

**Minutes of the Kempsey PACT meeting held at Kempsey Village Hall  
on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2022 at 12.30pm**

**PRESENT:** (16) Terry Ward (Chairman), PC Dee Stanley (West Mercia Police), David Harrison (MHDC), Jan Harrison, Roy Clarke, Joy Clee, Lynda Billinghamurst, Ann Smith, Rob Gardener (Parish Councillor), Mike Biddle, Simon Bott (Parish Lengthsman), Susan Bott (Parish Councillor), Nancy Morris, Sally Linsey (Cornflower Club), Kath Padden 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:** Martin Allen (County Councillor), John Michael (MHDC), Chris Waller (Chairman of Parish Council), Emily Johnson, Rev Mark Badger, Bryony Baynes (Headteacher KPS), Maxine Hemming, Bob Cownie, Sue Cownie, Ian Fenton, Helen Fenton, Melody and Sharon Baker-Joyce,
- 3. Reports from County, District and Parish Councils:**

**COUNTY COUNCIL.**

Cllr Martin Allen had sent his apologies but emailed the following report.

**SIGNS FOR OUR VILLAGE**

I am supporting Cllr Clamps drive to get “Welcome to Kempsey” signs installed. Although there was initial support from WCC, this seems to have faded with the change of our Highways Liaison Officer. I intend to arrange a site meeting to get this matter resolved.

**BUSES**

WCC have now found the funds to continue the buses as they are until the end of March 2023. This is very good news. As yet, it is unknown what will happen after that. However, I do know that WCC are looking at more Community Transport which does not bode well for traditional buses.

**KETCH ROUNDABOUT**

As you are aware it is now open and so far, it has given very little trouble.

**UPTON A38/A4104 ROUNDABOUT**

This is still going well and is on target. There will be some overnight closures towards the end of September to “Top” the surface.

**POST OFFICE LANE HOUSING APPLICATION**

Following my insistence, the Highways came and looked at the proposed access it looks like they will now oppose the application. I had to push them really hard for action, but I do believe that this access onto the highway would be very dangerous.

### **POST OFFICE LANE FOOTWAY OUTSIDE SALLOWBED WAY.**

During our visit to look at the access for the Post Office Lane I was informed that the Footway on the road was illegal and that some form of action would be needed. I have left this to Officers to pursue.

### **FOOTWAYS TO BE REPAIRED/REPLACED.**

My list of most concern is listed below:

1. The Limes
2. Elgar Drive.
3. Chapel Road.
4. Hetherington Close.
5. Church Street,(Patching) including the Laybys.
6. Lyfs Lane (Patching)

I had a meeting with the relevant officer on Wednesday 10/08/22 to discuss the options and priorities.

It has now been agreed that during this financial year Hetherington Close and One side of Chapel Road and also Elgar Drive will be worked upon. It is expected that the work will commence before the end of March 2023.

The Limes is going to be done hopefully in one hit in May or June 2023. Depending upon funds WCC will then look at Church Street, (Patching) including the Laybys and Lyfs Lane (Patching)

### **DISTRICT COUNCIL.**

Cllr David Harrison explained that due to the national period of mourning following Queen Elizabeth's death, he was unable to give a report but could answer some questions. Both he and Cllr John Michael have recently attended many meetings regarding planning applications, fuel bills etc.

- RC said more signage was required at the Ketch roundabout to make it clear which lane drivers should be in. DH said he has a meeting with WCC Highways department on 27<sup>th</sup>/28<sup>th</sup> September regarding signage at the roundabout.
- The introduction of a 20mph speed limit on certain roads was mentioned a while ago – maybe there should be a discussion as to whether it was desirable or not. TG said a working party “**20 is plenty**” has been set up. Maybe there could be designated times when 20 mph is appropriate.
- TW said visibility was very poor near the shop. PC Stanley said she has spoken to the shop and will keep an eye on the situation and maybe the short parking

spaces on the front should be closed. She will take some photographs and put them on social media.

- MB asked about the Car Share Scheme and TG said the Parish Council had held a meeting and the matter was in hand. Three key people are needed to run the scheme. JC said she would like to see the scheme make progress and also the introduction of cycle tracks. Both require much more publicity.
- Cllr Harrison thanked Maxine Hemming for arranging to have the village hall floor sanded and polished and for her hard work in making the venue so much more presentable than before.

### **PARISH COUNCIL**

TG explained that due to the period of national mourning, he was unable to give a formal report and the Parish Council could not hold meetings. A Book of Condolence has been placed in church and he encouraged people to sign it.

