



MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 10 FEBRUARY 2025 AT 7.00 PM AT KEMPSEY COMMUNITY CENTRE

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

IN ATTENDANCE: - County Cllr Allen, District Cllr Harrison plus 4 members of the public.
Sharon Dunn - Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer.

1. **Apologies:** Cllr Plummer (Personal), Cllr Anstey (Personal), Cllr Clamp (Personal) and Cllr White (Personal) - All Accepted
District Cllr Michael (MHDC Trust meeting) - received
2. **Declarations of Interest**
 - a. Register of Interests: Councillors were reminded of the need to update their register of interests.
 - b. To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in items on the agenda and their nature - None
 - c. To declare any Other Disclosable Interests on items on the agenda and their nature - None
3. **To Consider Written Requests from Councillors for the Council to Grant a Dispensation** (S33 of the Localism Act 2011) - written requests to be submitted to the clerk prior to the meeting - None

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Notes from Public Question Time are appended to these minutes.
Reports from County Councillor Allen and District Councillor Harrison were noted.

4. Minutes: Having been previously circulated, the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 13.01.2025 were signed as a true and accurate record.
5. Correspondence for Information: - Under General Data Protection Regulations names of Identifiable subject/matter withheld
 1. Request from Friends of Kempsey Primary School to hold the Annual Fireworks Display at Plovers Rise, Playing Fields on Saturday 8 November 2025 - please refer to agenda item 6.
 2. Letter from Parishioner dated 27.01.2025 re: disabled car park spaces at Kempsey Community Centre. A response is to be submitted to advise that there are no plans to create any further disabled parking spaces at Kempsey Community Centre but the capacity will be increased at the new community and sports centre located at Pixham Ferry Lane.
 3. South Worcestershire Citizens Advice - Donation request - To refer to F&GP for discussion.
6. **RESOLVED:** To allow the Friends of Kempsey Primary School to hold the Annual Fireworks Display at Plovers Rise, Playing Fields, Kempsey on Saturday 8 November 2025, subject to receipt of a risk assessment and organisation documentation.

The Friends of Kempsey Primary School were congratulated for holding well-organised, successful past events.

There are some challenges regarding parking along the Main Road for this event.
Cllr White, as police liaison, to request a more visible police presence for this event and to find out what action can be taken to help combat inconsiderate parking.

