

Kempsey Parish Council – March 2026 Meeting Summary

Meeting Date: 9 March 2026

Location: Kempsey Community Centre

Governance and Administration Decisions

Approval of Previous Minutes

- The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9 February 2026 were approved and signed as an accurate record.

Transparency and Communication

- The Council agreed that draft minutes from committees that have not met within the last six weeks will be published on the parish website to improve communication with residents.

Infrastructure and Community Development Decisions

Pedestrian Crossing – Main Road

- The Council agreed in principle to support the installation of a pedestrian crossing across Main Road near the village shop.
- Councillors will meet with the County Highways Cabinet Member on 19 March 2026 to progress the proposal.

Finance and Asset Management Decisions

The Council

- Authorised payment of accounts as presented.
- Reviewed the monthly bank reconciliation statement.
- Reviewed the capital budget.
- Adopted the Asset Register for 2025/2026.

Funding Applications and Project Decisions

Youth Centre Energy Efficiency

- Solar Severn was selected as the preferred supplier to install a solar panel and battery system at the Youth Centre.

The Council resolved to submit supplier quotes and an evaluation report to the Legacy Grant Scheme (Application A43) to support funding.

Youth Hub / IT Hub Proposal

- The Council concluded that building a new structure for an IT/Youth Hub was not financially viable when compared to the quotes received. Instead, the Council resolved to submit a pre-planning application to the District Council for an extension to the Youth Centre to create a self-contained meeting room and to obtain quotes for refurbishing the Sports Pavilion, both subject to MHDC funding approval.

Pump Track Project

Following receipt and evaluation of four supplier quotes and a public consultation event:

- The Council delegated authority to the Finance & General Purposes Committee, in conjunction with the Clerk, to select the preferred supplier for the pump track at the new Community and Sports Centre at Old Road South.
- The Council resolved to submit the preferred supplier quote and evaluation report to the Legacy Grant Scheme (Application A40).
- The Council also agreed to donate spare skateboard helmets and protective equipment to support youth activities organised by Gary Valance.

Community Facilities Decisions

Pavilion Community Café

- The Council formally agreed that the new café at Plovers Pavilion will be named “The Pavilion Community Café.”

Pavilion Security

- The Council approved the installation of a new intruder alarm at the café located at Plovers Rise Pavilion at a cost of £1,863 (including VAT).

Environmental and Community Matters

Rocky Bridge Replacement

- The Council agreed that, if grant funding is approved, the most viable approach will be to appoint a groundworks contractor to prepare the foundations and install a prefabricated bridge kit in line with Environment Agency requirements.

Waste Management Consultation

- Councillor Clamp was tasked with reviewing the consultation documentation and preparing an initial response on behalf of the council.

Staffing and Operational Decisions

Lengthsman Appointment

- The Council approved the appointment of a Lengthsman and authorised the Clerk to sign a Service Agreement effective from 1 April 2026.

Maintenance Services

- A proposal to appoint an additional maintenance services contractor was deferred pending the outcome of the Lengthsman appointment.

Café Manager

- The Council granted delegated authority to the Finance & General Purposes Committee and the Clerk to appoint a part-time Café Manager.
- The Clerk was authorised to sign a service agreement with the successful candidate from 20 March 2026.

Other Matters Noted

- Preparations are underway for the Love Kempsey Working Party “Daffodil Weekend” event on 21–22 March 2026 at St Mary’s Church.
- Infrastructure planning work continues regarding the Community and Sports Centre and pump track development.