

Kempsey PACT meeting held at Kempsey Community Centre

on Tuesday 21st October 2014 at 7.30pm

PRESENT: (19) Terry Ward (Chairman), John Michael (Chairman Parish Council), Joy Clee, Trevor Geens (Parish Council), Newton Coen, Wendy Coen, Ann Patrick (Parish Council), Roy Clarke (Parish Lengthsman), Pam Gerrard (Parish Council), Pat Whitehead, Marian Walters, Sharon Joyce (Neighbourhood Watch), Bob Stokes (Kempsey Sports Association), Guy Sinclair-Marson, Paul Leopold (Chairman Malvern Hills District Police and Community Consultative Group), Margaret Davies, Mike Biddle (Neighbourhood Plan Chairman), Brian Clarke (Kempsey FLAG), Sarah Walton (Action for Children).

The chairman, Terry Ward welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending. Everybody then introduced themselves.

- 1. Apologies:** Sgt Ian Blanchard (West Mercia Police), Sarah Ransome-Williams (West Mercia Police), Bryony Baynes (Headmistress Kempsey Primary School), Melodie Baker, Sue Raymond (Action for Children Riverboats CC), Roy Padden, Rev Mark Badger, Sandra Edwards.
- 2. The minutes of the meeting** held on Tuesday 22nd July 2014, having been circulated were agreed as being a true record.
- 3. Matters arising:** Terry reported a successful litter pick on Saturday 18th October. Trevor Geens asked whose responsibility it was to remove the sacks of rubbish. Terry said MHDC had said they would remove them, but this had not happened. They are always aware of the date of the litter picks as Gordon Morris, Head of Street Scene at MHDC, is on the distribution list. Terry will speak to him.
Post meeting note: Terry has spoken to Gordon Morris who confirmed that MHDC would collect the sacks after each litter pick.
- 4. Finance Report:** Nothing has been spent so the balance remains the same as before - £226 held by Kempsey Parish Council on our behalf. Terry has made an inventory which shows we have 46 tabards of various sizes, 19 litter pickers and 6 large plastic signs.
- 5. Police update:** In the absence of any police officers this was deferred to the next meeting. However, Paul Leopold urged everyone to remove items of value from their cars as there had been a number of thefts from commercial and private vehicles recently. John Michael said the Police were offering to hold surgeries following on from another meeting, at which the public would have the opportunity to talk confidentially to a police officer. Following discussion, the general consensus was to take up this offer and find an appropriate facility in which to hold these surgeries. The Parish Council will publicise them if they go ahead. Local Neighbourhood Watch teams will meet four times a year to increase local interaction.
- 6. SWDP update:** The density of the South Worcesterhire urban extension has increased and all identified sites in Kempsey, ie Lion Court, Bight Farm, Lindon Homes and Derrington Court have been included. This should prevent any further rogue applications. The Post Office Lane and Kings Hill plans have been ignored.

7. **Southern Link report:** This is ahead of schedule and there has been less disruption to traffic than anticipated. The Parish Council is supportive of the Norton Parkway station which is due to be in operation by 2017. Mike Biddle said details were still under discussion, but there are plans to include a cycle and footpath entrance although the only road access would be off the Pershore Road. Ann Patrick expressed concern at the possible increase in traffic at Boorkend Lane.
8. **Neighbourhood Plan update and Community engagement:** A report has been drawn up by Kirkwells, a firm of consultants, and Task Groups have now been set up to discuss cycle paths, bus routes, new developments etc. A meeting will be held on Monday 27th October when progress will be passed on to Kirkwells. More meetings are planned and active working parties are concentrating on the key areas identified in the Plan. Community engagement has been disappointing with only a 13% response to the questionnaire. However there will be further public consultation and it was emphasized that all aspects of communication are vitally important. Guy Sinclair-Marson said social and multi-media sites were an excellent means of communication as was the website.
Lengthy discussion took place on Community Centre sites and their uses. It is vital that careful thought is given to the various options and to get the local community on side.
The Neighbourhood Plan will be a living document by Summer 2015.
9. **Local Planning Update:** Ann Patrick reported that there would not be a roundabout at the Bight Farm development.
- * Fifteen social housing bungalows are to be built at the back of The Firs.
 - * The application for thirty seven houses at Little Treasures has been turned down as the area is a designated green open space.
 - * Permission has been granted for the demolition and replacement of a side extension at 68 Main Road and also access onto the Main Road.
 - * The southbound bus stop at the north end of the village is being reviewed.
- The question of if and when McColls will install a Post Office was discussed. It appears the counter staff are to be trained and it should open before Christmas.
10. **Traffic issues in the vicinity of the school:** Terry Ward said there had been a recent accident involving two cars driven by mothers which resulted in considerable damage to both cars. Marian Walters had informed Bryony Baynes (Headteacher) who was unaware of the incident. She had hoped to attend this meeting, but Ofsted had descended on the school today so she was otherwise occupied. She said parents were continually reminded of the difficulties encountered when dropping off and picking up their children. The landlords of The Talbot and Walter de Canteloupe have kindly given permission for parents to use their car parks, but the problems still occur.
The traffic problems in the vicinity of the shop are worse than ever and the Parish Council will contact the WCC Highways Department to see what can be done. There is also concern at the parking near the doctor's surgery. It would have been helpful to have a County Council and/or District Councillor present to take the matter further.
11. **Date of next Litter Pick:** Saturday 14th February 2015 at 10.00 am at the Community Centre.
12. **Date of next meeting:** Tuesday 24th February 2015 at 12 noon for 12.30 pm.
13. **Any other business:** Brian Clarke gave a FLAG update. Work is taking place at the pumping station to adjust the brackets. David Harrison, John Michael and Brian had met with the

Environment Agency who promised that money had been found to install an emergency generator in the event of a power failure. The Penstock is being moved to create backup and green, orange and red warning boards will be put on the water level boards at The Rocky. The EA has given assurance that manual cover will be in place whenever necessary. Following a second meeting with the EA it was agreed that a facts sheet will be circulated. Guy Sinclair-Marson and Brian Clarke will liaise regarding flood defence compensation.

Many thanks to the members who made tea, provided biscuits and cleared up after the meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.10pm

Terry Ward
Chairman