

**MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING OF KEMPSEY PARISH  
COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2012  
AT 7.30 p.m. AT KEMPSEY COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**Present:** Mr. M Stevens (Chair), Mr. Blackwell, Mr. D Harrison, Mr. B Bowley & Mr. M Bannister

**In Attendance:** Mr. M Legg, Steve Woods & Helen Roberts from West Mercia Safer Roads Partnership

1. **Apologies:** Mr J Michael – Work commitments (accepted) Mr K Blackwell confirmed he needed to depart at 9.00pm (accepted)
2. **Declarations of interest** in items on the agenda.
  - (a) **Declaration of any Personal interests** in items on the Agenda and their nature – Mr. Harrison declared his role as District Councillor to Malvern Hills District Council
  - (b) **Declaration of any prejudicial interests** in items on the Agenda and their nature.  
A Parish Council Member with a prejudicial interest in a particular issue may make representations, answer questions or give evidence to the Council during the Open Forum on the issue. However, the Councillor must leave the room in the event of an exchange on the issue between the public and the Council during the Open Forum and must also leave the room when the item is discussed during the Parish Council Meeting itself -
3. **Open Forum** – The Chairman adjourned the meeting to allow the Representatives from West Mercia Safer Roads Partnership to speak. At the end of the Open Forum session the Chairman reconvened the meeting.
4. **Minutes** – To approve the minutes of the Environment Committee Meeting held on
  - Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2012Having been previously circulated these were signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.
5. **Speeding through Kempsey Parish:** Steve Wood of West Mercia Safer Roads Team to visit and discuss this along with the results of a traffic survey – This item was discussed during the Open Forum. Clerk to obtain an update from County Councillor Mr. Bullock/Gerry Brienza Highways concerning the order of a Vehicle Activated Sign.
6. **Review of task list: This was reviewed with the following:-**
  - Red Dog Bins can now be taken off the task list.
  - Risk Assessments to be placed on the F&GP Committee for update.
  - Mr. Blackwell has obtained a quotation in respect of repairs/remounting three litter bins (bus shelter, shop, by the Crown) to be presented at March Parish Council for consideration.
  - Clerk to supply a list of grit bin levels to County Councillor Mr. Bullock for refilling purposes.
  - Mr. Stevens to transplant the oak tree donated from Mr. Bowley into The Rocky
7. **Bridge improvement in the Rocky** - discussion of quote / specification
  - Mr. Bannister had obtained three quotations. Unfortunately these were not comparable but provided different solutions in respect of this project. Re quotes are to be obtained to the same specification.
  - Mr. Bannister and Mr. Blackwell to devise.
  - A request to be made at the March Parish Council meeting to carry over monies from financial year 2011/12 to 2012/13 to assist with this project.

8. **Discussion of Bi-annual strimming of the Rocky - specification.**

Mr. Bannister clarified there were restrictions due to bird nesting. He also confirmed that the debris would be burnt on site. One quotation had been received for £140 per cut (£280 per annum) Mr. Bannister to obtain a further quote.

9. **Review specification / quotes for new railings in the Rocky.** Mr. Stevens confirmed he had received two comparable quotations £5985 and £6500 and a third in respect of painting only to the railings £600. Mr. Stevens to refine the two comparable quotations specifying what paintwork is required. A brief discussion took place as to whether all the railings needed replacing or whether the sharp points could be removed.

A request to be made at the March Parish Council meeting to carry over monies from financial year 2011/12 to 2012/13 to assist with this project.

10. **Planning for the public meeting set for June for the Rocky Improvement project.** Agree a timeline working towards the Public meeting on 18th June. As follows:-

Clerk to book Room 1

March – Devise adverts/letters

March /April – Define plans and obtain public suggestions

April/May – Preparation of posters

April/May/June – Promote in Parish Magazine

June – Issue individual invitations to those living close to the Rocky

A working party is to be formed to clear out the debris from the stream.

11. **Review of previous committee recommendations regarding the purchase of grit bins (Post Office Lane).**

It was decided not to pursue this matter due to cost implications and maintenance and grit storage e/refilling issues.

12. **Risk Assessments** – discussion following F&GP meeting and February's full council meeting

The Clerk had established with AON (our insurance company at present) that any particular individual would not be liable for carrying out a risk assessment on behalf of the Parish Council. Need to establish with Mr. Hay if he is prepared to complete the overview of the risk assessment.

Meeting Closed 9.29pm

Sharon Baxter

Clerk

## OPEN FORUM

Mr Woods presented an introduction to the history of the Safer Roads Partnership. He advised they worked in conjunction with other authorities such as the Emergency Services, Health Authorities, Councils and Highways to combat/reduce speeding problems and ensure traffic flow. He spoke about speed thresholds (10% plus 2 mph would lead to prosecution) and addressing community concerns brought to their attention via Parish Councils and PACT meetings.

Helen Roberts presented some statistical data. She advised two speed data boxes had been installed to the North and South of the village for the period from 7<sup>th</sup> February to 20<sup>th</sup> February 2012 measuring the speed and traffic flow. (A copy of the speed report can be provided) This data detected a faster flow of traffic at the North (35.7mph) rather the South (34.8mph). As a result the Safer Roads Partnership is prepared to help target the North. They will also provide an article for the Parish Magazine.

Mr Stevens raised a question concerning Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) and the effectiveness as the Parish Council is considering purchasing one? He was advised visually they are very good. There are various types some that flash "Slow Down" and others that flash "Speed MPH" and some that collect data. Unfortunately Safer Roads Partnership were not able to provide any advice in respect of which type to purchase.

Mr. Bowley requested Accident Statistics. He was advised for the period from 1st February 2009 to January 2012 of the following:-

2 Serious collisions 2009

3 Slight injury collisions 2010

2 Slight injury collisions 2011

It is anticipated this project will commence by end of March with data evidence available June/July 2012

The Safer Roads Partnership advised speeding in Kempsey is not perceived to be a major issue.

Meeting Closed 8.13pm

Sharon Baxter

Clerk

29<sup>th</sup> February 2012