

# KINGSTON SEYMOUR PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Kingston Seymour Parish Council held on  
**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2018 at 14.00**  
In the Kingston Seymour Village Hall

## Councillors Present:

Mike Sewell (MS) Chairman                      Peter Harris (PH) Vice Chairman  
Paul Cox (PC)    Ian Wariner (IW)

## In attendance:

Steve Dixon (SD) Clerk & RFO                      Jill Iles (JI), District Councillor                      16 Parishioners

### **1. Apologies for absence**

Councillors Caroline Harris and Fred Malton

### **2. Declarations of Interest on items on the Agenda**

None

### **3. To provide an overview of planning application 18/P/4758/FUL**

The Clerk delivered a presentation which provided the relevant factual elements of the application including:

- construction of a 1.4 km shared use cycleway from Wick Lane to Yeo Bank Lane
- a new farm bridge over the Congresbury Yeo to “free up” the top of Tutshill Sluice
- assumed use of existing public lanes for the remainder of the North-South route from Clevedon to Weston
- it is not to be a bridleway
- it is separate from the nascent Coastal Footpath proposals

Material from the project documentation – all publicly available on the NSC website – illustrated the route and some of the assumptions made about the use of the existing lanes, their repair and the need for road safety enhancements. A report estimates that the cycle route will attract 160,000 cyclists a year.

The Clerk relayed that comments must be lodged by Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> December and that the planning application would go before NSC’s Planning and Regulatory Committee on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December. JI advised the meeting that the reason for expediting the application was so that sources of Government funding – available until the end of 2018 – needed to be applied for immediately if the application is approved.

### **4. Public Forum**

The Chairman advised that the purpose of the meeting was to ensure that Councillors understood the views of Parishioners and in advance of submitting a formal response to the planning Application on behalf of the Parish. Comments were invited from the floor and a digest of these is below:

- a) Why do we need it at all? Will it really be safer than the A370. At least on the main road there is room for car to overtake cyclists?
- b) Why not have painted cycle lanes – or shared footpaths – alongside the A370?
- c) It’s of little benefit to village residents
- d) Why isn’t the coastal footpath widened to allow cyclists along it – mountain bikers will ride on it anyway
- e) Our lanes are not “quiet” because of the car, lorry deliveries and collections and farm vehicles. Not to mention the current groups of cyclists
- f) There are no pavements in KS therefore the roads are doubly dangerous
- g) There will be problems with parking because of incoming cyclists and walkers
- h) There will be issues on the route around Ham Farm and Seawall Farm

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- i) It is not just the designated route that will become heavy with cyclists as the route will attract those from the east – Yatton and beyond – and these will pass through the village to get to the “route”
- j) This will be exacerbated when the Strawberry Line extension to Kingston Bridge opens
- k) Cyclists already speed through the village
- l) Where is the money for this coming from?
- m) What is Wick St Lawrence’ view on this?
- n) Livestock is regularly moved in Mud Lane – what will happen to this?
- o) We have a lot of horses in our lanes. Groups of cyclists may spook them
- p) Why is the route not a bridleway?

## **5. Summary and Conclusions**

MS summarised the comments into these main themes:

- a) Ours are not “quiet lanes”, therefore we have significant concerns over road safety throughout
- b) There is nowhere for visitors to park
- c) Why isn’t the cycle route merged with the coastal footpath to provide a more significant distance that is away from the public roads
- d) The condition of our lanes is not conducive to safe cycling
- e) Where is the funding coming from

Councillor Jill Iles explained that there were sums of Government money available that could be accessed if the planning permission is granted before the end of 2018. These funds may not be available if an application is made in 2019. This is why the last date for comments is the 4<sup>th</sup> December and after that, the application will go to NSC’s Planning & Regulatory Committee on 12<sup>th</sup> December.

MS asked if the Planning Committee would come and visit beforehand and JI said she would try to make that happen. It was suggested that a parishioner attended the committee on the 12<sup>th</sup> to speak in advance of the decision. MS confirmed to attend.

It was proposed by PH, seconded by IW and supported unanimously that whilst the Council was not opposed to access across the sluice, it was opposed to the application in its present form because of the consequences and implications this will have on the whole parish.

*Action: Clerk to draft a formal response for agreement by MS and despatch before the 4<sup>th</sup> December.*

In closing, MS thanked everyone for their attendance and inputs and the meeting was closed at 15.15

*Steve Dixon*

Steve Dixon,  
Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer,  
27<sup>th</sup> November 2018