

Kempsey Parish Council – Meeting Summary

Meeting held Monday 10 August 2026 at 7.00pm at Kempsey Community Centre to consider local community, environmental, planning, financial and infrastructure matters.

Key decisions and projects

Pavilion and Community Facilities

- The Pavilion Café continues to perform positively, with approximately £7,600 income and £790 surplus year to date, supported by ten volunteers.
- The Council agreed to apply for a Premises Licence for the Pavilion, initially covering the sale of alcohol, in preparation for the Fireworks Event.
- A £20,000 budget transfer to Community Centres was approved for roof repairs and replacement chairs.
- The purchase of 96 new chairs for Kempsey Community Centre and Youth Centre was approved at £3,168 excluding VAT.
- Arrangements for the 2026 Fireworks Event are being finalised.

Plovers Rise Playing Fields

- Removable bollards and a 2.1m height restrictor will be installed at the Plovers Rise entrances to improve security.
- An automatic barrier remains under consideration.

IT/Youth Hub and Solar Project

- The Youth Centre solar and battery system is now operational. Arrangements for exporting surplus electricity and final certification are being progressed.
- The IT/Youth Hub design is substantially complete, and the project remains on schedule for completion in the autumn.
- The Council is exploring opportunities for computer gaming and youth activities at the new hub. Cllr Varley will consult with young people.

Pump Track

- The £80,000 funding agreement has been signed, and the Council is awaiting release of the funding.
- Discussions continue over outstanding planning conditions and Section 106 contributions, with the aim of avoiding delays to the project.

Environment and community

- A new litter bin is proposed for Pear Tree Fields, funded through County Councillor Martin Allen's allocation. Cllr Stevens and Cllr Allen will progress this.
- Concerns about an overflowing bin near the local shop will be investigated.

- The Council continues to monitor maintenance issues at Saxon Meadows and concerns relating to local heritage buildings.

Roads and traffic

Proposed traffic restrictions around Ellsdon, Ellsdon Rise and Post Office Lane were discussed, particularly in relation to safety around Kempsey School, emergency access and parking.

Other highway updates included:

- Kerswell Green Road is currently proposed to close from 17 August 2026 to 9 April 2027.
- Worcestershire County Council has confirmed that the old bus shelter will be removed and two refurbished shelters installed.
- A speed survey outside the Tarmac entrance on the A38 has been completed.

Planning

The Council considered several applications relating to the major Hopfields/Broomhall developments.

Concerns remain regarding:

- Building heights and their impact on the setting of Clerkenleap Farmhouse.
- The scale and visual impact of proposed employment buildings.
- Pedestrian safety where new footpaths meet roads without pavements.
- Landscaping and protection of the rural character of Broomhall Lane.

The Council continues to monitor the Napleton Lane planning appeal and other significant local planning matters.

Local Government Reorganisation

Members noted that from 1 April 2028, Worcestershire's existing councils will be replaced by North Worcestershire and South Worcestershire Councils.

The Parish Council will continue to monitor the implications, including the potential transfer of additional responsibilities to parish councils. The Chairman and Clerk will attend a reorganisation meeting on 15 September 2026.

The meeting closed at 9.20pm.