

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF KEMPSEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON  
MONDAY, 10<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2007 AT 7.30 p.m. AT KEMPSEY COMMUNITY  
CENTRE**

**Present** :- Mr. D. Harrison, in the Chair

Mr. N. Atkins; Ms. M. Baker; Mrs. K. Biddle; Mrs. C. Campbell; Mrs. P. Gerrard;  
Mrs. A. Hart; Mrs. J. Jones; Mr. M. Legg; Mr. J. Michael and Mr. T. Ward.

**Also in Attendance** :- Mr. R. Bullock, County Councillor; Mr. M. Biddle and Mrs. M. Walters, District Councillors; P.C. A. Naulls

**Apologies for absence** were received from Mr. K. Blackwell who was on holiday and from Mr. N. Brookes who was on duty as a Fire Officer. The Parish Council accepted these apologies.

**6161 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

(a) **Personal Interests**

As Secretary of Kempsey Sports Association, Mr. Harrison declared a personal interest in respect Agenda Item 15. He also declared a personal interest in respect of Agenda Item 21, Account for Payment to Mr. Mark Harrison.

(b) **Prejudicial Interests**

Mrs. Campbell declared a prejudicial interest in respect of Agenda Item 17 relating to Hatfield Brook/Flooding.

**6162 OPEN FORUM**

It was proposed by Mr. Ward, seconded by Mrs. Jones and agreed that Standing Orders should be suspended for the Open Forum. Notes from this part of the meeting are annexed to the signed minutes.

**6163 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Minutes of the previous meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday, 13th August, 2007, having been previously circulated to the members, were confirmed subject to the addition of the words "No discussions took place and the letters were not read" at the end of Minute. No. 6149 (h) and (i). The minutes were then signed by the Chairman.

**6164 MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

The Minutes of the Community Centre Committee held on Monday, 3rd September, 2007, having been previously circulated to the members, were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

**6165 MINUTES OF THE RECREATION COMMITTEE**

The minutes of the Recreation Committee held on Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> September, 2007, having been previously circulated to the members, were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

**6166 PREVIOUS MINUTES- RECOMMENDATIONS AND ITEMS FOR UPDATE**

There were no recommendations or items for up-date.

**6167 COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT ON LOCAL ISSUES**

Mr. Bullock reported that the problems with the water leak on the A.38 had been corrected and that he would be attending a meeting with Bestmans Lane residents the following morning. At the request of the Chairman, he agreed to ascertain why the County Council were not responding to the emails which the Parish Council had sent about maintenance of the amenity area opposite The Crown Inn.

**6168 DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT**

Mr. Biddle reported that the Environment Agency were currently re-appraising the flood scheme for Kempsey and outlined how the money for flood schemes was levied. He then reported that it was likely that the Baptist Chapel would now be demolished with a planning application being submitted for two pairs of semi-detached houses, but with only one parking space per dwelling.

Mrs. Walters confirmed that she would also be attending the meeting with Bestmans lane residents.

#### **6169 CORRESPONDENCE**

All correspondence had been made available for inspection by Parish Council Members between 7.00 p.m. and 7.30 p.m.

(a) University of Gloucester – 7<sup>th</sup> National Seminar on Common Land

The Parish Council noted that the Chairman of the Commons and Hams Committee would attend this seminar.

(b) Norton-juxta-Kempsey PC – CMRF Planning Application – Funding for Appeal

The Parish Council resolved not to donate funds to this cause.

(c) Mr. T. Carter – Kempsey War Memorial

The Parish Council resolved to approach the Scout Group to ascertain whether they would be interested in cleaning the War Memorial.

(d) MHDC – Flood Relief Scheme

The Parish Council noted that the information had been delivered by hand to about 150 properties which had flooded.

(e) Mrs. S. Lole – Cattle on Ashmoor Common

The Chairman of the Commons and Hams Committee agreed to prepare a response to Mrs. Lole's letter.

(f) and (g) MHDC – Planning Appeals – Astons Coaches, Clerkenleap

The Parish Council resolved that additional comments should be submitted in respect of both of these planning appeals as was considered appropriate by the Chairman in consultation with the Clerk.

