



PARISH COUNCIL
Kempsey

**MINUTES OF THE FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 8 JANUARY 2025 AT 11.30AM
AT KEMPSEY COMMUNITY CENTRE**

PRESENT: - Cllr Waller (Chairman), Cllr Gardener, Cllr Stevens, Cllr Cooke and Cllr Plummer

IN ATTENDANCE: - Sharon Dunn (Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer)

1. Apologies: None
2. Declaration of Interests:
 1. Register of Interests: Councillors were reminded of the need to update their register of interests.
 2. Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI): None
 3. Other Disclosable Interests (ODI): Cllr Stevens declared an ODI in respect of the Lengthsman Being his friend and joint Director of Kempsey Promotions Community Interest Company.

Public Question Time – None

3. Minutes: Having been previously circulated, the minutes of the F&GP Committee meeting of 26.11.2024 were signed as a true and correct record.
Matters arising from previous minutes: None

Update on signage at the Community Centre and Plovers Rise Playing Fields
Some temporary signage has been placed around the Community Centre which will be replaced once in receipt of the new ordered signage from Ocean Blue Graphics.

4. Planning/Development

- Emergency Planning Update - Cllr Gardener
Cllr Gardener and Cllr Stevens had attended a recent meeting with the Emergency Planning Officer and a member representing the Environment Agency.
All the amendments have been captured in the plan, for review.

5. Finance

- Update on financial reinvestments
A reinvestment of funds was made with Cambridge & Counties Bank in a 6-month fixed bond offering 4.35% Gross/AER interest.
Unity Trust Bank - The application to reinvest funds in a 6-month bond needs to be re submitted having gone missing in the Christmas post.
- Parish Council Funding for Village Event – Cllr Stevens
There are national plans to celebrate the 80th Anniversary of VE Day on the 8th May 2025. The plans include holding a beacon lighting event and street parties on that day and evening. It was decided by Kempsey CIC that they would not take part in these events because of potential weather problems at that time of year, the logistical difficulties of holding a beacon lighting event on Kempsey Common and the fact that Thursday 8th May 2025 is not a bank holiday and is an ordinary work and school day.

Action

RG/NS

Clerk

<p>It was however, suggested that they could make the village fete on 21st June a VE Day themed event and invite some of the people who were at the D Day event last year to mark this new occasion. £3500 has been allocated in next year's F&GP budget for 'village celebrations' and financial support of £750 to cover the cost of a vintage singer is being requested.</p> <p>RECOMMENDATION: To place a proposal on the January Parish Council agenda to support an event at the Village Fete due to take place on 21st June 2025.</p>	<p>Action</p> <p>Clerk</p>
<p>6. Any Other Business. The Clerk confirmed that the Parish Office is experiencing intermittent problems with the broadband in the Parish Office. An engineer visit took place on Monday 6 January 2025 and the problem has been flagged for further investigation and a visit from a network engineer.</p>	
<p>RESOLVED: Under The Public Bodies (Admission to Meeting(s)) Act 1960 to consider excluding the public and press from discussions only in respect of agenda items 7,8,9 & 10 as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.</p>	
<p>7. Leases Cllr Waller and Cllr Plummer to help progress lease renewals and associated matters.</p>	
<p>8. New Venture: Youth Hub Next steps: To arrange a meeting with the Guiding Panel to discuss the Youth Funding Agreement and Severn Trent Community Fund.</p>	
<p>9. Kempsey Colts Football Club Legal advice is to be sought concerning a new lease.</p>	
<p>10. Staffing Matters Staff matters to be discussed under confidential session on 8 January 2025.</p>	
<p>Planning Issues - Cllr Gardener</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Proposal to engage a specialist to represent the Parish Council at the SWDPr hearing. 2. Proposal to grant delegated powers to the Clerk, The Chairman and The Planning Committee Chairman to agree a final submission to the Streetscape Consultation - Deadline 27th January 2025. 	
<p>Meeting Closed at 1.07 PM</p>	
<p>Signed Chairman Date</p>	