## KINGS LANGLEY PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES of the Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday $1^{\text {st }}$ November 2022.

Present: Cllrs Anderson, Angiolini (Vice Chair), Button (Chair), Collins, De Silva, Morrish, Rogers and Sinclair.

## Also Present: Mr Paul Dunham, Clerk to the Council.

The Chair welcomed all to the meeting.

1. Apologies for Absence.
1.1 Members received and accepted apologies for absence from Cllrs Johnson and McLean.
2. Declarations of Interest.
2.1 None.
3. Public Participation / Question Time / Urgent Planning \& Licencing Matters
3.1 There were no members of the public present.
3.2 Urgent Planning \& Licencing Matters.
3.2.1 Consideration of Planning Applications as listed here:

| Reference | Address | Details of Application | Submission | Reason (if any) |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 22/03076/FUL | 9 Vicarage Lane | Demolition of shed and replacement <br> with new workshop with bathroom <br> and office. | No objection |  |
| 22/03203/FHA | 3 Belham Road | Single storey rear and side extension. | No objection |  |

3.2.2 Other Planning \& Licencing Matters (as specified on the agenda).
3.2.2.1 None.
3.2.3 Any Other Planning \& Licencing Business (Not Requiring Formal Decision). 3.2.3.1 None.
4. Police Matters and Other Services.
4.1 Crime reports.
4.1.1 PC Stevens attended the meeting remotely and introduced the latest set of crime statistics, as shown in the table below.

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| D1R KINGS LANGLEY Crimes 2022 | JAN | FEB | MAR | APR | MAY | JUN | JUL | AUG | SEPT | OCT | NOV | DEC | Tots |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Burglary Dwelling | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |  |  | 5 |
| Attempt Burglary Dwelling | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |  |  | 0 |
| Burglary (other - business \& non dwelling) | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 |  |  | 6 |
| Attempt Burglary other | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |  |  | 4 |
| robbery | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |  |  | 5 |
| Theft of motor vehicle | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |  |  | 4 |
| Attempt theft of motor vehicle | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |  |  | 0 |
| Theft from motor vehicle | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 |  |  | 6 |
| Attempt theft from motor vehicle | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |  |  | 0 |
| Vehicle interference | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |  |  | 4 |
| Damage to motor vehicle | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 |  |  | 10 |
| Criminal damage | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 2 | 1 |  |  | 12 |
| Arson | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |  |  | 0 |
| Assault (common and ABH) | 4 | 6 | 5 | 1 | 6 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 8 | 6 |  |  | 44 |
| Serious assault (GBH) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |  |  | 0 |
| Theft from shop | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |  |  | 2 |
| Theft other (all other types of theft related offe | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 |  |  | 17 |
| Drug related offences | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 2 |  |  | 11 |
| TOTALS | 10 | 9 | 14 | 11 | 19 | 15 | 14 | 7 | 16 | 15 |  |  | 130 |
| ASB related calls | 3 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 9 | 7 | 8 | 12 | 6 | 7 |  |  | 63 |
| TOTALS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total number of incidents reported to police | 85 | 94 | 104 | 82 | 109 | 87 | 120 | 112 | 94 | 87 |  |  |  |
| Athena Total Crime Investigations | 22 | 25 | 22 | 27 | 29 | 20 | 29 | 17 | 24 | 27 |  |  |  |
| Relevant Crime investiations | 10 | 9 | 14 | 11 | 19 | 15 | 14 | 7 | 16 | 15 |  |  |  |

4.1.2 PC Stevens added that there had been no reported incidents related to Halloween. There had been no incidents of real note for the month. Regarding ASBs, the main point to note was the toilet block in Dronken Lane where there were frequent gatherings of young people. He was updated with the history of the toilets and that they were the responsibility of the Borough Council. The Clerk added that the High Street traders had organised an event on Halloween, which may have helped in reducing incidents.
4.1.3 Members raised their concerns that the figure for assaults was rather high. PC Stevens responded that he felt this was a result of recent requirements to recall all mentions of "assault", even if they were very minor or proved to be not an offence.
4.1.4 Cllr Anderson added that the toilets are planned to be developed as and when the telephone exchange is. PC Stevens responded that the site has been registered as a personal "hot spot".
4.1.5 PC Stevens reiterated the importance of reporting incidents to the police.
4.1.6 Cllr Anderson asked if PC Stevens was aware of incidents reported this day of people passing through gardens in Rucklers Lane who appeared to be attempting burglaries. PC Stevens undertook to check and get back as soon as possible.
4.2 Any Other Police and Neighbourhood Watch Matters.
4.2.1 None.
5. Hertfordshire County Council Matters.