(i) Kempsey Tennis Club – Electricity supply to Tennis Courts

The Chairman circulated a summary showing the exchange of letters and emails between the various parties. This clearly showed that the Parish Council were not responsible for any delays. It was noted that the Solicitors acting on behalf of Central Networks had taken nearly six months to reply to the Parish Council's Solicitors.

(j) WCC – Parish Paths Plan – Waymarking Wednesdays

The Chairman asked for all problems to be reported to the Parish Footpaths Warden in order that they could be dealt with during the waymarking sessions.

#### **6170 ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

(a) Crown Area Bus Stop – Amenities Area

The Parish Council noted that a response was still awaited from the County Council.

(b) Ditch/Drain Clearance

The Chairman agreed to ask whether the County Council had a programme of works for the jetting of drains and the clearance of ditches at the meeting with Mr. Wallace the following morning.

(c) Dog Bins

The Parish Council noted that they were currently spending about £1,400 annually on the emptying of dog bins. The Clerk reported that she had ascertained that waste matter from dogs did not have to be placed in special dog bins and that it could be placed in litter bins. The Parish Council therefore resolved to remove the existing dog bins and install more litter bins.

(d) Alleyways in Kempsey – Condition/Improvements

This item had been placed on the Agenda at the request of Mr. Brookes who had concerns about two alleyways in particular. As they posed a Health and Safety issue, the Parish Council resolved to take this matter up with the County Council with a request that they should have a tarmac surface. The Clerk was asked to point out that the developer of the housing site adjacent to the A.38 was believed to be responsible for some of the damage.

#### **6171 PLANNING REPORT**

(a) For Report:-

MH 1245/07 – The Gurkha Knight, Kempsey Common – Retrospective application for illuminated restaurant signage and non-illuminated car park and takeaway signs.

Whilst there were no objections to this application, the Parish Council were disappointed to receive yet another retrospective application for these premises.

MH 1248/07 – The Gurkha Knight, Kempsey Common – Retrospective application for the erection of timber sheds and smoking shelters

The Parish Council had no objections to the smoking shelter at the rear of the premises but objected to the smoking shelter at the front. They noted that the proposed smoking shelters appeared to be four-sided structures and whether they would conform to the requirements for ventilation in such buildings?

The Parish Council were disappointed to receive yet another retrospective application for these premises and their main concern was that timber structures may not be appropriate for their intended use – which was not specified in the application. Local knowledge suggested that the two timber “storage sheds” were already being used for purposes other than “storage”, these being to house a Bar B Q and an outside Bar.

(b) Planning Comments to MHDC under Delegated Powers

MH 1162/07 – Chipping Dene, 74 Wadborough Road, Littleworth – Kitchen/dining area extension (Full) - No objections.

MH 1184/07 – Croftway, Green Street – Replacement dwelling (Full) – Object as insufficient information supplied.

#### **6172 COMMONS AND HAMS COMMITTEE REPORT**

The Committee Chairman reported that further letters had been sent to some residents living adjacent to commons who had not complied with the Parish Council’s previous letter. Kerswell Green residents had expressed an interest in exercising their grazing rights on Normoor and Kerswell Green Commons and he would raise the matter of temporary fencing at the Commons Conference which he would be attending the following day.

Report by Parish Footpaths Warden

Mrs. Jones reported that she had arranged for the alleyways to be strimmed.

#### **6173 RECREATION COMMITTEE REPORT**

Mr. Harrison had previously declared a personal interest in this matter as Secretary of Kempsey Sports Association. The Committee Chairman reported that the grant applications for the fencing had now been submitted and that there had been a promise of £6,000 for recreation purposes under a proposed Section 106 planning agreement.

#### **6174 COMMUNITY CENTRE COMMITTEE REPORT**

The Committee Chairman reported that a roofing contractor had submitted a report and estimate following his inspection of the roof areas. The Clerk was asked to obtain a further estimate.

