

**Minutes of the Kempsey PACT meeting held at Kempsey Village Hall  
on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at 7.30pm**

**PRESENT:** (27) Terry Ward (Chairman), David Harrison (MHDC), John Michael (MHDC), Jan Harrison, Lesley Cox (Parish Hall), Malcolm Holland, Maxine Hemming (Parish Hall), Joy Clee, Sharon Baker-Joyce, Mike Biddle, Ann Smith, Bob Bowley (Parish Councillor), Neil Stevens (Parish Councillor), Tom Travers (Parish Councillor), Mary Travers, Sally Linsey (Cornflower Club), Angela Allen, Jackie Smith, Pat Walker, Kath Padden, Dave Bevan, Brian Hewlett, Bob Cownie, Sue Cownie, Chris Gillies, Margaret Gillies, Marian Walters,

- 1. Welcome and Introductions:** The Chairman, Terry Ward, welcomed everyone to the Parish Hall and thanked them for attending. Everyone then introduced themselves.
- 2. Apologies:** Chris Waller (Chairman of Parish Council), Rev Mark Badger, Bryony Baynes (Headteacher KPS), PC Dee Stanley (West Mercia Police), Wendy & Newton Coen, Simon and Susan Bott, Ian and Helen Fenton, Roy Clarke, Trevor Geens, Martin Allen (County Councillor), Mel Baker-Joyce.
- 3. Reports from County, District and Parish Councils:**

There was no County Council report as Cllr Martin Allen was not present.

Cllr David Harrison gave the following update.

Work on the bridge is progressing well and it is hoped work should be finished by the summer. Work on the slip road from Kempsey towards Powick is scheduled for 11<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> March and will result in road closures from late evening until 5.00am. Work on the A38 and A4104 is slightly ahead of schedule despite being delayed for 8 months due to newts and archaeological digs. The passing bays in Pixham Ferry Lane will all be on the Taylor Wimpey side as land on the other side does not belong to Taylor Wimpey. The Parish Council has put in a draft application for £1.7 million Section 106 funding for the proposed community project at Pixham Ferry Lane. £475,718 allocated by MHDC will have to be returned if not used by the end of May 2022. The Parish Council is in the process of interviewing architects for the project. Roads on the Linden Homes site have been inspected by WCC and passed for adoption. None of the roads in either of the Taylor Wimpey sites have been assessed as acceptable so all will have to be relaid. The entrance to Centurion Drive will be relaid when work on the A38 takes place and all the levels will marry-up. The footpath near Meadow Close will be re-surfaced in April.

Cllr John Michael had spoken with PC Dee Stanley who asked that anyone witnessing any incident should report it on 101, and the police will respond immediately. The Malvern Hills Car Club is now operating in Malvern and some surrounding areas. MHDC has provided £101995 funding to support the scheme which would give people living in rural areas the opportunity to have better

accessibility to transport. Further details are in the March edition of the KLINKS magazine.

### When are we likely to see building work start on the Community project?

It will all depend on the outcome of an infrastructure meeting due to be held later this week. Planning application will be submitted to MHDC by June 2022. It is hoped that work on the field will commence later this year. Neil Stevens added that we have to be certain of the Section 106 money, and the building should take place in 2023/24. There will be a chance for all parishioners to see the plans once they are finalised, but it was emphasised that due to spiraling building costs, everything in those plans may not be included initially and have to be added later.

DH said work on trimming of hedges and trees at Severn Stoke was delayed due to flooding. An arboriculturist has started on that work now. Phased construction on the Flood Alleviation Scheme is continuing from April to the end of the year.

Lesley Cox gave an update on improvements to the Parish Hall. An outside security light has been installed, fire, gas and electrical checks have taken place and the Book Swap is going from strength to strength. There is now a regular user, the Company Theatre Academy who plan to put on events in the hall. Renovation plans will be displayed at the Open Days during the Jubilee Celebration weekend. Terry Ward said how pleased he was to see the revival of the hall and MW once again thanked Lesley, Malcolm and Maxine for all their hard work.

## 4. Plans for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations.

Cllr Neil Stevens gave details of the planned events spread over the whole weekend, 2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> June. Simon Bott's briefing note is below.

### Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations 2022

#### Briefing note March 2022

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Reminder: the weekend which starts on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June is the Jubilee weekend. In conjunction with Kempsey Parish Council, The Parish Hall Committee, St. Mary's Church and various groups in the village there are now a number of events planned.

Starting with Lighting the Beacon on Kempsey Common. The actual lighting takes place at 9.45 p.m. Coordinated across the Country so that the various beacons can be seen to link up. There will be food & refreshments, and a special guest, plus a specially composed piece of music called 'Majesty' played by Jon Holland from City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra (CBSO) who has kindly donated his time FOC. We expect 'gates open' at about 7.30 pm. We will have professional First Aid provision from Severn Valley Training.

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June is some clearing up and some preparation, but we will communicate any events that are planned.

On Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June the Parish Hall will hold Open House with refreshments and a fascinating photographic exhibition of Old Kempsey (Henry Morris) Music & Talent – *Lesley Cox for details please.*

From 2.00 p.m. On Saturday our Party in the Park will start on Plovers Rise Playing Field. There will be live music, headlined by Jimmy & The Hound Dogs, a Fun Dog Show, traditional Summer Fair stalls, Tennis 'Have A Go', a wide variety of food & drink including a Licensed Bar run by Kempsey School's PTFA, Candy Floss, Ice Cream, a Cocktail Bar(!) Bouncy Castles and other inflatables provided by professional companies. Sideshows will include a merry go round – stalls – childrens' games. We estimate finish time as 11.00 pm, followed by 'clearing up!'

