

KEMERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Carol Chambers, 24 Old Meadows, Whittington Worcester, WR5 1TF, kemertonpc@hotmail.co.uk

Minutes of Kemerton Parish Council Meeting held at the Victoria Hall on Tuesday 3rd September 2024 at 7.00pm

Those Present: Cllr Lisa Croft (Chairman),
Cllr Adrian Darby
Cllr Jo Wenham
Cllr Christina Kulukundis

Parish Clerk Carol Chambers

Lengthsman Mark Farley

Parishioners Present 3

Chairmans Address and Public Participation

Councillor Lisa Croft welcomed everyone and thanked the Parishioners who had attended the meeting. The Chairman explained that Kemerton Parish Council had no legal powers of enforcement as antisocial behaviour was a Police matter. She also reported on the conversation she had had with PC Keeler who initially was to be present at the meeting. PC Keeler informed the Chairman that they were in the process of investigating the complaints of antisocial behaviour in the village, it was therefore agreed that a public forum/surgery be set at later date once the Police had finished their investigation. The Chairman invited parishioners to speak. A parishioner detailed the issues that she had witnessed, she explained that large groups of people had gathered outside the Crown Inn talking and laughing until 1am. Also, cars taking people for rides up and down the high street, out of the village and back at accelerated speed, she added that numerous empty bottles regularly seen lying on the grass verges, also the bus stop was being used as a toilet. The Chairman reiterated that issues of antisocial behaviour was a Police matter and assured parishioners that PC Keeler would be holding a public meeting in the near future.

1 Apologies for Absence.

Apologies for absence were submitted by Cllr O Alexander, Cllr Clive Carver (Vice Chairman) and Cllr Andy Howel.

2. Declaration Of Interests

Cllr Darby declared nonpecuniary interest in agenda item 8 (National Planning Policy) as a landowner of which a patch had been sold.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting

The Clerk had circulated with the agenda the draft minutes of the meeting held on the 2nd July 2024. It was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 2nd July 2024, be adopted as a true record.

4. Vas Speed Sign - update

The Clerk reminded Members that at the meeting held on 2nd July it was reported that Kemerton's VAS speed sign had been broken for some time. The Lengthsman, Mark Farey had been able to borrow a speed sign from Bredon Parish Council. She reported that the cost to repair was unknown as it would have to be delivered to the engineers in Norfolk. Delivery cost would be £27.50 + VAT, plus

an Inspection fee of £45.00. They would then quote for the repairs and charge a delivery fee to return it. Therefore, it was agreed that the Clerk enquire about the cost of a new VAS sign.

The Clerk circulated with the agenda 2 quotes (listed below) with the brochures.

Quote 1) Budget Option 2 speed signs for £3,999.00 + VAT

Quote 2) Vision Radar Sign cost (a) £2,200 and (b) £2,250

Mark explained that the current VAS sign was very old and the batteries have to be regularly charged and expensive to replace, the newer models are solar charged and had more facilities such as 'slow down' and 'thank you', they also have the function to count the traffic and speed and show how traffic diversions and road closures impact on the traffic in the village. The Council debated the cost of quote 1) as the Lengthsman had to relocate the one speed sign which left the highway unmonitored. Following further discussion it was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** that the council would set a provision in the budget for 2025/2026 for quote number 2a for one VAS sign and look forward to buying another in year 2027/2028. It was also **RESOLVED** that the Clerk source grants/funding to help with the cost.

5. Moving Forward to 2025/2026 update

The Clerk reminded Members that at the meeting held on 2nd July 2024, Councillors were asked to identify areas/projects to improve the village, it would give the Council time to explore grant applications and to enable the Council to cost up and budget for in 2025/2026. Following discussion, the Council agreed that a VAS sign would improve the whole village, therefore it was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** to budget for a new Vehicle Activation Sign as approved in minute 4.

6. Finance Report

The Clerk had circulated with the agenda the following reports. Original Bank Statements and invoices were available at the meeting.

- c) **Budget v Actual**-An update on expenditure to date. The Clerk used half year figures and estimated that the Council would be within budget at the year end.
- a) **July 2024** Total Receipts £1,843.36, Total Payments £611.00
August 2024 Total Receipts £150.01, Total Payments £971.95
- b) Bank Reconciliation for July & August 2024
July 2024 Treasurers Account Balance as at 26th July £5,763.71
August 2024 Treasurers Account Balance as at 27th August £4,941.77
Savings Account Balance as at 27th August £3,549.63.

