

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF KEMPSEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON  
MONDAY, 13<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2008 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; Mr. N. Brookes; 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 and Mr. M. Biddle, District Councillor.

**Apologies for absence** were received from Mr. K. Blackwell, who was on holiday. The Parish Council accepted his apology. Apologies for absence were also received from Mrs. M. Walters, District Councillor.

**6416 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

As someone holding registered grazing rights, Mr. Harrison, declared a personal interest in respect of the Commons and Hams Committee Report at Agenda Item 12.

As an adjoining householder, Mrs. Campbell declared a personal interest in respect of Agenda Item 9(i) relating to correspondence about the Baptist Chapel, Church Street.

**6417 OPEN FORUM**

It was proposed by Mrs. Jones, seconded by Ms. Baker and resolved that Standing Orders be suspended for the Open Forum. Notes from this part of the meeting are annexed to the Minutes. At the conclusion of the Open Forum the Chairman re-imposed Standing Orders.

**6418 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Minutes of the previous meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday, 11th August, 2008, having been previously circulated to the members, were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

**6419 PREVIOUS MINUTES – RECOMMENDATIONS AND UP-DATES**

The Chairman referred to Minute No. 6415 and reported that it would be necessary to go into Confidential Session at the end of the meeting to receive an update on this matter.

**6420 COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT ON LOCAL ISSUES**

Mr. Bullock referred to the overgrown hedge at the corner of Brookend Lane and advised that the District Council may hold information about the ownership of this land. Any works to the pavement and carriageway in Old Road North would not be carried out during the present financial year. The gully sucker had attempted to clear the drains in Old Road North and a possible solution to the flooding problem here may be to have the trees pollarded. The crack in the carriageway of the A.38 reported at the previous meeting had been examined by the County Council but was not considered to be serious. Mr. Bullock agreed to follow up the on-going problem with flooding at Hartland's Nurseries

**6421 DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT**

In a long report Mr. Biddle referred to his item in the Parish Magazine about water drainage into public sewers, loft insulation and cavity filling for the over 70's, the proposals from the Joint Core Strategy, the new bus timetables for the services between Kempsey and Worcester and the new rail services to Birmingham and London.

**6422 CORRESPONDENCE**

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

(b) **WCC – Lengthsman Scheme – Vehicle Activated Speed Signs**

The Parish Council agreed to ask the County Council if they had located any suitable sites for the speed signs during their site inspections?

(c) **WCC – Lengthsman – Works at The Rocky**

The Clerk reported that the County Council had indicated that once an invoice was

submitted for the whole cost of the works, this would be reimbursed to the Parish Council.

(f) MHDC – Choice Based Letting

This document was passed to Mrs. Gerrard and Ms Baker.

(i) H2land Ltd. – Development at Former Baptist Chapel, Church Street

Mrs. Campbell had previously declared an interest in this matter. The Parish Council's comments on this application had already been submitted to the District Council.

(j) MHDC – Flooding Issues – Survey of Affected Properties

The Parish Council expressed their concerns that this information was being requested 13 months too late after the flooding in July, 2007 and that the exercise, which now involved the employment of costly consulting engineers, could only be regarded as a P.R. disaster. The Parish Council noted that the plotting of the 186 properties which had been affected by flooding in habitable parts and also the extent to which each individual property had flooded, would be a mammoth task which would be impossible to complete by the 15<sup>th</sup> September deadline. It would also be necessary to obtain details of gardens etc. that had flooded. It was noted that the Clerk had already asked the District Council for help in this matter and that no response had been received. The Clerk was asked to contact the District Council again to arrange for one of their officers to visit Kempsey and discuss this matter.

**6423 ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

(a) Update on New Notice Boards

The Committee Chairman reported that the notice boards would shortly be erected and the pollarding at The Rocky had been completed. She had personally spoken to Elgar Housing Association about the problem of the overhanging hedge on the corner of Windmill Lane.

**6424 PLANNING REPORT**

Comments made to MHDC under Delegated Powers

MH 1087/08 – 5 Brookside – Side extension (Full) – No objections

MH 1111/08 – 1 Court Meadow – Single storey rear extension and two storey side extension (Full) – No objections.

MH 1118/08 – Oak Tree Cottage, Kerswell Green – Two storey extension to side of house (Full) – No objections but concerns about the porch being forward of the building line.

MH 1158/08 – 5 Florence Close – Single storey extension and alterations (Full) – No objections

**6425 COMMONS AND HAMS COMMITTEE REPORT**

Mr. Harrison, the Parish Council Chairman had previously declared an interest in this particular item and left the room. The Chair was then taken by Mr. Ward, the Parish Council Vice-Chairman. The Committee Chairman reported on the meeting which had taken place with a resident during which a format had been agreed over the erection of temporary fencing on common land. The Clerk was asked to write to the County Council to clarify the situation about ewes and their lambs which were being grazed on common land by a Kerswell Green grazier who was claiming that the ewe and her lambs only counted as one registration unit until such time as the lambs were weaned. The access licence for The Paddocks, Stonehall Common was with the applicant's solicitors and a meeting with officials from Natural England would take place on Ashmoor Common.

**6426 RECREATION COMMITTEE REPORT**

The Clerk referred to Minute No. 6408 and reported that a second estimate had now been received in the sum of £212.00 plus VAT. As this was cheaper than the previous estimate a delegated decision had been made by the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman and the Clerk to accept this estimate and the contractor had been asked to carry out the work. The Parish Council confirmed this course of action. The Committee Chairman reported that she had contacted the company who were making the new fencing but nothing had been started to date. She then referred to the problems with the rubbish bin adjacent to the Pavilion which was overflowing with bags of dog waste. The Clerk was asked to obtain an estimate for a small wheelie bin. The Committee Chairman then reported on the talks she had had about

the Play Partnership Scheme.

