

Kempsey Parish Council – Key Summary September 2026

Parish Council Meeting: Monday 14 September 2026

The Parish Council met at Kempsey Community Centre to discuss local services, community projects, finance, planning and infrastructure.

Community & Environment

- The Kempsey daffodil planting day will take place on Friday 16 October, with volunteers meeting at the Pavilion Café at 9.30am. Planting will take place along the Main Road and the “Golden Mile” between Kempsey and Severn Stoke, with bulbs also being provided for Stonehall Common and Kerswell Green.
- The Daffodowndilly event is planned for 13 March 2027.
- Plans for a picnic area at The Rocky are progressing, with funding available for two picnic tables. A site visit will take place before the tables are ordered.
- The annual Christmas Tree Lighting will take place on Saturday 5 December at 5.45pm. New tree lights have been purchased.
- The Love Kempsey Working Party will continue, including work on village planters and raised beds.

Pump Track

The Council continues to work with the planning Case Officer on the pump track project.

The Section 106 Agreement has now been signed and delivered to the solicitor. Changes to biodiversity monitoring requirements have reduced the anticipated cost from approximately £15,500 to £5,500, saving around £10,000.

Outstanding ecological matters are still being addressed, and the Council is targeting planning consent by the end of September 2026, with completion targeted for March 2027, subject to the necessary approvals and funding requirements.

Planning

Several planning applications were considered, with the Parish Council raising no objections to the applications discussed, subject to specified conditions or clarifications.

The Council also received an update on the Bannut Hill planning appeal concerning a proposal for up to 99 dwellings. The appeal hearing has taken place, and the Inspector's decision is awaited.

A further significant development was noted at Hopfields, where a Reserved Matters application has been submitted for 246 dwellings. The Council intends to raise concerns with the developer's agents regarding proposed highway works and other infrastructure requirements.

Community Facilities

The Kempsey Pavilion Community Café continues to operate with sales and expenditure reported as being on track. The Council is awaiting an Environmental Health Officer visit, while repairs to a leaking roof window are also required.

The Community Centre has gained an additional Thursday morning Pilates session, with the possibility of further regular use of the centre by Magic Moments.

Quotes are still awaited for work on the roofs of the Community Centre and Sports Pavilion.

Kempsey Common

The existing steel gate on Kempsey Common has deteriorated and is allowing livestock to escape.

The Council approved proposed works costing £883.82, subject to confirmation that the quotation is a fixed quotation rather than an estimate. The works will include replacing the gate and improving pedestrian and horse-rider access.

Pear Tree Fields

Residents raised concerns about litter and dog fouling around the new development and requested a bin near the pathway.

Worcestershire County Council has agreed to install a suitable bin, subject to the Parish Council obtaining written permission from the landowners.

Residents also raised concerns about estate management, including maintenance, drainage, landscaping and communal areas.

Local Bus Services

County Councillor Martin Allen reported that the Worcestershire On Demand Bus Service recorded 7,337 rides between 1 January and 27 August 2026, including 3,088 journeys using concessionary bus passes.

Concerns were also raised about reductions to the regular bus service between Kempsey and Worcester. Discussions are continuing regarding the possibility of extending the On Demand Service to provide a more direct connection to Worcester.

Local Government Reorganisation

The proposed Local Government Reorganisation remains paused, creating uncertainty about future local government arrangements.

The Parish Council noted the pause, while councillors reported that the previously anticipated timetable for reorganisation is now uncertain.

Council Finance

The Parish Council's bank balance remains above £1 million, although it is expected to reduce significantly as planned expenditure is incurred.

The Council also agreed to renew its insurance from 1 October 2026 at a cost of £6,391.43 and approved the purchase of a larger litter bin near the shop at a cost of £431.60 plus VAT.

IT / Youth Hub

The proposed gaming nights at the IT Hub received positive feedback on social media.

The Council agreed that the idea should be explored as a social activity for young people, subject to appropriate adult supervision, safeguarding and security arrangements. The IT Hub is anticipated to become operational around October.

Get Involved

Residents were encouraged to consider becoming involved with the Parish Council, particularly in view of the current vacancies and housing growth in the north of the parish.