It was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** that the finance reports were approved and noted.

7. Planning Applications

The Clerk had circulated with the agenda a report which advised Members of Planning Applications submitted to Wychavon District Council and submitted to Kemerton Parish Council for Consultation.

Application Number	W/24/01374/FUL
Applicant	P Sorensen
Location Address	Lane End Back Lane Kemerton
Proposal	Domestic garage
Application Type	Full planning permission

To ratify Kemerton Parish Councils resolution: It was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** that the Council had no objection to this planning application.

8. National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

The Clerk advised Members of Chancellor Rachel Reeves proposed reforms to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) in a statement on 30th July 2024, then recalled in the Kings Speech which set out the government plans to make significant changes to the National Planning Policy (NPPF). Following the Chancellors speech the Clerk made enquiries to the local planning authority, Wychavon District Council to ascertain how the proposed reforms would impact Kemerton Village.

WDC had sent a briefing note on NPPF consultation to all parish and town councils which highlighted the reforms of which were attached to the agenda.

The proposed changes meant that Wychavon had been increased by 473 additional houses which is 97% higher, the highest percentage increase in Worcestershire.

The report also highlighted that the Green Belt(s) would be required to be reviewed, and sites identified where the housing need cannot be met on land outside the Green Belt could be subject to planning applications, if it met the new criteria, even where an adopted local plan is in place.

it was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** that Cllr Darby would write to Andrew Ford, Senior Planning Officer at Wychavon District Council and draft a letter to send to the Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government.

Following discussion, it was noted that Kemerton's Conservation Area Appraisal had still not been ratified by Wychavon District Council. It was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** that the Clerk write to WDC for an update.

9. Consultation on Draft Policy on Pavement Licensing

The Clerk advised Members that Wychavon District Council who are the authority responsible for the issue of pavement licences under the provisions contained in the Business and Planning Act 2020, had contacted Kemerton Parish Council as part of their consultation process had submitted a draft policy which was attached to the agenda.

It was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** that the Council had no objection.

10. Consultation on Revised Statement of Principles Under The Gambling Act 2005

The Clerk advised Members that Wychavon District Council who are the licencing authority have contacted Kemerton Parish Council as part of their consultation process submitted a draft policy which was attached to the agenda. Wychavon District Council advised that they had undertaken a review of its statement of principles and does not propose to make any substantive changes to it before it is re-published. Only very minor changes were being proposed.

It was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** that the Council had no objection.

11. Glow Worm Count for 2024

The Clerk had circulated with the agenda a report from Sally King on the Glow Worm Count for 2024, she advised that the same route was taken from Bayliss Road, up to Bells Castle and returning via Rock Cottage at 10-11pm. Overall, she advised that the numbers were down and believed that it may be due to the mild winter. They seemed to like grass verges with longer grass at the back of the verge and shorter grass at the front. She concluded that they possibly retreat into the longer grass during the day and use the shorter grass at night to light up.

20/6, 1 GW

1 opposite The Hermitage by The Stables.

24/6, warm, 2 GW

1 opposite The Hermitage by The Stables.
1 outside Sundial.

25/6, warm, 3 GW

As 24/6 plus 1 by gate of Rock Cottage.

26/6, 4 GW

As 25/6 plus 1 by The Stables.

9/7, 4 GW, chilly, cloudy.

2 by Rock Cottage.
1 by Merecombe.
1 by Brockwood House.

10/7, 6 GW, cloudy.

2 by Rock Cottage,
1 opposite The Stables.
2 opposite Merecombe.
1 in long grass by Merecombe.

14/7, warm, 7 GW.

1 outside Rock Cottage.
2 outside Brockwood House.
1 up from Merecombe.
2 opposite Merecombe.

1 opposite Merecombe (further down, towards the village).

16/7, after rain, 13 GW.

1 on Northwood drive.

1 opposite Priory Cottage Garden.

1 on corner, opposite Brockwood.

2 in short grass by Brockwood.

3 in verge opposite Merecombe.

4 in verge opposite Merecombe, towards Bells Castle.

1 by Rock Cottage.

