

**The minutes of Knighton on Teme Parish Council Meeting
held virtually at 7pm on 2nd March, 2021**

Present: Cllrs R Lear, K Redfern, D Hubbard, J Barnes, R Bolton, L Shorney

In attendance: Clerk, Mrs Karen Yates, Cllr D Godwin,

Mrs K Redfern chaired the meeting.

Louisa Shorney was welcomed to the meeting, a declaration of acceptance of office was signed.

1 Apologies: E Mapp, Cllr K Pollock

2 Register / Declarations of Interest.

Dispensations

Public Question Time

3 District/County Councillor's Report.

Cllr Godwin advised council tax is likely to increase by just over 2%, planning remains quiet probably due to Covid, and he has received several requests for support for the £500 payment for those shielding.

The SWDP is calling for suitable sites for travellers. Questions were invited.

The Chairman and members thanked Cllr Godwin for his donation of £100 towards speed signs.

Cllr Pollock had circulated his report to all members, the Chairman and members also thanked Cllr Pollock for his £700 donation towards speed signs.

4 Minutes: Minutes of meetings held on 17th February, 2021 were approved.

5 Planning

a There were no planning applications

b There were no determinations.

c Planning applications determined under delegated powers. None

d Commonwood Villa. Enforcement have been informed that the containers have been moved further back behind the hedges, they advised they will continue to monitor. It was agreed to request an update for the next meeting.

e Possible unauthorised planning adjacent to Stoney Cross Villa, Bickley Lane. Enforcement have advised that no response has been received from the landowner and will write to them again. It was advised that the landowners do not reside in the parish but are still local, this will be relayed to enforcement.

f South Worcestershire Playing Pitch & Outdoor Strategy-Parish Council Survey. This will be completed and returned.

6 Finance

a Clerks salary February-£296.09 (incl. 3hrs broadband project) and expenses-£151.81. Agreed.

b Internet banking – The mandate has been returned, Clerk cannot set up new payees without being a signatory. Although CALC have advised that Clerks can be signatories, it is a further risk and the Clerk advised that she would prefer not to be a signatory. It was agreed to remain with cheques at present and look at Unity Bank as a future option for banking after year end.

c Photocopies – July to December £44.40. Agreed.

d McAfee anti-virus renewal - £69.99. Agreed.

7 Highways

a Lengthsman Scheme. February-£288. Agreed. No work as previously agreed in March.

April hours to be concentrated in Newnham Bridge clearing pavements of mud and debris.

b Cracked drain opposite Mill Lane – Awaiting feedback, an update to be requested.

c Litter pick – 21st March. It was agreed to continue with the litter pick with social distancing and current rules being adhered to. The Clerk advised that Claire Wall and her daughter had been litter picking in the

parish as part of a Duke of Edinburgh award and was further invited to join us on the 21st. Thanks will be passed to her daughter. R Lear advised he will clear the main road outside The Talbot and the layby. A parishioner had complained about the state of the layby, the Clerk had replied advising it will be included in the litter pick, they were asking about putting a bin there and the cost. It was agreed to source costings for a larger bin at this spot which still attracts large amounts of litter and human waste. Cllr Godwin advised speaking to Clerk at Lindridge who have just placed bins in their parish. The village facebook site has complaints about dog fouling/litter along the A456 from The Forge to Wyrebrook, it was also agreed to prepare costs for 2 further bins along this stretch, together with posts and caps if needed.

d Width/restricted access sign on Church Hill. Awaiting feedback, an update to be sought for the next meeting.

e Blocked drains in Newnham Bridge – all drains reported have been jetted. Due to the state of the pavements and gutters, it was agreed to request the road sweeper through the village. The Lengthsman can clear the pavements of mud and debris. Recent work carried out on pavements was considered inadequate.

f Pothole outside Wayside – reported.

g State of road between Jewkes Lane junction and caravan park – reported.

h Blocked/collapsed drain outside High Hall – reported .

8 **Broadband Issues in the parish.** Application to BT has been sent, one property was removed as it was in a current plan, 32 properties including 3 businesses amount to a potential £54,000 project. Quote awaited from BT. The current grant has now ended, our application will not be included, awaiting news on further grants, although Covid could impact on this.

9 **Safety along A456, Newnham Bridge.**

a Sites to place a sign / permission from Highways. Cllr Hubbard forwarded photos to the Clerk who has now sent off an email to request permission to site two signs.

b £800 in donations from ward funds have been received from Cllrs Pollock & Godwin, our thanks go to both of them. Further information about fixings, pole heights/widths etc will be requested from the supplier, original email to be circulated to members to agree the final sign.

10 **Vacancy for a Parish Councillor.** One vacancy still exists, applications are sought.

11 **Sewerage problems at Newnham Bridge.** Possible sewerage leak has been reported to Stonewater, it is believed to be connected to the houses at Wyrebrook, awaiting feedback. It was thought that the land drain at the back of Old Harp Lodge could be blocked, landowner to be contacted to check land drains.

12 **Facebook page for Parish Council.** Thanks to Cllr Hubbard who has now set this up. The Malvern Hills crest has been placed above our name and views of the surrounding parish used. The link is: <https://www.facebook.com/KnightonOnTemeParishCouncil>. It was suggested a link to the village site be set up. The Clerk will be contacted via email for official requests from the site which also has a link to the website for minutes etc. The litter pick is on there, the vacancy will also be placed on it.

13 **Councillors' reports and items for future agenda.** A fallen ash sapling along the A456 outside The Boat House will be reported to highways. Cllr Hubbard to attend the natural networks webinar and along with the Chairman also the planning webinar

14 **Date of next virtual meeting:** 7pm on Tuesday 6th April, 2021.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.10pm.

Signed (Chairman)

Date