

## **KINGSTON SEYMOUR PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of a special meeting of Kingston Seymour Parish Council held on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> June at 7.30pm in the foyer, Village Hall

*Declarations of Interest: The Chairman, as a near neighbour, declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 2 and did not vote on this matter.*

### Present:

Councillors John Harris (Chairman), Paul Cox, Fred Malton and Mike Wallis. Leonie Allday, Clerk.

### In attendance:

Nigel Cole, parishioner

### 1. Apologies for absence

Councillors Pete Harris (on holiday), Mike Sewell (RAF commitment) and Bryan Thomas (on holiday)

### 2. Planning Application No. 13/P/0963/F: Dog training arena on land adjoining Pool Farm house, Ham Lane (Miss Margaret Bush) (retrospective)

A site meeting had been held immediately before the meeting. The Chairman asked councillors for their comments. It was regretted that this was a retrospective application. It was noted that the access and sightlines were good and the arena was not visible from the lane. Car parking, on an existing hard standing, was adequate and the existing bridge over the ditch enabled the site to be accessed from the rear (car park). There were jumps etc both inside and outside the fenced arena but all were moveable. The Clerk reported that she had spoken to Ken Kingcott, who lived opposite Pool Farm; he had no objection to the business as currently operating but would be against any expansion.

In discussion it was agreed that whilst the present level of activity gave rise to few concerns, there could be no guarantee that the usage would not escalate. If it did the main issues would probably be noise and traffic. It was agreed that if the officer was minded to grant consent, the Council would ask for conditions to be applied as follows:

- Maximum hours of use to be included in conditions (as per Statement of Use)
- Hours of use to exclude Sundays and Bank Holidays
- No competitive events
- No kennels or any other fixed structures
- Screening of site (hedges) to be maintained to ensure site not visible from the lane

It was proposed PC, seconded MW, and agreed by 2 votes to 1 that the Council would not object to the application but, in the interest of maintaining the tranquillity of this part of the parish, would ask for conditions to be applied as above. The Clerk would make the Council's comments accordingly.

Action: Clerk

### 3. Revised Severn Estuary Flood Risk Management Strategy Consultation

It was noted that the revised proposals looked very different from the initial plans that were issued in 2011. The Parish Council represented by the North Somerset Flood Risk Action Group had been working closely and constructively with the EA for the last 18 months and lessons had been learned. More recent Government climate change / sea level rise predictions had been used, which mirrored more closely what was actually happening, and this had resulted in a considerable decrease in the

amount of compensatory habitat being sought. The EA now expected that most of the requirement could be met from saltmarsh and mudflats being created at Steart Point. There were no “lines on maps” in the revised draft, thus removing the risk of planning blight. The document contained an assurance that no managed realignment would take place without landowners’ consent and there would be no compulsory purchase of land. This would remove farmers’ fear that their livelihoods were threatened.

Invited to comment, NC considered that the whole scheme, whilst more acceptable than the original proposals, remained flawed. However, councillors were inclined to accept that there must be a plan and that these proposals were the best possible outcome in the circumstances. There was no room for complacency as there could be no absolute certainty that things would not change in the future: the Strategy could be derailed by political or scientific developments, a major flood event or by any resurgence of the Barrage proposals. In the meantime, however, the new draft appeared much more acceptable as a way forward for the foreseeable future.

It was proposed (FM, seconded PC) and unanimously agreed that the Council would respond positively to the revised proposals.

The Chairman advised councillors that the Flood Risk Action Group would be considering the revised draft at its next meeting (Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> July).

#### 4. Update on plans to purchase a public access defibrillator

The Clerk had circulated a spreadsheet comparing three different defibrillators; it was generally recognized that the AED Locator Heartsafe package would be the best option. The Chairman reported that he had recently attended a PCAA meeting at which attention had been drawn to a minute from the last Airport Consultative Committee meeting, which suggested that Wrington Sports Club’s application to the Airport Community Fund, which like Kingston’s had been turned down, could be reconsidered if the defibrillator was made available to the wider community. This minute had been forwarded to the Clerk. Since the Parish Council’s application had clearly stated that a defibrillator in Kingston would benefit the whole community, it seemed logical that its application should also be reconsidered. The Clerk had sent an e-mail to the clerk to the funding committee seeking confirmation of this and a reply was awaited. It was agreed that the project would be put on hold pending the outcome of this request. The Clerk would keep councillors informed of any developments.

Action: Clerk

*The meeting closed at 8.30pm*