

# KINGS WALDEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Kings Walden Parish Council held in the Village Hall, Breachwood Green on Tuesday 20th January 2015 at 7.30 pm

Present: Cllrs Angela Herrmann (Chairman), Amanda King (vice-chairman), Nic Cooper, Robert Mather, Les Galliers,

In attendance: Three members of the public. The clerk: Tom Brindley

## 7. 1 Apologies for Absence

Cllrs Liz Thurlby (ill), Joe Beavis (holiday), Jon Chamberlin (business)

## 7. 2 Chairman's remarks

7. 2.1 The chairman reminded members that declarations of interest should be made immediately prior to the item under discussion.

## 7. 3 Minutes of meeting 25th November 2014

The minutes were accepted as a true record and signed by the chairman.

## 7. 4 Matter Arising:

7. 4.1 The Sports management Committee had indicated it wished to proceed with disabled access to the MUGA and that County Cllr Barnard had agreed to make a grant award provided the works took place this financial year. The clerk advised that the council's cash flow had improved because of a delay in the commencement of the MUGA maintenance contract and so the funds for the works were available.

7. 4.2 The council's financial regulations state that

### 10. Contracts and Tenders

10.1 The Council shall seek tenders for all work above £2000 or such financial limit as the council shall set annually.

7. 4.3 It was noted that, if the council purchased the materials direct, the remaining part of the contract fell below the £2000 de minimus.

7. 4.4 It was noted that the quote from JC Agriculture was competitive and that if the council purchased the material directly it could recover the VAT.

7. 4.5 It was noted that the proprietor of JC Agriculture is Councillor Jon Chamberlin, who was not present at the meeting.

7. 4.6 It was **Resolved** to award to JC Agriculture the contract for the labour element of the MUGA disabled access.

7. 4.7 It was **Resolved** to request a grant from county councillor David Barnard towards the MUGA disabled access.

## 7. 5 Public Participation

7. 5.1 Residents of The Heath addressed the council. The residents were concerned that the proposed addition of grasscrete to facilitate parking had been approved without adequate consultation. The residents were concerned that the additional spaces would be taken up by airport parking. The residents said that they had previously observed cars parked for up to two weeks. The police had advised that if the cars were taxed and insured there was no offence being committed.

The residents were also concerned that parking on the verge opposite the houses would

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make the road narrower and harder to traverse and said there was a risk of caravans being parked. The residents said they would like to see street lighting along this stretch.

7. 5.2 The chairman thanked the residents for their representation and advised that the proposed works were an agenda item at this meeting.

7. 5.3 The three residents left the meeting at 7.55.

## 7. 6 Parking At The Heath

7. 6.1 Members considered the representation from the residents of The Heath and also previous representations requesting that additional parking provision be made. Members agreed that consultation could have been better. It was noted that the county highways department had assumed the parish council would conduct a detailed consultation and the parish council had seen it as a highways responsibility.

7. 6.2 Members resolved:

- i. To support the proposed works to facilitate parking at The Heath
- ii. To adopt a policy of local consultation where a project affected a particular set of residents.

## Housing Needs Survey

7. 6.1 CDA Herts together with Hightown Praetorian Housing Association had asked for a meeting to discuss possible plots.

7. 6.1 Cllrs Chamberlin and Mather had agreed to attend the meeting to be held on Tuesday 27th January at CDA offices in Hatfield.

7. 6.1 A representative of the Pilkington estate had agreed to attend.

## 7. 7 Financial report

7. 7.1 The clerk presented the financial report made up to 31st December 2014. The report was NOTED.

7. 7.2 **Payments due** Seven payments totalling £1305.36 were authorised (see list annexed to these minutes).

7. 7.3 The clerk, in the role of Responsible Financial Officer, presented a draft budget. The recommendation of the Sports Management Committee had been incorporated. The budget (appended to these minutes) was debated by members. Alternative approaches were discussed, but council decided to agree the budget as presented:

**Income**                    **£32,104**

**Expenditure**           **£32,793**

7. 7.1 It was noted that the expenditure included a transfer of £1000 into a reserve fund set aside for future upkeep of the MUGA and Tennis Courts.

## 7. 8 Precept

7. 8.1 Members resolved to collect **£28,500**. The council tax base was estimated by NHDC as **413.6** (the equivalent number of band D households in the parish). The council expected to receive a Council Tax Support Grant of **£1,415.55** meaning **£27,084.45** would be raised by precept, equating to a **charge per band D household of £65.48** – an increase of 22p per week.

7. 8.1 The chairman, two supporting councillors and the RFO signed the precept demand

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## **7. 9 Planning**

7. 9.1 Two new applications had been received: 15/00051/1HH and 15/00107/1LB both for South Barn, Brownings Lane, Breachwood Green, Hitchin, SG4 8PB.
7. 9.2 Cllr Amanda King declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest and left the room for the discussion.
7. 9.3 Members resolved not to object to either application
7. 9.4 Cllr Amanda King re-joined the meeting.

## **7. 10 North Herts Local Plan**

7. 10.1 The clerk presented a draft response to the NHDC Preferred Options consultation.
7. 10.2 Members considered the response on a line-by-line basis and made several changes.
7. 10.3 It was resolved to adopt a response to the Local Plan Preferred Options subject to the clerk issuing a larger scale map showing the parish council's proposal for a village boundary at Ley Green.