### 5.1 General Matters.

5.1.1 Cllr Roberts was not present.
5.2 Highways Matters.
5.2.1 It was noted that Cllr Roberts had undertaken to provide an update on the proposed works at the M25 roundabout, but that this had not been forthcoming.
6. Minutes of Previous Meeting(s).
6.1 The minutes of the meeting of $4^{\text {th }}$ October 2022 had not been completed and it was agreed that they would be presented for approval at the next meeting, $6^{\text {th }}$ December 2022.

## 7. Matters Arising.

7.1 None.

PC Stevens returned to the meeting and reported that his colleague, Sam Carroll was dealing with the incidents in Rucklers Lane, and that he would be picking it up later on his shift.
8. Reports.
8.1 Standing Committees.
8.1.1 Planning \& Licensing Committee.
8.1.1.1 The minutes of the meeting(s) held on $27^{\text {th }}$ September 2022 were adopted as a true record.
8.2 Chair's Reports.
8.2.1 Nothing to report.
8.3 Reports from Chairs of other Committees / Groups.
8.3.1 Best Gardens' Competition.

Cllr Angiolini reported that $£ 400$ was raised on the night and that it had been agreed that the Council will top this up in lieu of the cost of the catering provided free of charge by Dallings
8.3.2 Christmas Lights Festival.

On Cllr Angiolini's behalf, the Clerk reported that the organisation of the event was now just about up to speed. However, the County had still not replaced the switch/timer in the lamp columns that had replaced. He had chased this this morning.
8.4 Clerk's Report / Action List.
8.4.1 No additional.
8.5 Village Warden's Activities, Priorities and Planning.
8.5.1 The Warden has started painting internally at Charter Court. He would soon be planting the flower beds. He had already prepared the troughs for Sunnyside to plant.

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Further, it was agreed that the Clerk would obtain a quote for the replacement of the lighting in the courtyard, although he raised the issue of cost sharing with the nextdoor tenant.

## 9. Finance Matters

9.1 Schedule of Payments for October 2022.
9.1.1 It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED:

That the payment schedule for October 2022 in the sum of $£ 11,168.29$ be approved, and that the Clerk be authorised to issue the appropriate payments.
9.1.2 The Chair then signed the schedule of payments.
9.2 Examination and signing of the Council's Bank Account Statements as at $30^{\text {th }}$ September 2022. Members had received copies of the summaries.
9.2.1 The Chair examined the Council's bank account statements and signed a statement to that effect on behalf of the Members that the balances as at the above date were:

| Current Account: | $£ 5,000.00$ |
| :--- | ---: |
| Reserve Account: | $£ 188,688.09$ |
| NS\&I Investment Account: | $£ 45,869.91$ |

9.3 Internal Audit fee letter for the financial year ending 31st March 2023.
9.3.1 Members considered the letter that had been included with the agenda. It contained two options for the internal audit, one to continue under the current arrangements, the other for an enhanced audit based on the 2021 Practitioners' Guide. The Council agreed to continue with the current audit test programme.
9.4 Essex \& Herts Air Ambulance.
9.4.1 The Essex \& Herts Air Ambulance is active in this area and attended an incident in Kings Langley a short time ago. It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED:

That the Council makes a donation of $£ 200$ to the above charity.
9.4.2 Cllr Angiolini gave the Clerk a personal contribution for him to forward.
10. Dacorum Borough Council and Other Public Bodies.
10.1 Dacorum Borough Council.
10.1.1 Cllrs Anderson and Johnson - Reports and Members' questions

Cllr Anderson advised that as part of its budgetary review and the enormous pressures posed by the current cost of living increase, the Borough Council would be introducing an annual fee of $£ 45$ for the green wheelie bin service. The winter months will still not be covered.
11. Members Items / Reports and Questions (not included elsewhere).
11.1 Parish / Neighbourhood Plan Reports.
11.1.1 Neighbourhood Plan (Cllr Morrish).

