



PARISH COUNCIL  
*Kempsey*

**MINUTES OF THE COMMONS & RECREATION COMMITTEE  
MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> JANUARY 2025  
AT 2.30 PM AT KEMPSEY COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**PRESENT:** - Cllr Waller, Cllr Cooke, Cllr Anstey and Cllr White.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** - Claire Witton (Deputy Clerk) and Sharon Baxter (Clerk and RFO) plus two members of the public

1. Apologies for absence - None
2. Declarations of Interest
  1. Register of Interests: Councillors were reminded of the need to update their register of interests.
  2. To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in items on the agenda and their nature - None
  3. To declare any Other Disclosable Interests in items on the agenda and their nature - None

Public Question Time noted.

3. Minutes: Having been previously circulated, the minutes of the Commons & Hams Committee of 05.11.24 were signed as a true and correct record.  
Matters arising from previous minutes: None

4. Review/Update of Commons items: -

1. Kempsey Common

- a. To review quotations for installation of new gate  
The preference was to install a new pedestrian gate. Three quotes were reviewed.  
One was identified as the preferred option.

**RECOMMENDATION:** To place a proposal on the February Parish Council agenda to accept quotation to install a new pedestrian gate on Kempsey Common.  
(Noted to identify in work specification to recover the rider handle from the old gate to reuse on the new gate if required.)

- b. Work required on drainage ditch (back common)  
An inspection to be carried out. Cllr Anstey will review. Cllr White will also familiarise himself with the Commons and review at the same time.

2. Stonehall Common

- a. Tree planting  
It was discussed that Severn Trent publicised an offer of tree planting, although there were conditions of a 10-acre requirement. Cllr Waller to pursue funding opportunities and identify location to best place new trees.  
Action of item deferred considering short window to plant this year.

- b. Bramble and hedge cutting required  
Cllr Waller to liaise with a contractor to obtain a price to proceed prior to the end of February.  
Cllr Anstey to provide benchmark industry costs for hedge cutting.

Action

SD add to  
agenda for  
KPC

Claire to  
create work  
spec

Cllr Ansty  
Cllr White

Cllr Waller

Cllr Waller  
Cllr Anstey

3. Normoor Common	Cllr Cooke
a. Ash die back of large tree Cllr Cooke to seek quotations.	
4. Kerswell Green	Claire
a. Electric Fences An action for the Parish Office to contact the Planning Inspectorate to understand if since enquiry last year, there have been no additional report forms submitted to notify that a temporary fence has been put up. If no forms exist, a letter to be sent to the parishioner requesting removal of the electric fence.	
b. Plans for installation of mains sewer at Kerswell Green Referenced in Public Question Time	
c. Parishioner request to lay new waste pipe to connect to proposed mains sewer Referenced in Public Question Time	
5. Ashmoor Common	Claire
a. Hydrologist report to determine if water is temporary The Parish Office to follow up with Rigore to quote for a surveyor	Cllr Waller
6. Tree Felling at Normoor, Kerswell and Stonehall The Parish Office is progressing matters to request felling of two trees, one at Kerswell and one at Stonehall, due to tree branches potentially could cause damage to overhead wires. Cllr Waller to supply a photo of branch on overheads wires to support with the enquiry. Although, until there is any actual damage the agency is not required to maintain the trees. There is an action to make an enquiry to local MP to seek assistance with this matter.	Claire
5. Review of Recreation items: -	
1. Recommended watering levels for new pitches at Pixham Ferry Lane Cllr Cooke to explore recommendations from GMA to discuss with local connection. The objective of discussions is to understand the calculated volume of watering required in more extreme hotter summer weather, for the soil and foundation type. The item is relevant to obtain authority from the environment agency for the amount of ground water that is required be extracted to maintain good quality pitches in all weather conditions.	Cllr Cooke
2. Kempsey Amigos Cricket Lease and improvements to cricket square An action agreed to replicate the Kempsey Colts process to obtaining a lease agreement.	Cllr Cooke
3. Kempsey Colts Lease and Fee structure (may need to revert to confidential session) A Heads of Terms document has been produced collaboratively by Cllr Waller, Cllr Plummer and the Parish Office. The committee reviewed and recommended to send directly to Kempsey Colts Treasurer, with an invite to meet and discuss prior to preparation of a lease.	Claire
7. Review of master task list The master task list reviewed and updated.	Claire
7. Any Other Business It was brought to our attention that horse riders are using the walking paths on Stonehall Common. The Parish Office to prepare two notices for display on Stonehall Common with the aim to advise horse riders to keep off walking paths to avoid any damage.	SD

Meeting Closed at 4.08 PM

Signed ..... Chairman..... Date

*Standing Orders were adjourned.*

## **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

A parishioner commented on the planned installation of a mains sewer pipe in Kerswell Green, referencing 12 residents had expressed interest to connect their properties to the main sewer. The parishioner's property and garden is separated by an access track and proposed to lay a connection pipe to the main sewer under the access track. The parishioner noted contention regarding who owns the access track and requested permission to lay a connecting pipe.

KPC advised the parishioner to:

1. review land registry records to identify the freeholder and ascertain if the track was privately owned
2. explore an indemnity policy to guard against damage or foul sewage leakage
3. consider the alternative of laying the pipe across the frontage of their garden.

If the land is identified as common land KPC would therefore have an interest and the request would be required to go to full council for approval, if approved a legal agreement would need to be drawn up at parishioner cost and indemnity required.

If the land is privately owned KPC would have no further interest in the matter.

*Standing Orders were reimposed.*