



Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of Kents Hill & Monkston Parish Council

Monday 23rd January 2023, @ 6 p.m.

Kingston Library, Winchester Circle, Kingston, Milton Keynes, MK10 0BA

Present: Cllr Paul Gridley(Chair), Cllrs Nigel Cox, Vikas Chandra Jenni Ferrans, Glen Dersley

Minutes

FC 147/22	Apologies: To accept apologies and approve reasons for absence of members unable to attend the meeting. Cllrs Fisher and Bounge-Pouaty accepted
FC 148/22	Declarations of Interests: Members to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests or personal interests (including other pecuniary interests), they may have in the business to be transacted and in any contract to be considered. Cllr Grindley has an allotment,
FC 149/22	Decision Required: Minutes of previous meeting. To receive and accept as a true and correct record the minutes of the meetings held on the 9 th January 2023.
FC 150/22	<p>Finances Decision Required</p> <p>a) To move some funds from our Metro Bank current account to Cambridge and Counties Bank savings account. This was to ensure that we will be protected by the government’s deposit - it was mentioned that this was not a separate account, but merely a higher rate fixed deposit – moving £53,000. Cllrs wanted to know how many signatories would be required to move the funds out of this account- all voted in favour to top up this account to £85K for 3 years at a fixed rate of 4.2% Councillors also wanted to investigate other institutions that could offer us a higher rate of interest and be more accessible.</p> <p>b) <i>The Budgets for 2023/24 and the precept amount from MKCC was unanimously accepted. Amount of money in reserves need to be half our annual expenditure which means our current reserves are sufficient for next year. The Parish Precept is going to be increased for the first time in 3 years and this amount will be by 5%, equal to £121,075 this includes the precept income from new houses in the parish – see budget figures in separate document.</i> <i>Cllr Chandra was concerned that admin and staff costs were a high ratio of the income and suggested that the HR company could evaluate the workload of the clerk and the proposed role of the community engagement officer, under a workload assessment., Cllr Ferrans mentioned that this was not part of the contract, but that we may be able to request it if we define the role properly Cllr chandra asked for clerk to check with the HR consultancy whether they offer a payroll service as well and to find out what costs would be for processing employees’ payroll..</i></p>
FC 151/22	Update: Fitness Classes: Councillors stressed that this was the costliest activity offered by the parish council. Cllr Grindley mentioned that the fitness classes were only available to a limited number of attendees and that at some stage, we may consider charging for attendance. This will be reviewed based on attendance and costs as well as budget constraints for next year. Cllr Chandra stressed that there was value in this activity as the parish Council were offering a worthwhile service to the residents.
FC 152/22	Update: Newsletters – Councillors were asked to submit items for the newsletter as this was due to be with the printers in the first week of March

List of Payments to Approve and some to note (Amounts shown exclude VAT): -

Warden’s Laptop £334.80; Litter Pickers £91.60, Monkston School £250

MKCC for use of Library £243, Taurus Group for MP allotments Fence Quote £3709.44

Minutes Approved by the Acting Chair Cllr Nigel Cox
Date: 13th February 2023
Signature: 