#### **6427 COMMUNITY CENTRE COMMITTEE REPORT**

The Committee Chairman reported on the rain damage to the flat roof area adjacent to the Parish Office. The Clerk was asked to obtain advice and estimates to remedy the problem. An estimate in the sum of £90.00 had been received to remove and replace the broken and stained roof tiles in Room 1. This sum also included the cost of hiring a tower to reach the roof. The Parish Council resolved to accept this estimate and to ask the contractor for an additional estimate to paint the existing ceiling tiles that did not need to be replaced. The Parish Council agreed that a delegated decision should be made in respect of this work in order to expedite matters.

#### **6428 STATE OF THE PAVEMENT AND ROAD IN OLD ROAD NORTH**

This item had been included at the request of Ms. Baker who expressed concerns that the poor state of the pavement and road in Old Road North had been the subject of complaints over many years but nothing ever seemed to be done to rectify the problems. She asked that the Parish Council should write to the County Council seeking an assurance that during the next financial year both the road and footpath would be re-surfaced, that the camber of the footpath would be improved and that the present drainage problems would be addressed. The Parish Council unanimously agreed to this course of action.

#### **6429 SOUTH WORCESTERSHIRE JOINT CORE STRATEGY**

The Chairman reported that the suggestions made at the Working Party needed to be ratified by the Parish Council. On the proposal of Ms Baker, seconded by Mrs. Jones the Parish Council agreed to :-

- 1) Hand deliver a flier advertising the meeting in Church on 1<sup>st</sup> October to each property in the parish.
- 2) Hand deliver a questionnaire about the proposals from the SWJCS to each house in the parish and collect the completed responses
- 3) Hand deliver a flier to each house in the parish advertising the meeting arranged by the District Council at Kempsey Primary School on 28<sup>th</sup> October.
- 4) Arrange for Parish Councillors to form action groups to look at each of the proposed areas for housing development and formulate points against, and for, if necessary.

#### **6430 OFFICE COMPUTERS**

The Chairman reported that there was only one internet access for the two computers in the Parish Office and this was proving difficult as there were now two members of staff on duty on three mornings each week. The Parish Council agreed that estimates should be obtained to remedy this problem and that a delegated decision should be made.

#### **6431 RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS/RECONCILIATION OF BALANCES TO 31/8/08**

The receipts and payments/bank reconciliation to 31st August, 2008 had been previously circulated to the members. Copies of these documents are attached to the Signed Minutes.

#### **6432 CONFIRMATION OF ACTION**

The Parish Council ratified payment of the following urgent accounts which had been made under delegated powers :-

Bosch Thermotechnology Ltd. – Community Centre Boilers - £210.00 inc. £31.28 VAT)  
Staff salaries for August as shown on the list circulated to Members and annexed to the Signed Minutes

Mrs. S. Cordell – Community Centre Cleaning - £160.00

High Green Farming Ltd. – Commons Mowing - £1,017.84 (inc. £151.59 VAT)

New Farm Grounds Maintenance – Grass Mowing - £111.04 (inc. £16.54 VAT)

#### **6433 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

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

Mrs. A.P. Halford - Petty Cash for August - £19.08

AON Ltd. – Community Centre Insurance - £1,904.55

Mr. R. Clarke – Community Centre Gardening - £25.00

Ikon Office Solutions – Copier Meterage - £34.65 (inc. £5.16)

**6434 CONFIDENTIAL SESSION**

The Parish Council resolved that in view of the nature of the business about to be transacted the public and Press should be asked to withdraw from the meeting.

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE CHAIRMAN DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.30 p.m.**

Signed at the next ensuing meeting of  
Kempsey Parish Council

Chairman of such next ensuing meeting

**8<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2008 PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

**OPEN FORUM**

**W.P.C. SARAH RANSOME-WILLIAMS** introduced C.S.O. Colin Davis who was new to the Kempsey and Alfrick Policing Team. She reported that there had been a further spate of vehicle crime in Kempsey involving the theft of car badges. Search warrants had been executed but no stolen items recovered.

**PARISH COUNCILLOR MIKE LEGG** asked when speed detection equipment would be in Kerswell Green again? WPC Ransome-Williams replied that it was a low priority area.

**MR. DANNY CORMS OF 11 CHURCH STREET** referred to the flooding over the weekend and complained about 4 x 4 vehicles being driven through the floods causing the wash to enter adjacent properties. He asked what was happening about a flood prevention scheme for Kempsey and pointed out that his insurance had now gone up 4 times. The Chairman agreed to include this matter on the Agenda for the October Parish Council Meeting.

**MR. COLIN STRONACH OF 17 CHURCH STREET** Pointed out that he had asked the Environment Agency to look into his concerns about people building up their garden levels adjacent to the brook which had not been cleared out since 1946.

**PARISH COUNCILLOR CLAIRE CAMPBELL** stated that the brook had been cleared 8 years ago.

**MRS. JOY CLEE OF CLEEVE MEWS, BROOKEND LANE** was pleased to see an item on the state of the pavement and road in Old Road North was on the Agenda. This area needed to be a priority working in partnership with MHDC and WCC.

**PARISH COUNCILLOR ANN HART** complained about the standard of filling of potholes in Post Office Lane Heavy rain had now washed out the new filling material which was dangerous and posed a hazard to cyclists.