Action

Clerk

JW

	Action
7. Finance	
1. Payment of accounts as per schedule were authorised.	
2. Monthly Bank Reconciliation Statement - For Information Only.	
3. Capital Budget - For Information Only	
4. Final budget for the Financial Year 2025/2026 - For Information Only	
8. Committee Report Updates and Proposals: -	
1. Finance & General Purposes Committee: Cllr Waller	
The last meeting took place on 30 January 2025 where many of the recommendations feature as proposals on this agenda.	
Grant Funding	
a. RESOLVED: To authorise the Clerk to submit a funding application to the National Lottery Awards for All to secure £20,000 to facilitate the operation of a Youth Hub at Kempsey Youth Centre, Plovers Rise.	Clerk
b. RESOLVED: To authorise the Clerk to sign the Youth Innovation Fund Grant Agreement for £3000 with WCC to support the Youth Hub at Kempsey Youth Centre, Plovers Rise.	Clerk
c. Defibrillator update	
It was agreed to organise defibrillator/CPR training with a local provider for 15 candidates (Councillors and Parish Office Staff & Associates) at a discounted rate of £250 for 10 candidates and £25 thereafter for each additional one.	
To contact the provider to confirm a date for when this training can be conducted.	Deputy
2. Environment: Cllr Plummer – No report available	
Cllr Waller asked if there was any update from WCC on the offer of a flowering cherry tree to replace the moribund holly tree at the front of the Community Centre which was removed to help facilitate the pedestrian crossing. The Clerk to chase.	Clerk
- Working Party: MRWP Update: Cllr Clamp - No report available	
a. Proposal to change the name of the Main Road Working Party - ITEM DEFERRED	
3. Community Centres: Cllr Stevens	
Ongoing regular maintenance. Caution Ice signage has been installed around Kempsey Community Centre.	
Fire Risk Assessments have been conducted on all three community buildings, Kempsey Community Centre, Kempsey Youth Centre and the Sports Pavilion with recommendations/conclusions implemented. Next steps are to organise Fire Assessment Training.	Clerk/ Deputy
4. Infrastructure Committee: Cllr Waller	
The outstanding Landscaping, Arboricultural Impact Assessment and Biodiversity Net Gain reports from Blade have been received and are being reviewed. We are now waiting for the updates to the Design & Access Statement from Calfordseaden to complete the documentation for the planning application.	CW
5. Commons and Recreation: Cllr Cooke	
i. A meeting is scheduled to take place with KCFC on 13 th February to discuss Heads of Terms to be incorporated into a new lease, together with hire charges. This will then be rolled over for Amigos Cricket club when completed.	
ii. Severn Trent have agreed to install a mains sewer pipe in Kerswell Green. A Parishioner's property and garden are separated by an access track and ST have proposed 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 has offered some advice to the Parishioner on ways of determining the owner of the land and actions to take thereafter.	
iii. The field gate to Kempsey Common near Common Farm, Green Street is in very poor condition and is in need of replacement. A '2 in 1 gate' which includes a pedestrian gate has been identified to encourage walkers to the common and allow easier access. See proposal 5.a.	

<p>iv. Stonehall Common - It was discussed that Severn Trent publicised an offer of tree planting, although there were conditions of a 10-acre requirement. The C&R committee will pursue funding opportunities and identify a location to best place new trees.</p> <p>v. Bramble and hedge cutting required - Seeking quotations to proceed prior to the end of this month.</p> <p>vi. Ashmoor Common - A hydrologist report is required to determine if the increase in lying water is temporary. The Parish Office will follow up with a surveyor.</p> <p>a. RESOLVED: To accept a quotation to install a new access/pedestrian gate on Kempsey Common at a cost of £912.00 plus VAT (for supply and fit) from Ridley Fencing.</p>	Action
<p>6. Planning Committee: Cllr Gardener A meeting took place on Monday 3 February 2025 where various planning matters were addressed. South Worcestershire Development Plan Review Cllr Gardener is finalising the submission document to reach the Inspector by Tuesday 11 February 2025 at 5.00pm. Thanks were expressed for all his efforts.</p>	Deputy Clerk CG/ Clerk
<p>9. Chairman's Report: Cllr Waller</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Builder: The Guiding Panel met on Friday 17th January 2025 and discussed Kempsey's Vision Project, National Lottery Funding and YMCA Youth Work, WCC Funding and various other funding opportunities. Notes have been circulated. Emergency Plan - Cllr Biddle relayed the issues encountered in Kempsey back in 2007. Cllr Waller suggested the plan be circulated to all councillors confirming Cllr Clamp is now leading on this project and any queries should be directed at him. Feedback from WCC Consultation on the WCC 2025-2026 Budget - Cllr Waller gave an informative overview of this meeting, highlighting that there is a £33M shortfall. Savings are required in three key areas: - 1. Vulnerable Adults, 2. Vulnerable Children and 3. Young Persons Travel He outlined what would happen in the event of a shortfall and how a dispensation could be applied for. There is to be a 5% uplift to the Lengthsman scheme. A 4.99% budget increase is being proposed. Kempsey Times Articles - The article this month to feature defibrillators and SWDPR Examination. 	Clerk
<p>RESOLVED: Under The Public Bodies (Admission to Meeting(s)) Act 1960 to exclude the public and press from discussions only in respect of agenda item 10 & 11. inclusive as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.</p>	
<p>10. RESOLVED: The Deputy Clerk has successfully completed her probationary period and now has the option to join the Local Government Pension scheme. (LGPs) from 1.2.2025.</p>	
<p>11. An update was given by Cllr Waller on staffing matters referencing the Administrative Assistant and Lengthsman.</p>	
<p>Meeting Closed at 8.58 PM</p>	
<p>Signed Chairman..... Date</p>	