17/7, dry, warm, no wind. 25 GW.

3 by Rock Cottage.

1 opposite Rock Cottage

1 opposite Priory Cottage Garden

2 opposite the Priory

1 on corner opposite Brockwood

2 in short grass by Brockwood

1 opposite Brockwood.

4 opposite Merecombe

1 in Northwood drive.

8 opposite Mercombe, up to field gate.

1 on verge, same side as Merecombe.

21/7, warm, 11 GW.

1 opposite Priory Cottage Garden.

2 opposite Sundial.

4 opposite Merecombe.

2 opposite Merecombe, further up towards field gate.

1 opposite Northwood.

1 opposite Rock Cottage.

22/7, warm, dry, no wind. 17 GW.

1 by Rock Cottage.

2 opposite Priory Garden Cottage.

3 opposite The Priory.

5 opposite Merecombe.

3 up from Merecombe, towards Bells Castle.

1 in long grass opposite field gate.

2 in long grass by Merecombe.

23/7, 7 GW.

1 by Rock Cottage.

1 opposite Rock Cottage.

2 opposite Priory Cottage Garden.

1 on corner opposite Brockwood.

2 on verge opposite Merecombe.

28/7, 7 GW.

- 1 on verge by Rock Cottage.
- 1 opposite Rock Cottage.
- 2 opposite Priory Cottage Garden.
- 1 on corner, opposite Brockwood.
- 2 opposite Merecombe.

29/7, very warm, 20 GW.

- 2 by Rock Cottage.
- 1 between Rock Cottage and Northwood.
- 2 opposite Priory cottage Garden.
- 2 opposite Brockwood.
- 12 opposite Merecombe, from Merecombe to field gate.
- 1 by Merecombe drive.

30/7, 12 GW.

- 3 by Rock Cottage.
- 1 in hedge, just before Bells Castle.
- 1 opposite Priory Cottage Garden.
- 1 in hedge, up from Priory Cottage Garden.
- 1 by Brockwood.
- 1 by Merecombe.
- 2 opposite Merecombe.
- 1 by Merecombe drive.
- 1 opposite Merecomb.

31/7, 8 GW.

- 1 in hedge between Merecombe and Bells Castle.
- 1 opposite Merecombe.
- 1 by Merecombe drive.
- 1 in long grass by Merecombe.
- 1 by wall at Sundial.
- 1 opposite Priory Cottage Garden.
- 1 by Rock Cottage.
- 1 between Rock Cottage and The Stables, opposite verge to Rock Cottage.

1/8, light rain, 3 GW.

- 1 opposite Priory Cottage Garden.
- 1 by Rock Cottage.
- 1 between Rock Cottage and The Stables, opposite verge to Rock Cottage.

5/8, warm. 4 GW.

- 2 verge opposite Brockwood.
- 1 by Rock Cottage.
- 1 opposite Rock Cottage.

13/8. After rain, 3 GW.

- 1 opposite Southfield.

- 1 opposite The Priory.
- 1 opposite Merecombe.

The council thanked Sally King for her excellent report.

12. PUBLIC NOTICE ROAD CLOSURE - HILL ROAD

The Clerk had circulated with the agenda a Public Notice which advised that Worcestershire Council had issued a Public Notice under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984,

(U46025 Hill Road, Kemerton) (Temporary Closure) Order 2024

Proposed Order: to close that part of U46025 Hill Road from its junction with U46024 Castle Hill to its junction with U46026 Wing Lane.

Reason: Drainage and flood alleviation works by WCC.

Exemptions: to permit access to any land or premises fronting the highway affected where there is no other form of access; and to allow the works to be undertaken.

Maximum duration

18 Months. Anticipated duration: **5 days**. Commencing: **23 September 2024**

Alternative route

U46024 Castle Hill, U46026 Wing Lane and vice versa.

The map which was also circulated showed the temporary diversion route. The report was noted and the map would be placed on the notice board.

The Lengthsman had reported that this area was problematic and had trouble clearing the pipes , it was agreed that he would ask the workmen if they could put a grate in to enable access to the pipe from both ways for roding.

13. Items for Future Agenda and Councillors Reports

Kemerton's Conservation Area Appraisal

14. Date Of Next Meeting will be held on 5th November 2024

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.25pm

CLlr Lisa Croft

Chairman