

KINGTON RURAL & LOWER HARPTON GROUP PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the MEETING HELD AT THE BURTON HOTEL
10th April 2025

PRESENT Cllrs P Evans, P Watkins, Julie Jones, N Evans, Hattie Davies

015/25 APOLOGIES County Councillor T James, Giles Edwards

016/25 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST None

017/25 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 20th February 2025 - all in favour

018/25 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES - none

019/25 HEREFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCILLOR not present

020/25	Finance & Accounts	
	Clerk's Expenses	£450.00
	Burton Hotel	£35
	Use of Home as Office	£156

All members of the Council were in favour of the Finance and Accounts

021/25 RISK ASSESSEMENT – NO RISKS CONSIDERED

022/25 BARCLAYS BANK

Clerk advised that she now had all the signatures on the application form and would now take the matter to Barclays and discover the next process

023/25 PROPERTY ALONG THE BY-PASS

Discussion followed – the applicant had now ignored all the planning rules and had put in a hard standing on the verge and was still using the entry/exit. Clerk advised that the matter had again gone to the appeal and although all our previous concerns would be considered but were not required to be put forward again, it was necessary to advise the Appeal System that the applicant was carrying on regardless and flouting the planning rules with his new installation.

024/25 NEW WEB PAGE

Clerk advised that she had looked into the Web Page used by KingtonTown Council and it was a system specifically for Parish Councils. The amount of items for our webpage would be minimal, although importantly it was necessary for the Annual Audit to be published on the website. A price of £500 + VAT for the first two years and thereafter £150 per year maintenance. Discussion followed and it was agreed that the clerk could progress.

Some members of the Council asked for their documents be emailed to them rather than by post.

025/25 AUDIT AND ACCOUNTS

Clerk advised that the papers for the Audit have been completed and it was now necessary for the internal auditor to inspect them. Papers showing clerks' expenses and councils expenses were handed round to all councillors.

026/25 CLERKS INTERNET AND MOBILE PHONE

Clerk asked for a monthly contribution for help with the cost of the Internet and Mobile phone. The sum agreed was £25 per month. Clerk advised that the cost of the internet for her household was £46 per month.

027/25 ARCHIVES

Clerk advised that minutes and papers for the council had been handed to the Archivist up to and including 23th October 2023.

028/25 PLANNING

DECISION

REFUSED GONE TO APPEAL

241573 Rock Cottage, Broken Bank, Kington HR5 3NE

To create new parking area and access onto A44 from Rock Cottage and to retain an existing access bridge over the Gilwern Brook (Part retrospective)

NO DECISION

242019 Land at Newburn Farm, Kington HR5 3HD

Proposed erection of five dwelling sin lieu of an extant Class Q permission for five dwellings, ground mounted solar panels (relocated from roof; creation of phosphate credit bank; and ancillary works

PERMISSION

P250871/PA7 Arrow Court Farm, Lower Hergest, Kington HR5 3ER

Prior notification for proposed agricultural fodder store VALID

029/25 CORRESPONDENCE

HC ROCK COTTAGE

The applicant has gone to appeal and a reply is required by 30th April 2025. All former representations are with the Representative. However, it should be noted that the applicant has 'built' a firm hardstanding on the verge which belongs to the Highways and not the applicant. Former concerns cannot be raised but the NEW hardstanding should be mentioned.

PFJ Littlejohn notice of audit

BB Roads etc

BB Replies re requests for road works etc to be carried out.

Back Brook Representative nothing to report

Monitoring Officer reminder of requirements for Councillors

2 Emails Elections Office – next schedule elections May 2027

HC Document on Public Rights of Way

Document on Vision ICT – possible website

030/25 BACK BROOK nothing to report. Mr Trumper has agreed to continue to monitor the condition of the Back Brook.

031/25 ROADS & LITTER

Cllr J Jones reported to the Clerk that the lay-by opposite the Welsh Water depot was full of litter. Clerk advised that she had gone to the lay-by and had taken photographs and sent them to Balfour Beatty. Cllr Jones said that BB hadn't done any clearing as yet.

Cllr J Jones mentioned that outside the Bungalow (adjacent to Lower Harpton Farm) BB had come along and filled in half the pothole but left half untouched.

Cllr Watkins asked if a litter pick along the A4111 could be requested – it was the road that holiday makers used on their way to Wales and it was strewn with rubbish and it doesn't make a good impression. Cllr Watkins also advised that Powys CC had been doing road works just over the English/Welsh Border and were making a good job of it.

Cllr P Evans and Cllr N Evans remarked on the poor quality of the road above the crossing next to the Doctor's Surgery up as far as the cemetery and asked for BB to do repairs on the road. Also mentioned was the continuous water bubbling up onto the road – still not repaired despite numerous requests.

Cllr J Jones also reported a pothole/road edge falling away along the Stanner Road.

032/25 Councillors Reports

Cllr J Jones asked the clerk to write and mention that she was the Council's representative on the Lady Hawkins School Charity and also Kington United Charities.

033/25 NEXT MEETING TBA MAY

Meeting closed at 8.15pm

Signed _____ Dated _____