

KEMERTON PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of Kemerton Parish Council Annual Meeting held at the Victoria Hall on Tuesday 14th May at 7.00pm.

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

IN ATTENDANCE Ms J Shields (Clerk).

1. Election Of Chairman.

This item was deferred until July, Cllr Ford chaired the meeting.

2. Apologies For Absence.

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr's Dr C Renfrew, Mr A Darby and Mr A Hardman (County).

3. Election of Vice Chairman.

This item was deferred until July.

4. Declaration Of Interests.

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

5. To Review The Councils Financial Regulations, Standing Orders, Risk Assessment And Insurance Requirement.

VAS has been added to the insurance policy at no extra cost.

6. To Appoint the Following:-

- a) Finance Officer – Cllr Withnall.
- b) Bredon Hill Conservation Group Representative – Cllr Papacostantinou.
- c) Victoria Hall Representative – Cllr Ford.
- d) Area CALC Representative – Cllr Cartwright.
- e) Footpath Warden – Cllr Logan.

7. To Consider The Adoption Of The Minutes Of The Meeting Held On The 5th March 2013.

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

8. To Approve The Parish Council Accounts.

The accounts for 2012/13 were agreed by the Council and will be taken to the internal auditor in May and sent to Grant Thornton, the external auditor, in June.

9. Finance

- a) Invoices To Be Paid.

The following invoices were agreed for payment:-

Victoria Hall £40.00, W Calc £163.56, A Hull VAS Expenses £37.00 (April), A Hull Lengthsman £115.15 (April), A Hull VAS Expenses £37.00 (May), A Hull Lengthsman £115.15 (May), M Farey £75.00, Training £10.00, Insurance £423.90.

The Clerk to inform the Village Hall Committee that it was too late to ask for a grant for the year 2012/2013 and for the year 2013/2014, however if the Committee wish to apply for a grant for 2014/2015, it should be received by the council before November 2013.

- b) To Receive Bank Balance To Date.

The following remittances had been received:-

Grass cutting £1,013.00 (March), Precept £3,724.00, Interest £0.14 (March), Lengthsman £143.75 (Feb) and £143.75 (March)

Due to non-receipt of bank statement, the correct bank balance will be e mailed to all councillors.

10. To Consider the Continuation of the Lengthsman Scheme.

The council agreed to continue participating in the County Council lengthsman Scheme.

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11. Planning.

- a) To Ratify The Comments For Applications Submitted Since The Last Meeting.
None received.
- b) To Consider Planning Applications Submitted since the Publishing of the Agenda.
None received.
- c) To Report Wychavon Planning Decisions.
Approved by Wychavon.
W/13/00143/PP - Brookside Cottage, Peppercorn Lane, Kemerton.
W/13/00184/LB - Brookside Cottage, Peppercorn Lane, Kemerton.
W/13/00390/LB - Brookside Cottage, Peppercorn Lane, Kemerton.

12. To Discuss the Condition of the Grass Verges.

Ongoing.

13. To Consider Parking on the Grass Verge Outside the Victoria Hall.

This area belongs to Highways; therefore the kerb can not be dropped. Cllr Ford will investigate the cost of grass matting for parking.

14. County Councillor Report.

None received.

15. District Councillor Report.

Report by District Councillor Adrian Darby

I am sorry that I am not able to attend your meeting as I am at present in France where my sister is critically ill. I have been here since the beginning of last month and have therefore missed the last Wychavon Council Meeting and the April meeting of the planning committee. Looking at the agenda for these the only thing that seems of much significance for Kemerton is Wychavon's Five Year Land Supply – see below, although if I had been at the Council Meeting I would have been able to ask questions of the new Police and Crime Commissioner Mr B Longmore.

As has been the case in all my reports over the past year, the issue which has been of most concern to me is that of the local plan. Our previous Wychavon District Local Plan formally came to an end in March last year although many of the policies in it are "saved" until the new South Worcestershire Development Plan (SWDP) comes into force. However the housing policies in the old plan which limited development to allocated sites and to infilling within designated development boundaries no longer apply because Wychavon cannot show that it has a Five year supply of Housing Land plus 20%, as is required under the new National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), which came into effect last year. Currently this 5 year housing land supply is judged against the numbers required under the old West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS). Once it is judged against the new SWDP, which plans for a smaller number of dwellings, the target will be much easier to achieve.

The leaders of the three partner authorities Malvern Hills, Worcester City and Wychavon, have now agreed to submit the SWDP to the Secretary of State no later than the end of May. A factor in this decision was the recent (25 April 2013) announcement of the revocation of the West Midlands RSS on Monday 20th May which removes a further test for the SWDP should it be submitted on or after Tuesday 21st May 2013. They are working on the basis that the public hearing will still start in the summer.

After 21st May, but before the new plan has been approved, the RSS housing numbers will still carry considerable weight as they will be the only figures to have been subjected to public scrutiny, albeit that this scrutiny took place some years ago and can now be argued to be out of date.

The consequence of this for Kemerton is that, for the next few months, planning applications will not be able to be refused simply on the grounds that they are outside the development boundary, as defined in the old Wychavon District Local Plan and carried forward into the new SWDP. They will have to be judged on whether they constitute sustainable development

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as defined in the NPPF. It is some comfort that the NPPF places particular weight on safeguarding the AONB.

16. Progress Reports for Information.

a) Clerk.

PAYE had been submitted.

b) Chairman.

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

A copy of two land drainage letters sent by Wychavon District Council requiring owners to carry out works had been received.

Wychavon Flooding questionnaire was completed.

18. Items for Future Agenda And Councillor Reports.

Overhead electricity lines, up dating of traffic calming scheme project.

19. Date Of Next Meeting.

2013 – 2nd July, 3rd September and 5th November.

2014 - 7th January, 4th March and 6th May.

Annual Parish Meeting 18th March 2013.