

**DRAFT MINUTES**  
**MEETING OF KINGTON & DORMSTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
 Clerk Lisa Cope Tel- 07773793185 Email [kndparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:kndparishcouncil@gmail.com)  
 Walcote, Top Street, Charlton, Worcs WR10 3LE

**Held in Kington & Dormston Village Hall**  
**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at 7:30pm**

**Present:**

Cllr M. Tilt (Chair)	Cllr S. Richins
Cllr R. Drake	Cllr T. Richards
Cllr P. Collins	Cllr V. Longmore
County Cllr L. Robinson	

**In Attendance:** Clerk and five members of the public were in attendance including representatives from Neighbourhood Watch and Hannah Forrester from the Village Hall committee.

**PUBLIC QUESTION TIME – None**

1. **APOLOGIES-** Apologies were received from District Cllr Dawkes and Cllrs I. Bull and E. Faizey.
2. **DECLARATION OF INTEREST-** None declared
3. **GRANTS FOR DISPENSATION-** None received.
4. **MINUTES-** The minutes from the meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2023 were approved and true and correct as proposed by Cllr Tilt and seconded by Cllr Collins
5. **PROGRESS REPORTS:**
  - a) **District Councillors Report- Nick Dawkes-**  
No report
  - b) **County Councillors Report-Linda Robinson**

Please find below my first report for your parish council in 2024. I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy New year and a productive one for your community.

**Flooding and Rainfall**

This past month has been disruptive to most with travel and homes being affected by the flooding of the rivers.

Only days ago, there were 14 flood alerts in effect in Worcestershire, with multiple road closures including major bridge crossings on the Avon & Severn.

From earlier this week, we discovered that the total rainfall for 2023, recorded on the Civic Centre weather station, is 1036mm – this is the first time it's exceeded the 1 metre mark. Looking back through archive local rainfall totals, this is the highest on record certainly for at least 60 years.

Highlights from our data (since 2008) are record rainfall for October and the second-highest December total.

We will no doubt find out soon enough how 2023 has gone down nationally and while it may not be the wettest on record across the board, it certainly looks that way for our locality.

During the latest flooding County's Highways & Transport Control Centre were working from 8am till 8pm.

For future reference see below for useful contacts:

To report an urgent issue, you can call 01905 845676 and speak to one of their advisors.

Alternatively, you can find flooding advice and how to report issues at <https://worcestershire.gov.uk/council-services/environment/flooding>

### **Call To Action**

Does someone in your community want to plant a Community Orchard in Wychavon?

Through the Trees Call To Action Project (TCAP), Wychavon District Council and the UK Shared Prosperity Fund partnered with The Heart of England Forest are offering Wychavon Community Groups & Schools, trees to plant an Orchard. Orchard planting will be supported by TCAP officers, who offer free advice and guidance throughout the process.

If you are a Community Group or School who may have space for an Orchard and you would like to know more about this offer or if you are considering a community or large-scale tree planting project, please get in touch. For tree planting advice in your community, please contact our team: [TCAP@heartofenglandforest.org](mailto:TCAP@heartofenglandforest.org) You can find out more about the Trees Call To Action Project here: <https://bit.ly/3QNALQW>

### **SWEP**

The Severe Weather Emergency Protocol (SWEP) will be in effect again this week due to the expected cold weather.

The public are asked to make sure that if they see homeless people, to share the details with StreetLink. Residents are reminded that if they come across a rough sleeper, to report the information such as the location to the StreetLink service at <https://bit.ly/3GSDTXf>

StreetLink will then share the details with us and our partners, and together, we will make sure that the person in need receives the support they deserve.

### **Electoral Boundary Changes**

The updated consultation to boundary changes has been released this week and I am pleased to report that Kington and Dormston is recommended to now remain in Upton Snodsbury Ward. This was noted in the report to have been due to persuasion from submissions by the Parish Council, Cllr Robinson and three residents who wished to remain in the Ward and not be moved to Harvington Division. Cllr Robinson suggested those write back if they are pleased with the suggestions as it is still currently under consultation.

#### **6. HIGHWAYS**

Two issues with gullies being blocked from the new road surfacing were highlighted by Cllr Richens and reported to Highways in December, one has been checked already.

The no through road sign requested by Cllr Richards is now in place.

Cllr Collins requested the Clerk write to Flyford parish Council as the Flyford to Radford hedge is now overgrown forcing vehicles into the middle of the highway- Clerk to action.

#### **7. LENGTHSMAN**

The lengthsman received training from the previous lengthsman in December to help familiarise him with the key route in the village and issues. He has requested eight traffic cones and a sign to use when working in Kington, Cllr Tilt proposed that these were purchased as seconded by Cllr Collins and all were in agreement- Clerk to action.

## 8. PLANNING

There were no new applications to consider.

## 9. FINANCE –

a) The following payments were approved by all Cllrs:

Lisa Cope	Salary	£576.00	Cheque 000574
HMRC	Lisa Cope Tax	£144.00	Cheque 000575
Lisa Cope	Expenses	£55.74	Cheque 000576
Luke Farnsworth	Lengthsman consultation	£100.00	Cheque 000577
Paul Caldicott	Lengthsman	£405.00	Cheque 000578
Lisa Cope	Purchase of 8 traffic cones & sign for lengthsman	£122.89	Cheque 000579

b) The bank balance as of 15<sup>th</sup> December 2023 was £6,714.03.

c) The budget for 2024/25 was discussed and options presented by the Clerk, this was confirmed at £8,100 for the year 2024/25 a 6.6% increase on last year as proposed by Cllr Tilt, seconded by Cllr Drake and agreed by all Cllrs present.

## 10. VILLAGE HALL ELECTRICITY

Hannah Forrester attended the meeting and explained that historically the Parish Council has been funding the electricity for the Village Hall. However due to increases this has now become quite an expense at approx. £184 a month.

Due to administrative issues the account was previously unable to be accessed as it was in the previous Clerks name but the current Clerk now has access and will receive the bills.

Hannah explained that this will now make it easier to investigate if the bills are correct or whether the Electricity has been wrongly overpaying for some time but in the meantime asked if the Parish Council could continue to fund the electricity for the last year with a £1000 donation from the Village Hall. Cllr Tilt proposed agreement to this, Cllr Richards agreed and all were in favour.

Clerk to action a change to Smart meters in the Village Hall.

## 11. SMART WATER

Claire Hughes and three members of Neighbourhood Watch attended the meeting to present the work that they have undertaken so far within the village to try and gauge whether residents would like the Smart Water scheme and whether they would register the kits if given to them.

Out of 184 properties only 66 have responded which is 36%. In order for the Village to receive the Smart Water signage which is a key component to the scheme the village would need 75% of the village to register the kits if given to them.

Claire suggested that they give it a bit more time and effort and come back at the March Parish Council meeting with updated numbers for the Parish Council to make a decision- all Cllr agreed and thanked Neighbourhood Watch for their time and effort invested to trying to get the scheme underway.

**12. CORRESPONDENCE-** All discussed within the meeting

## 13. COUNCILLORS REPORTS AND ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

None

**14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING –** The next meeting was agreed for Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2024 starting at 7:30pm in the Village Hall

Signed Chairman.....

Date.....