

KEMERTON PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of Kemerton Parish Council Meeting held at the Victoria Hall, Kemerton on Tuesday 7th September 2010.

PRESENT Mr A Darby OBE (Chairman), Mr G Long, Ms C Allen, Mr P James and Mr M Walker.

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

1. Apologies For Absence.

Apologies were accepted from Cllrs Sir D Logan and Mr J Van den Broek.

2. Declaration Of Interests.

Councillors were reminded to update their register of interest and to declare any personal or prejudicial interest in items on the agenda and their nature.

Cllr James non prejudicial interest in item 14b.

3. To Consider The Adoption Of The Minutes Of The Meeting Held On 6th July 2010.

The minutes, with alterations to the spelling of place names, were signed as a true record

4. County Councillor.

Cllr Hardiman

- Apologised for his absence at the previous meeting due to a holiday.
- Is continuing to press for the footway between Overbury and Kemerton to be repaired, the removal of the ash tree on the verge of Hill Road and the resurfacing of Bayliss Road.
- Is as frustrated as the residents are, that Bayliss Road has still not been done, he bought Environmental Services and Worcs County Council Chief Executive to look at the surface, he is using his 'Local Spend' to fund it. Unfortunately all the contractors were moved to the collapse of the roads at Great Comberton and Fladbury. The concrete surface is also a factor in the delay.
- Asked for the Kemerton sign in Kinsham to be replaced.
- Will ask for repairs to Kinsham/Kemerton Lane by Dunromin and to the Kemerton/Westmancote Road by Walkers.
- Informed the council that the Bridge at Eckington would not be closed from September to January, but only for about 14 days in total whilst inspections are carried out.
- The proposed 'Stopping Up Order' for Hill Lane, would be a lengthy process and the parish will be consulted at the appropriate time.
- The report in recent daily papers concerning the spending of £3.5m on a 150 yards of bus lane was incorrectly reported. The money, from Central Government is being spent on the Bromyard Road and is including resurfacing and a new, light controlled, traffic calming system.

5. District Councillor.

After the election in May, Mr E Pickles Secretary of State for Communities & Local Government announced the abolition of Regional Assemblies and the Regional Spatial Strategies (RSS) that were being prepared by the regional planning bodies. The West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy set out a housing figure that South Worcestershire was required to meet. Although the South Worcestershire Joint Core Strategy (SWJCS) will remain in place, as a replacement plan for each local authority's Local Plan and the County Structure Plan, it remains unclear what 'target' housing numbers the three partner authorities will have to plan for up to the end of the 2020s. To a certain extent this will be determined by local need and the views of communities' in-line with the governments 'localism' agenda. Cllr Darby was asked to enquire as to the cost of the 'Wychavon' magazine sent to all residents.

6. Progress Reports For Information.

a) Clerk.

Updated Risk Register will be circulated at a later date.

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b) Lengthsman.

Worksheet circulated to all councillors.

c) Refurbishment of Bench near St Nicholas Church.

Clerk to write to Mr Cutler to thank him for repairing the bench.

7. Correspondence For Information.

8. Managing Road Side Verges – Communication from Cotswold Conservation Board.

After a lengthy discussion, Cllr Darby volunteered to provide a Conservation Scheme for the verges in Kemerton/Kinsham Lane.

9. To Discuss the Capping of the Parish Precept.

The clerk to respond.

Town and parish councils should not be included - this consultation is inadequate and undemocratic. The process suggested is too expensive and the timetable for it is wrong. If parish and town councils are to consult their community on a proposal to increase precept by more than a centrally determined amount, they should be able to do so before deciding their budget. This means that the government would have to decide its council tax principles at the beginning of the financial year for the following year. It is difficult to understand why this would not be possible.

10. To Consider the Re Location of the Notice Board.

The item was discussed at great length, no practical solution was made, the item was deferred for further investigation.

11. Update on Parish Plan and Village Design Statement.

The items highlighted at the meeting, held on the 11th March 2010, for the attention of the parish council, have all been addressed.

The Village Design Statement and Landscape Charter Assessment are ongoing.

The Village Plan has been completed and forwarded to Wychavon.

Speeding is constantly discussed and comments passed to PC Sheppard, CSO Williams and the County Council – ongoing.

The PC has investigated the possibility of formal allotments and a playing field but has no land on which they could be situated.

The moving of the Village Hall has been discussed; however this is a decision to be made by the 'Village Hall Committee'.

Moving of the notice boards, see item 10.

Yahoo Forum, would the resident who kindly volunteered to help the council with this, please contact the clerk.

12. To Discuss the Position of Lengthsman.

The council has received, and with great regret accepted the resignation of Mr A Hull as Lengthsman. The council would like to thank him for the work he had carried out in the village. He will be much missed. The Lengthsman Scheme is funded by Worcestershire County Council by way of reimbursement up to a certain level. The manner in which he has been treated by WCC led to his decision to resign.

The council decided to delay any actions in advertising for a new Lengthsman.

13. Finance

a) Invoices To Be Paid.

The following invoices were agreed for payment.

Lengthsman £350.00(July) £75.00(August), BHCG £61.50, Grass Cutting £1,028.12, Clement Keys £158.63 and Clerks Expenses £41.50.

b) To Receive Bank Balance To Date.

Bank balance was presented to the council.

14. Planning.

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

Cllr Darby abstained from all planning decisions, and left the room the item was chaired by Cllr Long. Cllr James also left the room on item (11).

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- (I) W/10/01565/PP Saltwood, Castle Hill, Kemerton. Three proposed dormer windows on the south side. Proposed replacement clay roof tiles with new to match existing. – The council has no objection to the application, however the windows will be seen from the road.
 - (II) W/10/01946/PN Ashbury Farm, Wing Lane, Kemerton. Development of a general purpose agricultural building. Following a site visit, no objection.
- b) To Consider Planning Applications Submitted since the Publishing of the Agenda. None received.
 - c) To Report Wychavon Planning Decisions.
Approved by Wychavon
W/10/00391/AC Kemerton Court, Back Lane, Kemerton Closure of gateway and insertion of new gateway.

Cllr Darby to contact the planning department regarding the alterations to 7 Baylis Road. Any resident may contact the 'Wychavon Enforcement Officer' if they have concerns regarding the alterations.

15. Items For Future Agenda and Councillor Reports.

The condition of the grass verge adjacent to Lindum House.

The condition of Kinsham Lane verge on the west side leaving the village by the 30mph speed sign.

Three councillors will not be seeking re election in May, if any parishioner has an interest in apply for election next year, if they would like to attend a parish council meeting they are more than welcome.

16. Date Of Next Meeting.

Tuesday 2nd November 2010.