#### **6175 HATFIELD BROOK/FLOODING**

Mrs. Campbell had previously declared a prejudicial interest in this matter and left the room whilst it was discussed. The Parish Council noted that no further progress had been made. The Clerk was asked to include this matter on the monthly Agenda until such time as action was taken.

#### **6176 NEW MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT**

It was proposed by Mr. Ward, seconded by Mrs. Jones and unanimously agreed that the Parish Council adopt the Model Code of Conduct for Parish and Town Councils, including section 12(2) of the Local Authorities Model Code of Conduct 2007, as published by the Standards Board for England.

#### **6177 PARISH COUNCIL STANDING ORDERS**

It was proposed by Mr. Ward, seconded by Mrs. Hart and agreed that Standing Order 1 should be amended by the addition of the following two new sub-paragraphs to be in line with the decision made at Minute No. 6176:-

1(c) There will be an Open Forum at the start of each monthly meeting during which parishioners will be invited to give their views and question the Council on items on the Agenda, or may raise issues for future consideration, at the discretion of the Chairman. Parishioners may not take part in the Parish Council Meeting itself.

1(d) 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.

**6178 RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS/RECONCILIATION OF BALANCES TO 31/8/07**

The receipts and payments/bank reconciliation to 31st August, 2007 had been previously circulated to the members. The Clerk reported that the Chairman had inspected the accounts for the month ending 31<sup>st</sup> August, 2007 and had found everything to be in order

**6179 CONFIRMATION OF ACTION**

Mr. Harrison, the Chairman had previously declared a personal interest in the account for payment submitted by Mr. Mark Harrison. He left the room and the Chair was taken by Mr. Ward, the Vice-Chairman for this one particular item. The Parish Council ratified payment of the following urgent accounts which had been made under delegated powers :- Staff salaries for August as shown on the list circulated to Members and annexed to the Signed Minutes

New Farm Grounds Maintenance – Playing Field Mowing - £158.62 (inc. £23.62 VAT)

David Walters – Community Centre Decorating - £873.50

Mark Harrison – Portable Appliance Testing in Parish Office – 26 items - £52.00

Roger Martin – New Gate Post - £225.00

Roger Martin – Tree works at The Rocky -£300.00

B. Salisbury – Pavilion Roofing Works - £157.10

**6180 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

The Parish Council resolved to authorise payment of the following accounts :-

Mrs. A.P. Halford - Petty Cash for August - £20.09

AON Ltd. – Community Centre/Parish Council insurance - £1,889.86

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE CHAIRMAN DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.44 p.m.**

Signed at the next ensuing meeting of  
Kempsey Parish Council

Chairman of such next ensuing meeting

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – MONDAY, 10<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2007**

**DEMOCRATIC HALF HOUR**

**P.C. Alan Naulls** – Thanked everyone who had worked so diligently during the floods. The wooden bridge was now back in place at The Rocky. Expressed his thanks to Mr. Anstey for transport and also to Mr. Geoff Clarke and Mrs. Zadikis. Reported incidents of criminal damage had dropped but not stopped.

Asked by PC Chairman for update when the brickwork on The Rocky bridge would be replaced.

Asked by Mrs. Biddle about the use of CSO's for the parking problems outside School.

**Mrs. Helen Thompson, 5 Old Road South** – Was concerned about the state of the Play Area and asked how The Park could be better maintained? Complained about weeds/offensive graffiti/lack of seating/lack of suitable play equipment for 5 to 10 year olds/lack of vandal proof fencing around the play area/ poor state of the safety surface under the play equipment.

Chairman advised that Parish Council were constrained by space for the provision of further items of play equipment and also by expense. He suggested that she should contact Mrs. Biddle who was the Recreation Committee Chairman.

**Mrs. Joy Clee, Cleeve Mews, Brookend Lane** – Concerned about the lack of hardstanding around the bus stop at Clerkenleap opposite The DVLA office.

**Mr. Mike Biddle, 7 Brookside** – Concerned about the state of the main alley to the rear of the new houses. Very overgrown on the one side.

**Parish Council Chairman** (Mr. David Harrison) Had many complaints about bonfires. Not illegal but classed as being anti social.