Standing Orders were adjourned.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

A Parishioner reported that our local litter picking volunteer recovered a very large sport's holdall from a ditch in Roman Road which appeared to contain cannabis farm paraphernalia. There were also three large cannisters fly-tipped in Roman Road which may be related. Thanks and support were expressed to the volunteer, the Anstey family, MHDC and the police for the various roles they carried out in helping with these incidents.

The same Parishioner asked for an update on BACS Payments/automated payments. He was advised that some work had been conducted for discussion at the next F&GP Committee meeting.

Cllr Biddle questioned if there had been any further development regarding the installation of bus shelters located to the south end of the village. He was advised this this had been referred to the Environment Committee to progress.

County Councillor Martin Allen

FACEBOOK PETITION – TO PROTECT THE SIGNIFICANT GAP

This has been organised by Cathy Garner and has achieved 378 signatures to date which can be extracted as supporting evidence and sent to the Inspector for the SWDPR Hearing.

Good evening.

UNITARY AUTHORITY'S AND COUNTY COUNCIL ELECTIONS

The county council elections are to go ahead.

We now know that Worcestershire's district and county councils are in the second wave to become a Unitary Authority.

The start of a plan must be in place by the end of March this year. A full plan is to be in place in November this year.

BESTMANS LANE GULLY BLOCKED AND MUD ON THE ROAD #6117

This did not go ahead between 20/01/25 and 24/01/25 because the operative had to go to safety training.

It is expected that the work will now commence on 1st of April and last until the 4th April.

PEDESTRIAN SIGNS REQUIRED BROOKEND LANE #8536

The Verge-Masters I have ordered to go around the Brookend Lane bridge have now been installed.

Traffic Management have ordered pedestrian warning signs for either side of this bridge. These should be installed in approx. 2 months' time.

GAUGE MARKERS FOR THE FORD AND ADDITIONAL SIGN

I have been chasing up work to be done at the Ford, and I have been informed that advisory in place for these signs will be upgraded to 12ft gauge markers, plus one additional sign to be installed by the Church. I don't have a timescale yet.

WORK ON TAYLORS LANE FROM 03/03/25 TO 13/06/25

The installation of Street Lighting, formation of new Footway, excavation and restructure of Carriageway. New Culverts, gullies and headwall, topsoil and seed verges. This will be from the junction of Taylors Lane with Norton Road to entrance to Upper Broomhall Farm.

The work is being undertaken by a contractor on behalf of a developer.

Warmest regards

Martin Allen.

District Councillor David Harrison

SWDPR Examination -Reminder the deadline for further submission is Tuesday 11 February 2025 at 5.00PM

Cllr Harrison confirmed he had submitted his comments in respect of Worcestershire Streetscape Consultation

He is in discussion with Officers the design to be introduced in Malvern Hills.

There is to be no increase in the precept with an annual increase of £2.50 for a brown bin.

Heart Start Charity are providing free 90-minute CPR & Defibrillator Training for Save a Heart on Valentines Day

Questions/Comments

Cllr Biddle asked about the collection of food waste.

He was advised commercial collections will commence on 1 April 2025 and domestic collections will start on 1 April 2026.

Cllr Gardener referenced the 79 dwellings located at the Aston's site and the surface and foul water sewerage system.

He was advised that plans are awaited and a SUDs basin is being proposed that will overflow into the river naturally.

County Cllr Allen referenced the development off Windmill Lane.

District Cllr Harrison confirmed he was in discussion and will respond this week.

Standing Orders were reimposed.