KINGSMEAD
PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of Kingsmead Parish Council Parks and Environment Committee held on Monday 8th June 2026

Present: Cllr B Boylan, Cllr Herring (Chair following agenda item 028), Cllr Logan, Cllr Reed, Cllr Swift
Also present: Mrs W Maddock (Clerk & RFO)

The meeting started at 7.40pm (following the conclusion of a KPC extraordinary meeting)

028	**Chair 2026-27** To appoint the Chair of the Parks & Environment Committee for the forthcoming Civic year. **Resolved** - that Cllr Herring is elected as Chair for the forthcoming year.
029	**Apologies** There were no apologies – all committee members were present.
030	**Declarations of Interest** There were no declarations of interest made.
031	**Public Forum** There were no members of public present.
032	**Maintenance & Landscaping**
032.1	To receive updates from Countrywide and to approve actions as appropriate. ***Noted*** – that no report had been received from Countrywide prior to the meeting starting. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to Countrywide reminding them that reporting is a requirement of the contract and a failure to provide it could lead to payments being withheld. ***Clerk Update*** – on 9th May it was noticed that an email had been received on the 8th at 18:00, but this was too late to be noted and circulated to committee members.
032.2	To consider the following tree works: a) The outstanding medium and low priority tree works identified in the 2025 tree survey. **Resolved** – to approve the following quotes for the medium and low priority tree works: • A quote from Northwich Tree Surgery at a cost of £2,150 (plus VAT) for trees in the KPC1 group. • A quote from Cheshire Tree & Garden Care at a cost of £2,000 for trees in the KPC2 group. ***Noted*** – that the completion of the above tree works concludes all the work identified in the 2025 tree survey. b) Cutting back trees and vegetation around 3x bridges and jetty (as recommended in the Principal Inspection reports). **Resolved** – to approve a quote from Caddis Ltd at a cost of £1,760 (plus VAT) for cutting back around the bridges and jetty, which will help extend their longevity.
032.3	To consider a quote for cutting and flailing the wildflower strip later this year. **Resolved** – to approve a quote from Caddis Ltd at a cost of £980 (plus VAT) to cut and flail the wildflower strip in early Autumn, when they consider conditions are most suitable for the work.
032.4	To consider requests for works at the following locations (please note that quotes will only be obtained if it is agreed that the work should be carried out): a) Cutting back trees at the rear of 8 Priory Close. **Resolved** – that work should be carried to cut back the overhang of the tree from the path. b) Carrying out works alongside 19 Buckingham Drive. **Resolved** – to approve the resident carrying out their own cutting back as requested.

	c) Grass cutting at 1-5 Blandford Drive. **Resolved** – that this area is not owned by KPC and is therefore not part of the grass cutting contract. d) Grass and hedge cutting between Harewood Close and London Road. ***Noted*** – that this path is not owned by KPC or CWaC, and that CWaC is looking to have it formally transferred into its ownership from the developers of Priory Avenue. **Resolved** – that KPC will maintain the path in the interim period whilst the above work is ongoing and a quote to add this to the contract will be requested from Countrywide Grounds Maintenance.
032.5	To receive an update about fencing works at 12 Burwardsley Way and to approve a request to locate scaffolding on KPC land. **Resolved** – to approve the request for scaffolding to be located on KPC land whilst work is carried out. However, the hedging along Top Path will only be cut back as per the normal schedule (i.e. from September onwards).
033	**Play Areas**
033.1	To review the play inspection reports. ***Noted*** – that routine play inspections are being completed regularly. **Resolved** – that Countrywide should be asked to clear the mare's tail weeds on Monarch Drive play area and to carry out any cutting back as necessary (e.g. around the bin at Capesthorne and on entrances to play areas).
033.2.	To receive an update about remedial works at Capesthorne and Kensington play areas and to approve quotes as appropriate. ***Noted*** – that the remedial works at Capesthorne play area (replacing a number of timber rounds and the retaining boards) has been completed. Groundwork & Leisure Services have offered to repair the play surface at Kensington Way (where the surface has been split, possibly by bikes doing "wheelies" across it) free of charge. **Resolved** – to instruct Countrywide that it needs to carry out routine maintenance of the safety surface as per the contract. This should include regular brushing to remove leaf fall, blowing off of grass cuttings and weed killing. This work is required at all park areas with an artificial play surface.
034	**AOB** Items to be placed on the agenda for the next meeting: • Quotes for maintaining correct sand levels on the artificial play surfaces. • Removal of the abandoned beacon at SGF.

035	**Next Meetings**	Kingsmead Parish Council	Monday 15th June at 7.30pm in Kingsmead School
		Finance Committee	Monday 6th July at 7.30pm in Kingsmead School
		Parks and Environment Committee	Monday 13th July at 7.30pm in Kingsmead School

The meeting closed at 8.28pm.