On Sunday we are hoping to revive the legendary Village Wheelbarrow Race which was always a great success in previous years and have a pop up BMX and Skatepark at Plovers Rise.

The Parish Hall will continue a second day of Open House with the Photographic Exhibition, and in the evening the weekend will conclude with a proper Barn Dance with Black Velvet and a Caller. (Ticket event)

Sunday is designated as the day for Street Parties, and MHDC have put in some special measures to make getting Street Closures easier. (*David Harrison or John Michael for details.*)

At St. Mary's Church Sunday will be holding a special cinema screening of the 1953 Coronation, between 3.00pm and 5.00 pm, along with Cream Teas.

The Beacon Lighting event on Thursday and the Platinum Picnic Party in the Park on Saturday (including all entertainment) will be free of charge.

We have started to publicise the weekend in K Links magazine, on facebook, with leaflets through doors and banners for display at three prominent locations around Kempsey.

The third meeting for Queen's Jubilee Volunteers is Thursday 17<sup>th</sup>. March, doors open at 7.00 p.m. For a 7.30 start.

We are keen to recruit volunteers to help over the weekend – please get in touch. We have an email address

[kempseyjubilee@gmail.com](mailto:kempseyjubilee@gmail.com)

Lesley Cox said that the Parish Hall open days on Saturday and Sunday would give people living on their own a wonderful opportunity to feel part of the celebrations. Children will be performing on the stage and the photograph exhibition will give new comers to Kempsey an idea of what the village used to look like.

Sue Cownie is contacting local businesses for sponsorship to cover the cost of putting on the various events. There will be banners at each end of Kempsey and details will be put on the website and Facebook.

5. **Report from the Police:** PC Dee Stanley had told MW that she would be at the meeting, but had been called away on operational duties at the last minute so sent the following brief report.

*Kempsey and Alfrick area is now covered by PC Dee Stanley and PCSO Faye Allen-Carter, we cover a large area with a number of different parishes. We are aware of a number of thefts within the village recently and are arranging a Crime prevention/property marking event in the early evening of 12<sup>th</sup> April 2022 along with conducting high visibility patrols. There are also currently discussions ongoing around Kempsey and Smartwater which is a great crime prevention tool and this has been very successful in other villages within Worcestershire at deterring criminals.*

**Report from the School:** Bryony was unable to attend our meeting due to a prior commitment, but sent the following report.

#### **PACT REPORT**

Here at school, "life" is slowly returning to normal. In the half term after Christmas, we were particularly hard hit by COVID with a number of staff and pupils contracting the illness and required to isolate for ten days. However, the February half term seems to have provided a good break from all of this and we have returned to virtual full strength in terms of staffing and pupils. Under the new guidance, we have been able to dispense with bubbles in school and are no longer required to wear masks in communal areas. This has made for a far more natural learning environment for the children. We have brought back assemblies, although, at the moment, these are still in key stages, rather than whole school. Our Friday's Praise Assemblies continue to be broadcast live via our Facebook page and we have enjoyed welcoming back the Vicar for his assembly slot. Finally, we hope, in the summer term, to re-introduce after school clubs as a final step to full normality.

In the past term, we have said good-bye to two long serving members of staff who have left us for retirement. Mrs Sue Hart, who taught at KPS for 30+ years, and Mrs Linda Allies, who taught here for 16 years have both left to enjoy what we hope will be a long and happy retirement. In the past few weeks, we have had some instances of some of our older children behaving in irresponsible ways as they walk home alone, or with their friends. We always act promptly when we receive such reports and frequently remind our pupils that they represent the school, both within the classrooms as well as around the village. We hope this will remind them to act sensibly and responsibly.

As the weather improves we hope to begin enjoying our outdoor spaces a bit more. A great deal of work has gone on in our Forest School area to clear underbrush and build some steps, and we have also been clearing out the area around the pond. Hopefully, the warmer weather will mean that these areas, as well as our lovely field get more use!

As I always do in these reports, may I reiterate my invitation to any of you to come into school to see what we are doing or to see our lovely, refurbished teaching spaces? We are all very proud of our school and I am sure you would share that pride if you were to visit.

Thank you,



**Report from Rev Mark Badger:** MW read out a short report from MB which said that following a letter from John Inge, Bishop of Worcester, our church is

proposing to participate in the “As One” campaign which is due to start in spring/early summer of 2022. Further details will be given in the coming weeks.

**6. Litter picking:** The next litter pick will start from the Parish Hall at 2.00pm on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> March.

**7. Any other business:**

- Cllr Harrison thanked everyone involved in the bulb planting throughout the village. The daffodils look lovely and it was such a shame that four young lads had been caught breaking them off near the Brookend Lane area. They were captured on CCTV and their parents had been informed. This resulted in all four being grounded and having their iPads taken from them. He also thanked Simon Bott our lengthsman and John Watkinson his deputy, for keeping Kempsey looking so tidy. The post and rails by the Rocky have been painted recently and look very smart.
- There is only one communal computer at The Firs and this cannot be accessed by residents as Platform have imposed restrictions on it. DH is speaking to Platform about this matter.
- Joy Clee is a firm believer in the distribution of leaflets and meeting people face to face.
- Sue Cownie said the Woodland Trust has donated 300 trees and hedge plants which need to be planted in several areas. Volunteers will be needed for this.
- Jan Harrison asked for donations of sanitary products to be sent to Ukraine. They can be taken to her home for packing in boxes.

**8. Date of next meeting:**

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> May at 12.30pm in the parish hall

The meeting closed at 9.05pm.