evolution Power presented their Solar Farm Proposal to the meeting.
 - a. The consultation runs until the end of the month, views can be made here <https://www.wandonendsolar.co.uk/Contact+Us>.
 - b. The existing footpaths will remain and be fenced off with 8m wide walkways.
 - c. Large containers will be dotted around the site to house lithium batteries.
 - d. Wildlife studies have been carried out and badger sets etc will be protected.
 - e. A planning application will be submitted in Summer 2022 when all residents can comment on the application.
 - f. Members of the public expressed their views / concerns and asked questions regarding the proposal.

Cllr James left after the Evolution Power Presentation due to an urgent family matter.

Evolution Power's Representatives, and 40 members of the public left the meeting.

2. Councillor David Barnard addressed the meeting:
 - a. Cllr Barnard offered apologies from Cllrs Frost and Strong who were unable to attend the meeting.
 - b. Support will be offered to the community in regards to the application for the Solar Farm.
 - c. The Local Plan: The Inspector has announced that he is ready to submit his comments on the Local Plan. It is thought that a consultation will then run from September on the suggested amendments.
 - d. Boundary Review: there is a Boundary Review taking place which will reconfigure the current constituency boundaries.
 - e. School places for September 2022 have been allocated. 96% of children received their first choice.
 - f. The Police Crime Commissioner is working on speeding with extra Camera Vans being used. A Fly Tipping Grant has been set up to help landowners who get persistent fly tipping on their land to be able to clear the waste. It has also been set up to help make these areas safer.
 - g. There are Community Grants available to help organisations who have struggled after Covid-19.



h. Cllr Barnard has his Locality Budget open for grant applications.

2.4 (Agenda 4) To adopt the minutes of the parish council meeting held on 16th May 2022.
The minutes were adopted, and the chairman was authorised to sign.

2.5.1 (Agenda 5) Matters arising from minutes of 16th May 2022.
The Chair thanked the Events Committee who had organised the Platinum Jubilee Event.

2.6 (Agenda 6) To consider co-option of applicants to the council.

- An application for co-option had been received from Mr Owen Connolly. Mr Connolly lives in Breachwood Green and is keen to help the Parish on the big issues it faces.
- It was **RESOLVED** to co-opt Mr Connolly as a councillor.
- Mr Connolly signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office in view of the clerk and took his seat on the council.
- The Chair welcomed Cllr Connolly to the council.

2.7 (Agenda 12) Events Committee Proposal
Members **AGREED** to move this item up the agenda to allow residents to leave after the discussion.

1. The Clerk and Breachwood Green Resident Leigh Ward spoke to the council requesting that the Events Committee is made permanent. The Committee would work on events to bring the community together, starting with a Village Day in late May / early June 2023. Any costs can be built into the 2023/24 Budget.
2. Members **AGREED** to make the Committee permanent comprising of Cllr Cann, the clerk and Leigh Ward.
3. Members **AGREED** to the organisation of a Village Day for 2023.

2.8 (Agenda 7) To receive the clerk's report including an update on ongoing projects

1. Changing Rooms: The clerk and Chair have gone through the original spec and scaled it back to just the essential works. It will still cost approximately £30-40,000 and so will need to be registered on Contracts Finder. The clerk will organise.
2. Screen and Projector: Dimensions of the hall have been sent to a specialist company for an idea of equipment and prices.
3. Bank Mandates: These are ready to sign to add the Chair and Cllr Chamberlin as signatories.
4. Operation London Bridge Training: as agreed at the last meeting this has been booked for the clerk to attend. Training will take place online on the 25th July 2022.
5. Stepping Stone Replacement: Ollie Bertie will carry out the work as requested, he will be in contact with a date to carry out the work.

2.9 (Agenda 8) Airport Noise Monitoring Installation
Cllr Graziano reminded the meeting of the previous decision made on Noise Monitoring Equipment which was put on hold due to Covid-19 and fewer flights.

1. Members **AGREED** that the clerk and Cllr Graziano will investigate the costs of Noise Monitoring Equipment again as they may have increased since quotes were last obtained.
2. Contact will be made with Luton Airport to try to ascertain what data they would be willing to accept in regards to proof of noise pollution from aircraft.
3. Cllr Graziano informed the meeting that the minutes of the last LLACC meeting are still to be received.
4. The council will contact ICCAN / CAA to discuss the issue.