## **7. 11 Sports Management Committee**

7. 11.1 Cllr King reported on the December 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the SMC.
7. 11.2 The SMC requested that the SMC Terms of Reference be revisited
7. 11.3 Members resolved to hold a joint meeting of the council and the SMC to discuss the terms of reference.

## **7. 12 Highways**

Nothing to report

## **7. 13 Report from Village Hall Representative**

Nothing to report.

## **7. 14 Youth Club**

The date for the first meeting of the new Youth Club committee has still to be set.

## **7. 15 Correspondence**

Nothing to report.

## **7. 16 Other matters**

7. 16.1 The entrance to the sports field has become very boggy. The clerk will arrange for some ballast to be laid.
7. 16.4 The wooden supports for bark at Ley Geen recreation ground are rotting.

## **7. 17 Dates of Next Meetings**

- Sports Management Committee: to be held in conjunction with:
- Parish Council: Tuesday 17th February 7.30 pm Breachwood Green Village Hall.

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 10.15 p.m.

Signed Chairman \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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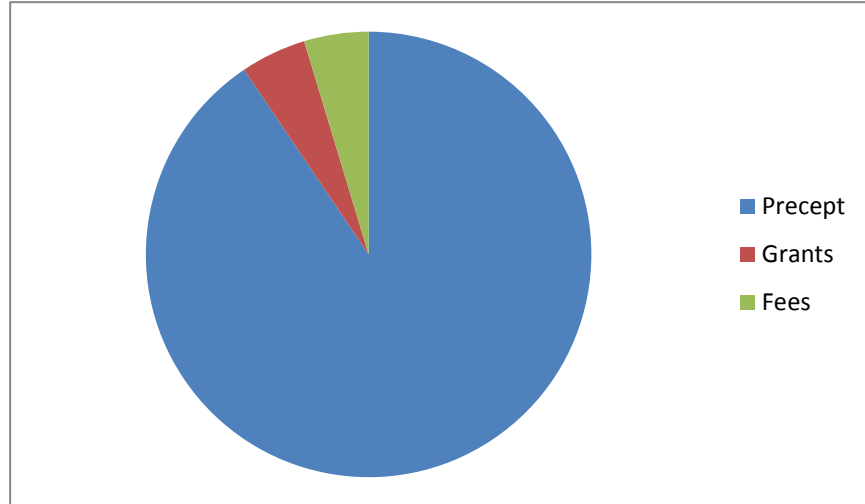
## Payments Approved

<u>Date</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Approved / Paid</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>CQ</u>	<u>Net</u>	<u>VAT</u>	<u>Gross</u>
07/01/2015	EON	#		dd	451.20	22.56	473.76
07/01/2015	R Woolner		Youth worker	001586	93.60	0.00	93.60
07/01/2015	B Galliers		Youth worker	001587	187.20	0.00	187.20
07/01/2015	Chiltern Society			dd	25.00	0.00	25.00
25/01/2015	B Galliers		Youth worker	001588	187.20	0.00	187.20
25/01/2015	R Woolner		Youth worker	001589	93.60	0.00	93.60
25/01/2015	T Brindley		Admin	001590	92.48	2.52	95.00
25/01/2015	W Billington		Gardener	001591	150.00		150.00
<b>Totals</b>					<b>1,280.28</b>	<b>25.08</b>	<b>1,305.36</b>

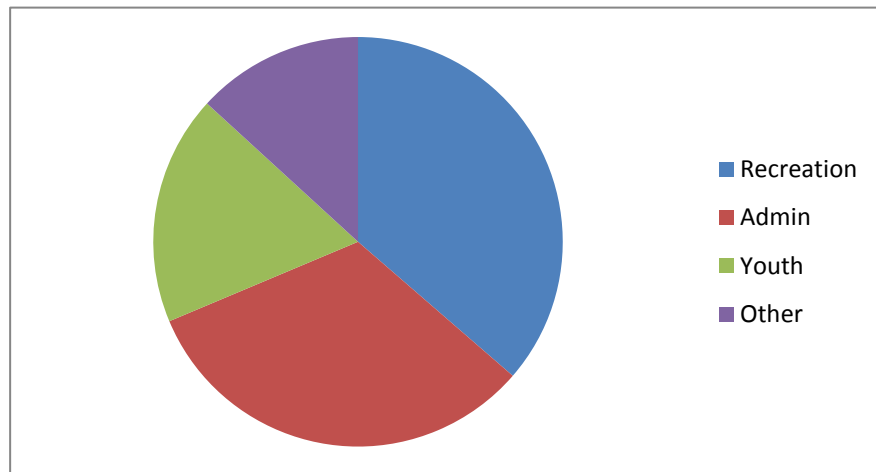
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## Budget 2015/16

Income	Precept & CTRS Grant	Other Grants	Fees	Total
	£28,500	£1,500	£1,471	<b>£31,471</b>



Expenditure	Recreation	Admin	Youth	Grants & Other	Total
	£11,705	£10,398	£5,840	£4,250	<b>£32,193</b>



Reserves	YE 2015	YE 2016
<b>Opening</b>	<b>4,994</b>	<b>5,998</b>
<b>Income</b>	62,492	32,104
<b>Expenditure</b>	61,488	32,793
<b>Balance</b>	<b>5,998</b>	<b>5,309</b>
<i>General Fund</i>		4,309
<i>Reserve</i>		1,000