

## Kingston Village Action Group

### Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 15 December 2020

**1 Present, virtually:** Vicki Scott, Tim Ambrose, John Bewick, Steve Berry, Barrie Lambert, Dinah Morgan, Rob Watson, Tony Wheeler.

**2 Minutes of the meeting** held on 3 November were agreed, subject to the addition of John Bewick among those present then.

#### **3 Matters arising**

##### **3.1 KPC Environment Policy**

This had been agreed by the Council at its last meeting on 11 November, although not everyone at the meeting (the A G meeting, i.e.) had read it. It seemed that the policy document had been divorced from the action plan and that what had been agreed did not actually commit the Council to taking any action. Instead, what were described in the minutes as “action points” would be discussed “for agreement at the January meeting”.

Vicki undertook to circulate the document to all present.

##### **3.2 Speed sensors**

The long awaited speed sensors had been ordered for Wellgreen Lane/Ashcombe Lane. One would be installed near the garden centre and the other near The Avenue

#### **4 Finance**

4.1 Following further donations after the appeal for financial support for the Group in the November issue of The Kingston News, the account balance now stood at £556.95. Of this, £28.99 was owed to Steve for the purchase of a large grass rake. One member of the Group had set up a monthly standing order and taking into consideration also the Lewes Lottery tickets now evidently bought monthly, identifying the Group as a “good cause” the Group’s annual income would now be £398 if this level of support were to continue.

4.2 The South Downs National Park Authority had recently received a grant from the National Lottery. The initial phase of the project would apparently consist of assembling a large ambitious scheme involving many local bodies. At that stage – a couple of years hence perhaps – the KAG might stand to benefit.

#### **5 Community Garden**

5.1 The greenhouse donated by Louise and Crispin Holloway had been moved from Ben Allen (opposite The Avenue) to the site, the frame having been carried along the

road and the glass moved separately by car. A shed donated by John and Anna had also been dismantled and carried to the site.

5.2 Representatives of Lewes District Council, having promised information about the boundaries of the site, had visited and marked out the southern boundary. This was to be delineated by a post and rail fence before Christmas, with a gate to be installed early in January. However, there had been no response from LDC about the boundary between our site and the residence on the southern side of it. Steve would ask again about this.

5.3 It had been confirmed that the Kingston WI would pay for a tree on the site, up to a maximum of £40.00. After Christmas, Steve would order several trees as well as whips for the hedges for planting in January, weather permitting.

## 6 **Saxondown Windfall**

6.1 The KPC was considering how best to involve villagers in the process of deciding how to spend the very considerable sum available. It had decided to move slowly on this issue and perhaps spread the spending over several years. An article would be written for the February edition of The Kingston News and a small working group set up to see how best to ensure that as many people as possible had the chance to make a contribution to the decisions.

6.2 Group members with ideas for village projects that might be funded by the Saxondown money were asked to send these to Barrie and Rob as soon as possible.

6.3 In the meantime, there was some concern about the damage done to St Pancras Green by contractors' vehicles. Although a sign had been erected with the aim of ensuring that construction traffic avoided the green, this had been tampered with. There was some disagreement at the meeting about where responsibility for resolving the problems actually lay but the Chair of the KPC was acting as a liaison point and it was hoped that the difficulties could be overcome shortly.

## 7 **Next Meeting**

This would be at 5-00 pm on Tuesday ???

