

**Minutes of the Kempsey PACT meeting held at Kempsey Village Hall
on Tuesday 10th May 2022 at 12.30pm**

PRESENT: (19) Terry Ward (Chairman), David Harrison (MHDC), Jan Harrison, Lesley Cox (Parish Hall), Maxine Hemming (Parish Hall), Shalini Bristow, Joy Clee, Mel Baker-Joyce, John Baker, Ann Smith, Rob Gardner (Parish Councillor), Bob Bowley (Parish Councillor), Sally Linsey (Cornflower Club), Kath Padden, Dave Bevan, , Chris Gillies, Margaret Gillies, Matt Hancock-Bruce (Newsquest Reporter), 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), Cllr John Michael, Rev Mark Badger, Bryony Baynes (Headteacher KPS), Wendy & Newton Coen, Simon and Susan Bott, Sue and Bob Cownie, Ian and Helen Fenton, Jackie Smith, Roy Clarke, Trevor Geens, Sharon Baker-Joyce, Mike Biddle, Brian Hewlett, Malcolm Holland. Belated apologies were received from Martin Allen (County Councillor) and PC Dee Stanley who had been on holiday.
- 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 and roundabout is progressing well and a further update will be available following a meeting to be held next week. No yellow boxes are planned for the Ketch roundabout despite several recent near misses. The new lineage is causing a number of problems, but we will all have to get used to the new layout. Access to the Ketch roundabout from the south along the A38 will be limited for 9 days during work to reconfigure the road layout leading up to the roundabout and the new bridge.

From 20th - 23 May the road will be closed completely.

From 23rd - 28th May it will have night time closures from 21.00 - 05.30hrs. The reason for the delay in completion of the work is that the bearings below have been replaced now to avoid further work in two or three years' time. It is hoped work will be completed by early summer. The viewing platform, which will have a ramp to allow disabled access, should be finished within the next month or two and information boards will show visitors the local battle sites and other places of interest.

MW read out a report from Chris Waller, Chairman of the Parish Council. In it he said the Parish Council is now meeting twice a month to review and authorize various initiatives. He said the **Annual Parish Meeting** is to take place on **Monday 23rd May 2022 at 7.30pm in the Community Centre** at which Simon Bott will give an update on the Queen's Jubilee celebration events, Cathy Garner will give the preliminary results from the Parish Survey 2022 and Rob Gardner

will give an update on possible further housing development in Kempsey and involvement of the community. The last **Parish Council** survey was carried out in 2014 which led to the new Community and Sports Centre project at Pixham Ferry Lane/Old Road South. We are now into the delivery phase of this and the Parish Council is looking ahead to see what new or expanded facilities and services the community would like to see in the next decade.

We have launched a new questionnaire – the **Parish Survey 2022**. It is primarily an online survey which can be found by directly entering the address bit.ly/KempseySurvey into your web browser.

The survey was launched via an advert at the Kempsey Community Facebook page last Friday and we have had 75 responses to date. There is no closing date for the survey but we will review the number of responses and close the survey when it seems likely that no further completed questionnaires are likely to be forthcoming. We will be giving at least one week's notice of the close of the survey but if you intend to participate, early responses would be appreciated.

CW reported on the progress being made to secure the Section 106 money from MHDC towards the proposed **Community and Sports Centre** on the land recently acquired on Old Road South.

4. Improving the appearance of A38 – condition of road and footpath surfaces.

Concern was expressed at the state of many of the pavements in the village. Due to uneven levels, many of them are extremely difficult to walk on comfortably, especially people with mobility problems. It was noted that in many places, people with walking frames and the like resort to walking in the road. People were encouraged to report overhanging shrubs and hedges to the Parish Council who have the authority to write to the land owner asking them to cut them back. The surface of the A38 is cracking up in many places, but this is not likely to be improved while it is being used as a diversion when the M5 is closed for road works. Many of the street lamps have not been painted in years and are an eyesore. It was noted that the installation of the many raised beds had greatly improved the appearance of the village, especially when the daffodils were in flower.

5. Progress with Community project at Pixham Ferry Lane/Old Road South.

The Parish Council are extremely grateful to MHDC for their help and advice on the project which is making good progress. This is a massive step forward.

6. Reports from School, Police and Church. Unfortunately there was no report from the school or the police. Great concern was expressed at the amount of Anti Social Behaviour in the village at the moment, including an assault and open drug dealing occurring on a regular basis. MW will write to the SNT at Malvern and copy in the Chief Constable and the Police Commissioner expressing these concerns. West Mercia Police are encouraging members of the public to sign up to hear about policing updates, crime prevention, ongoing incidents and to learn about what they are doing in our community. To do so log onto www.neighbourhoodmatters.co.uk

Rev Mark Badger sent the following report:

Severnside Community Support.

In partnership with Kempsey Primary School, SCS is re-establishing a local food bank provision. There will be a dedicated building on the KPS site which will hold a stock of provisions which can be accessed by members of the local community. This provision will be underpinned via SCS funds, Malvern Food Bank and partnerships with supermarkets. In the past months, SCS has been offering targeted financial support to families identified by schools or via direct approach to myself. In that time, we have distributed some £6000 of funds. We hope that this new facility will be open after half term.

As One.

As per my previous report, the church plans to promote the *As One* initiative. This is a campaign to encourage the creation of many Street Associations in towns and villages across the Diocese. I now have all the banners, leaflets and instruction packs and would like to invite members of the local community to join us in promoting this initiative. If anyone would like to know more, please contact me rector@severnsideparishes.co.uk 07828 233049

- 7. Preparations for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations.** Joy Clee gave an update on many of the events being organized for the jubilee. Refreshments will be on sale at the beacon lighting ceremony on Kempsey Common on Thursday 2nd June and we will have a solo violinist and bugler in attendance. On Friday The Lawns are holding a scarecrow competition, the Anchor is holding a barbecue and there will be a parade of horses and carriages starting from Green Street at 11.00am. An updated leaflet is going to be delivered to every household giving details of what is going on at Plovers Rise from 2.00pm on Saturday. There will be market stalls, the PTFA are running a bar and it is hoped there will be a tug of war if there are enough teams. Kempsey Cricket Club have kindly given up their home fixture to allow this event to be held on the playing field. A wheelbarrow race is taking place on Sunday with the trophy being sponsored by the Halford Partnership. A colour film of the 1953 Coronation is being shown from 3.00-5.00pm in church on Sunday along with refreshments. The Village Hall will be open all day on Saturday and Sunday when there will be an exhibition of photographs of Kempsey in days gone by. Children will be dancing on stage and stilt walking and circus skills are taking place on the car park. A Barn Dance with a live band is being held on Sunday evening. The committee have been busy getting sponsorship and funding for the project and the Parish Council have given £5000 towards the costs.
- 8. Litter picking.** The next litter pick is Sunday 15th May 2022 at 2.00pm from the Village Hall.
- 9. Any other business.** None.
- 10. Date of next meeting.** Tuesday 12th July at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 2.15pm.