

KINGTON RURAL & LOWER HARPTON GROUP PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the MEETING HELD AT THE BURTON
16th April 2026

PRESENT Cllrs P Evans, Hattie Davies, N Evans, Dean Sankey
Also present County Councillor T James and Ben Woodcock River Arrow Trust

Ben Woodcock – The River Arrow Trust represents the whole of the River Arrow Catchment and is working with the Environment Agency, the local Councils, and the Wye and Usk and other bodies interested in the preservation of the River Arrow. We are in the process of becoming a Charity but that takes time. One project is the flood at Eardisland and trying to slow down the water to prevent flooding. The water quality of the River Arrow is problematic and the Environment Agency can bid for money to carry out preventative works but need the Wye and Usk and both need the River Arrow Trust to assist with projects. The River Arrow Trust has had grants and recently gave a talk in Pembridge where over 100 people attended. The River Arrow Trust is not a protest group – we are helping communities and we want to invite schools to participate in using the river which we are keen to encourage their involvement. Water testing and monitoring will take place when more money is available and we are hoping that the Kington Walking Festival will have a River Arrow Trail. My visit is an initial hello and we will email with more information. Our Email address is riverarrowtrust.org.
Cllr N Evans mentioned that the back brook or Gilwern was a problem with dust and sediment coming down from the quarry. Often the brook is discoloured.

17/26 APOLOGIES Cllr J Jones and David Williams

18/26 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST None

19/26 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 19th February 2026 all in favour

20/26 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES None

21/26 POLICE

Clerk advised that an invitation had been sent out

22/26 HEREFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCILLOR Cllr T James advised that they Herefordshire Council were still trying to employ a Chief Executive. They had had over 30 applications and one appears to be well qualified. As you will have heard or read about my comments on the £1m spent on consultants to provide a 'crackpot' plan which was then discarded – a total waste of money

23/26 Finance & Accounts

Payments

Burton Hotel £40.00

Clerk's Expenses £150.00

Zurich Insurance £281.41

Information Commission GDR £47 DD

RECEIVED

HC Precept £5500

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

24/26 RISK ASSESSEMENT – NO RISKS CONSIDERED

25/26 NEW WEBSITE NEW EMAIL ADDRESSES FOR ALL COUNCILLORS

No further news – item to be kept on the agenda

26/26 NOTICEBOARD REFURBISHMENT

Cllr N Evans advised that he had cut back the greenery around the notice board at Floodgates and whilst he was there Dave Ray came by and offered to paint the noticeboard with varnish.

27/26 PLANNING

P253202/XA2 Park Style Mill Kington HR5 3PT approval of details reserved by condition

See letter from HC

TO BE CONSIDERED

260915 Southbourne, Newton Lane, Floodgates, Kington HR5 3NF
Two storey extension to the west elevation

Councillors considered the application and had no objections.

28/26 CORRESPONDENCE

BB Roads etc

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

Zurich renewal notice

Information Commissioner's renewal notice

Police enquiry as to our new meeting

Email requests for grit bin in Lower Harpton / Turnpike Knill

29/26 BACK BROOK nothing to report.

30/26 ROADS & LITTER

Cllr P Evans advised that the A44 from the roundabout at Kington up to Lyonshall was going to be re-surfaced and there would be a partial closure.

Discussion followed regarding the state of the potholes and it was mentioned that vehicles were getting heavier and the roads were just not up to coping with the weight.

31/26 NEXT MEETING TBA

Meeting closed at 8.10pm

Signed _____ Dated _____