- 2.10 (Agenda 9) To review and consider the Employment Committee recommendations.**
The Chair of the Employment Committee, Cllr Graziano informed the meeting of the Employment Committee's recommendations following their last meeting.
1. Members **AGREED** to the Clerk/RFO's proposed employment contract with agreed amendments.
 2. Members **AGREED** to increase the clerk's contracted hours to 18 per week.
 3. Members **AGREED** to the recommendation of paying the clerk office costs of £75 per month from July 2022 onwards.
 4. Members **AGREED** to the recommendation of backdating 15 months of office costs at £50 per month for costs already incurred since the clerk's start date of March 8th 2021.
- 2.11 (Agenda 10) To consider any grant applications**
1. Cllr Graziano declared an interest in this item as a Trustee of the charity Breachwood Green, Charity Number 1193397.
 2. The application was discussed from charity Breachwood Green for £250 towards the cost of litter picking equipment and insurance. Members debated the application and whether it would be preferable to subcontract the litter picking service to Breachwood Green.
 3. Members **RESOLVED** to subcontract this service to Breachwood Green and £250 would be paid once an invoice had been issued to the parish council.
- 2.12 (Agenda 11) Review of Stopsley Sharks Licence**
1. The Licence for Stopsley Sharks to use the Recreation Ground on Saturdays for the 2022/23 season is up for review. They are keen to remain here and work with the Parish Council and community.
 2. Members **AGREED** to reissue the licence for the upcoming season. The clerk will issue the licence and an invoice for the year.
- 2.13 (Agenda 13) To review training opportunities**
1. Members **AGREED** that Cllrs Cann and Connolly should be booked onto New Councillor training.
 2. It was **AGREED** that Cllr Connolly should be booked onto a relevant planning course.
- 2.14 (Agenda 14) Finance and Risk**
1. Payments made were noted and can be seen in Annex 1.
 2. The RFO presented the Annual Governance and Accountability Review and end of year accounts which were noted.
 3. Members reviewed and noted the internal auditor's report.
 4. Annual Governance and Accountability Review (AGAR).
 - a. Members considered the eight applicable statements in the Annual Governance Statement 2021/22. Members **RESOLVED** to approve the Annual Governance Statement.
 - b. Members reviewed the Accounting Statement for 2021/22. Members **RESOLVED** to approve the Annual Accounting Statement.
 5. Payments for Authorisation: Members **AGREED** to pay the following invoices:
 - a. £738 to JC Agriculture Ltd for MUGA Maintenance and the installation of the Kissing Gate at Ley Green Play Area.
 - b. £160 to Karen Murphy, Internal Auditor for the 2021 Audit.
 - c. £170 to Karen Murphy, Internal Auditor for the 2022 Audit.



2.15 (Agenda 15) Planning

1. 22/00419/FPH 2 Chapel Road, Breachwood Green, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG4 8NU. Erection of detached wooden summer house in front garden following demolition of existing wooden summer house in the front garden. This application was REFUSED permission.
2. It was **AGREED** that the clerk will write to Highways regarding the speed sign that has been removed by the Fox Pub, and the No Through Road sign for Orchard Way.

2.16 (Agenda 16) Matters for future consideration

None.

The meeting closed at 22.01 p.m.

Next Meeting: Monday 18th July 2022 19:30

ANNEX 1

Kings Walden Parish Council - Summary Financial Report and Bank Reconciliation as at 15th June 2022										
Current Account									£	
									Bank Balance at 13th May 2022 £ 14,544.99	
Payments authorised at meeting:										
Date	Payee	Description	Payment Ref	Net	VAT	Total				
18 May 2022	Zen Internet Ltd	Admin	P-2023-012	£ 35.00	£ 7.00	£ 42.00				
20 May 2022	Scottish Power	Youth Hut Electricity	P-2023-013	£ 2.42	£ 0.12	£ 2.54				
25 May 2022	Outdoor Cinema Hire UK LTD	Platinum Jubilee	P-2023-014	£ 876.00	£ -	£ 876.00				
25 May 2022	SLCC	Training	P-2023-015	£ 30.00	£ 6.00	£ 36.00				
25 May 2022	Breachwood Green Pre-School	Grant	P-2023-016	£ 200.00	£ -	£ 200.00				
25 May 2022	Breachwood Green Pre-School	Grant	P-2023-017	£ 641.00	£ -	£ 641.00				
25 May 2022	Lisa Lathane	Expenses	P-2023-018	£ 162.12	£ 13.86	£ 175.98				
25 May 2022	Carter Jonas	Rent	P-2023-019	£ 50.00	£ -	£ 50.00				
30 May 2022	Came and Company	Insurance	P-2023-020	£ 1,326.08	£ -	£ 1,326.08				
30 May 2022	Lisa Lathane	Expenses	P-2023-021	£ 144.75	£ 24.26	£ 168.91				
6 June 2022	Zen Internet Ltd	Admin	P-2023-022	£ 5.99	£ 1.20	£ 7.19				
10 June 2022	Google	Admin	P-2023-023	£ 9.20	£ -	£ 9.20				
				£ 3,482.56	£ 52.44	£ 3,534.90				
Monies received:										
Date	From						Total			
27 May 2022	Breachwood Green Village Hall	Rent	R-2023-904			£ 1.00				
						£ 1.00				
									Bank Balance at 15th June 2022 £ 11,011.09	
Business Bank Deposit Account										
									Bank Balance at 13th May 2022 £ 32,910.82	
Date	Recipient						Total			
						£ -				
Monies Received										
9 June 2022	Interest						£ 0.28			
						£ 0.28				
									Bank Balance at 15th June 2022 £ 32,911.10	
									Total bank balances £ 43,922.19	