He asked if people were aware of the free Neighbourhood Matters APP which gives regular information on criminal incidents in the area, and encouraged everyone to sign up for it. [www.neighbourhoodmatters.co.uk](http://www.neighbourhoodmatters.co.uk)

The Parish Survey will close next month and is still available on line and he also has some hard copies. The Parish Council has objected to all three planning applications as the sites are outside the village development boundary and therefore contrary to the South Worcestershire Development Plan (SWDP) and the Kempsey Neighbourhood Plan. A 6 week consultation period of the SWDP review will take place from 1<sup>st</sup> November.

MB said he had asked the Environment Agency for records regarding the overloading of the sewerage system in the village, but no records were available.

JC felt that Section 106 money should not be given solely to the proposed Sports Centre at Pixham Ferry Lane. It should be much broader to include cycle tracks and road crossings. DH said some 106 money from WCC Highways department was going towards buses for active travel.

## **4. Reports from School, Police and Church.**

**Bryony Baynes, Headteacher of Kempsey Primary School sent the following report.**

We have started back to school with a whole school topic focused on Ambition. This is one of our 6 Core Traits which we hope to embed in all of the children; we are encouraging them to think about what they want to achieve this year and how to go about reaching these. It has been lovely to see all of the children after their summer break and to hear about all of their adventures. Like the rest of the nation, we will be observing the Bank Holiday on Monday, 19<sup>th</sup> September, and the school will be closed as a mark of respect to the late Queen.

I am aware there has been a great deal of discussion about the proposed building within the village and I am also aware that one of the objections that has been raised is that the school is full or, as some have put it, "bursting at the seams." I want to go on record as saying that this is not the case. Currently, six of our seven year groups have space for additional pupils without going over PAN (pupil admission number). So we could accommodate new pupils at any point. Additionally, the local authority have already been in contact about the proposed site for expansion. So I do want to reassure concerned villagers that the local school can and will cope with any additional houses that are built. We are hoping to begin to re-establish some of our community links this year and possibly even revive the Kempsey Café which was flourishing before the pandemic. However, as always, we are very happy to welcome any visitors to the school. We also have a vacancy on our Governing Body and would love to hear from anyone who might be interested in filling it. It is not a huge commitment in terms of time – we usually have one meeting every half term, generally on a Wednesday evening, which lasts for approximately 2 hours. Being a school governor is a fantastic opportunity to support the school so please do consider it. If you are interested, please have a word with Marian or speak to me.

**PC Dee Stanley gave the following report:**

She and PCSO Brandon Knight were keeping a close watch on ASB in the village. She was pleased to say that PC Jon Hand is coming back in January. They are aware that there have been some shed break-ins lately, ASB with electric scooters in Bestmans Lane and Napleton Lane and ASB with a vehicle doing doughnuts near Pixham ferry lane, and the police are regularly patrolling these areas. They are keeping a close eye on drug dealing near the church and on Pixham Ferry Lane and are engaging with those they believe are responsible. She said that Smart Water will be given free of charge to all residents in the coming weeks. The first event will be held in the Community Centre on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> September from 2.00pm – 6.30pm with more events planned. She explained how it worked and encouraged people to take up the offer. She also said she was out twice a month with the speed gun.

Everybody is encouraged to report the smallest incident to the police, as this could be linked to create a larger picture.

**Rev Mark Badger did not send a report.**

Simon Bott, who had set up the Jubilee working party, said Rev Mark Badger has invited the committee to organise the Christmas Fayre in church on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November. There is a meeting in church on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30pm to discuss arrangements for this and volunteers are very welcome to attend. A Summer Fete is also proposed for 24<sup>th</sup> June 2023, but this will depend on when the coronation of King Charles III will take place. Further information on these events can be found by emailing [infokempseyreveals@gmail.com](mailto:infokempseyreveals@gmail.com)

There will be a litter pick on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> September starting at 2.00pm from the Village Hall.

Picnic benches dedicated to Queen Elizabeth II are to be placed on the playing field at Plovers Rise.

**5. Any other business.**

- DH said Tom Rowlands has left The Talbot pub and the brewery have placed a temporary tenant there until a permanent one is found.
- Debbie Clarke, the wife of Brian Clarke who did so much work with FLAG to get the flood defences in place for Kempsey, died unexpectedly earlier this month. Her funeral will take place in Christchurch where they now live.
- A small area of land is up for sale near the orchard at Saxon Meadows. Representations have been made to the senior planning officer at MHDC.
- Cllr Susan Bott asked if PACT could write to Steve Winfield at St Peters Tesco asking if the weekly bus taking shoppers to their store could be re-instated. MW will write to him.
- Is there a reason there is no longer a bottle bank at The Talbot? Maybe Marstons, the brewery, could explain why.

**6. Date of next meeting.** Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 2.10pm.