

KEMERTON PARISH COUNCIL

The Minutes of Kemerton Parish Council Meeting held at the Victoria Hall on Tuesday 4th November at 7.00pm.

PRESENT Cllrs Mrs K Cartwright, Mrs C Ford, Mr A Darby, Sir D Logan, Mr S Papacostantinou, Dr C Renfrew (Chairman) and Dr R Withnall.

IN ATTENDANCE Ms J Shields (Clerk) and Cllr A Hardman (County).

1. Apologies For Absence.

2. Declaration Of Interests.

Councillors were reminded to update their registers of interest and to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI) and their nature.

All councilors disclosed a DPI as they are Council Tax payers, all councilors had completed forms to apply for dispensation to enable them to participate in any discussion or vote on any matter concerning the setting of the councils budget and annual precept. The Council agreed for all councilors to take part in said discussion and that the dispensation would last until the next Election.

3. To Consider The Adoption Of The Minutes Of The Meeting Held On The 4th September 2012.

The minutes having been previously circulated were agreed and signed as a true record.

4. Finance

Cllr Withnall arrived during this item.

a) Invoices To Be Paid.

HMRC £177.60, Andy Hull (Lengthsman) £115.15 per calendar month, Clement Keys £144.00, GBD £1,244.67, Victoria Hall £13.00, DD Clerk Salary per calendar month £123.41, A Hull Expenses for siting of the speed sign (Sept and Oct) £50.00.

b) To Receive Bank Balance To Date.

Balance was presented and the following remittances had been received:- Lengthsman £143.75, Precept £3,223.00, Wayleave £7.56.

c) Lengthsman Remuneration For The Moving Of The Speed Sign.

The Council agreed for Mr A Hull to recharge the battery every 7 days with a remuneration of £25.00 per month, to cover the cost of moving the sign and charging the battery.

d) To Consider the Precept For 2013/2014.

After a long discussion the Council agreed to raise the precept by £1,000.00 to allow the Council to carry out investigations into traffic calming, if permitted by the possible capping from Central Government.

e) To Consider Application No 500234306 For Rate Relief.

This item was not considered as the applicant is no longer in the premise.

5. Planning.

a) To Ratify The Comments For Applications Submitted Since The Last Meeting.

Non received.

b) To Consider Planning Applications Submitted since the Publishing of the Agenda.

W/12/02211/PP Boundary Cottage, High Street, Kemerton. Erection of conservatory. No objection.

c) To Report Wychavon Planning Decisions.

Approved by Wychavon.

W/12/01704/CU - Fairview, Kemerton Road, Kemerton.

6. To Update Progress On Traffic Calming Measures.

The school had provided the Chairman with an update.

KEMERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Cllr Hardman was asked the County's stance on a report from the parish. Cllr Hardman stated that any report would be looked on favourably by the County Council, however it would need to be financially viable and of benefit to all road users.

Cllr Withnall will look into what statistical data would need to be provided.

7. To Discuss Cleaning Of The Bus Shelter.

The Council had received two applications, a staffing group consisting of Cllrs Mrs K Cartwright, Mr S Papacostantinou and Dr R Withnall, will interview and appoint a cleaner for an initial one year term.

8. To Discuss The Grass Cutting Contract for 2013/2014.

The Council agreed to put the contract out to tender. Cllr's Ford and Logan will provide the papers.

9. Village Hall Update.

As the bank account for the Ent. Committee had been set up the cheque for £500.00 was raised. The Clerk had received a copy of the suggested questions from the Hall Committee; these questions will be e mailed to all councillors by the Clerk, Councillors to E mail suggested questions to the Chairman.

10. To Consider Moving Electricity Cables Underground.

A map will be provided by the Chairman for the next meeting to plot the most offensive cables.

11. County Councillor Report.

Apologies were given for the length of time since last appearance.

Transport to Ashton Under Hill Middle school and Prince Henrys for Kemerton Children will be looked into.

12. District Councillor Report.

Development Control:

I have recently been asked to take over as Vice-Chairman of the Wychavon Planning Committee in place of the regular Vice Chairman who is on sick leave. This post would usually go to a member of the majority party on the Council, but as planning is supposed to be non-partisan it is possible to elect a member of the opposition. I am conscious of the honour but even more so of the likely work load! I have just attended my first chairman's briefing before next Thursday's planning meeting. This lasted nearly four hours. However the planning meeting itself (including site visits) is likely to go from 9.30 am to at least 8pm.

This great increase in the planning workload can be largely explained by the government's new National Planning Policy Framework and its emphasis on development at all costs, with the requirement that an authority like Wychavon, which cannot demonstrate a five year's supply (plus 20%) of housing sites, must grant permission for any housing development which can be considered sustainable. When the new South Worcestershire Local Plan comes into force, Wychavon will be able to show the required supply of sites and this loophole will close. There is therefore a mad rush to submit applications before next March.

As far as Kemerton is concerned I have looked into the delays in considering the planning application for a conservatory at Boundary Cottage, and I hope everything is now resolved.

Planning Policy:

The consultation on the South Worcestershire Local (*formerly* Development) Plan is now complete and the three councils are due to consider the final version which will be submitted for final consultation prior to going to Public Inquiry. This will happen at simultaneous council meetings to be held on 10 December, which is a little later than originally hoped.

Malvern Hills District Council has called a special Council meeting next week to consider the report of a working group which it set up during the summer. This group is recommending modifications which if they were adopted would require further research and consultation and would delay the whole process by at least eight months. It is hoped that MHDC will reject this course of action which would make it impossible for Wychavon to stick to its timetable.

KEMERTON PARISH COUNCIL

In the meantime the Joint Advisory Panel on which I sit has meetings on 15 and 16 November to finalise the draft to put before the three Councils in December.

Budget:

There was a meeting of all councillors today to look at the first draft of next year's budget. Unfortunately I was unable to attend as it clashed with the Planning Committee Chairman's briefing.

13. Progress Reports For Information.

a) Clerk.

Previously circulated.

b) Chairman.

No report.

14. Correspondence For Information. (Listed On The Clerk's Report.)

Clerk to write to West Mercia expressing disappointment at the permanent redeployment of PC Shepherd to Worcester City.

15. Items For Future Agenda And Councillor Reports.

Cllr Logan was now a fully trained footpath warden, his first task will be to clear the public footpath between Lower Mill Lane and Ashton on Carrant.

16. Date Of Next Meeting.

Tuesday 8th January.