Cllr Morrish updated Members on the arrangements for the referendum.

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### 11.1.2 Parish Plan - Environment Group (Cllr Button). Cllr Button had nothing to report.

11.1.3 Parish Plan - Leisure Group (Cllr Johnson), Cllr Johnson was not present.
11.1.4 Parish Plan - Transport Group (Cllr McLean). Nothing to report.
11.2 Geographical Areas Reports
11.2.1 Abbots Rise area (Cllr Angiolini).

Nothing to report.
11.2.2 The Common, Vicarage Lane / Langley Hill / Great Park (Cllr Button) Nothing to report.
11.2.3 Hempstead Road areas (Cllr Collins).

Cllr Colling was pleased to report that Highways had cleared the slurry from RoW 10. There were works on the bus stops, presumably to accommodate the entrance to Rectory Farm. Many of the verges had been churned into mud, especially where some residents were crossing them to park their vehicles. Cllr Morrish continued to pursue the non-repair to the footway to Common Lane. The repairs to the hitching rail would still be pursued when the Clerk has time.
11.2.4 Blackwell Road area (Cllr De Silva).

Nothing to report.
11.2.5 London Road area (Cllr De Silva).

Nothing to report.
11.2.6 Watford Road area (Cllr Johnson).

No report.
11.2.7 Rucklers area (Cllr Morrish).

Rucklers Lane was still being plagued with utility and road works.
11.2.8 High Street area (Cllr Rogers).

Cllr Anderson was pleased to report that the County still planned to place a bus stop shelter outside the services club.
11.2.9 Coniston Road area (Cllr Sinclair).

Nothing to report.
11.3 Village Garden (Cllr Johnson).
11.3.1 The Clerk reported that the Council had taken delivery of a number of yew tree shrubs to replace the box leading to the war memorial. There was a challenge in removing the old stumps and roots.
11.4 Litter Picks
11.4.1 No report.
11.5 Sunderland's Yard Allotments
11.5.1 No report.
12. Kings Langley Parish Council Representatives on Outside Bodies.
12.1 The Kings Langley Community Benefit Society (KLCBS) (Cllr Morrish).
12.1.1 No report.

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### 12.2 Kings Langley Community Association.

12.2.1 The AGM had taken place. The issues with overhanging trees had not been resolved.

## 13. Council Surgeries.

### 13.1 No report.

14. Other Matters (as specified on the agenda).
14.1 Remembrance Services.
14.1.1 Remembrance Day ( $13^{\text {th }}$ November (Sunday), 3pm)

The Clerk advised that this all appeared to be in hand. The Council would be providing the refreshments. The Chair would be laying a Council wreath at this service.
14.1.2 Armistice Day ( $11^{\text {th }}$ November (Friday), 11am.). The Vice-Chair would be laying a Council wreath at this service.
14.1.3 To approve the cost of a wreaths and a donation to the Poppy Appeal.

It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED that the Council would make a donation / payment of $£ 200$ in respect of the above.
15. Any Other Business ((Not Requiring Formal Decision).
15.1 Cllr Anderson confirmed that the post works along Hempstead Road and Coniston Road were progressing.
15.2 The Chair advised that the Personnel Committee would be discussing the selection of a replacement for the Clerk after this meeting.

16 Exclusion of the Public - the following resolution was passed:
That, in accordance with Kings Langley Parish Council Standing Order 17(q), under schedule 12 of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended to schedule 12(A) by the Freedom of Information Act 2000, in the view of the special and/or confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the public be temporarily excluded, and they are instructed to withdraw.

## PART 2

17. Budget 2022-23
17.1 Cllr Anderson advised that there was a delay in the production of the budget for several reasons, not least because of the forthcoming Autumn Statement, which will include changes to national insurance and, possibly, business rates. He added that there was a potential of going overbudget in the current year.
17.2 It was noted that the Council is not required to go digital with its VAT accounting because it is registered like a charity rather than the normal registration.

Meeting closed 21:02.

