

## Kempsey PACT meeting held at Kempsey Community Centre

on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2016 at 7.30 pm

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**PRESENT:** (24) Terry Ward (Chairman), Cllr Roger Sutton (County Council & MHDC), Cllr John Michael (MHDC), Trevor Geens (Chairman Parish Council), Mike Biddle (Neighbourhood Plan Chairman), Joy Clee, Marian Walters, Sarah Ransome-Williams (West Mercia Police), Roy Clarke, Newton Coen, Wendy Coen, Paul Leopold (Chairman Malvern Hills District Police and Community Consultative Group), Peter Scurrrell, Sue Cownie, John Watkinson (Lengthsman), Simon Bott (Lengthsman), Hilary Wallace, Bob Bowley, Ken Blackwell (Parish Council), Hugh Hanmer (Parish Council), Mirielle Britton, Steven Britton, Sandra Edwards, Brian Clarke (FLAG).

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

- 1. Apologies:** Cllr David Harrison (MHDC), Ann Patrick (Parish Council), Pam Gerrard (Parish Council), Rob Rich (Community Safety and Resilience Officer (MHDC), Sharon Joyce (Neighbourhood Watch), Mel Baker, Bob Stokes (Kempsey Sports Association), Bryony Baynes (Headmistress Kempsey Primary School), David Walters, Jan Fowler, Sue Raymond
- 2. Minutes of the meeting** held on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2015, having been circulated were agreed as being a true record.
- 3. Matters arising:** All to be covered in the agenda items.
- 4. Police and Neighbourhood Watch update:** Sarah Ransome-Williams said there had been very few ASB incidents other than an isolated one at the playing fields and a burglary in Bestman's Lane for which the culprit had been arrested. During 79 hours of traffic speeding enforcement from April 2015 to end of January 2016, 564 speeding offences have been recorded. Once the on-going road works in the village are over (by Mid-March), speed enforcement activity will resume. Enforcement police surgeries had been offered last year but had not been followed up. SR-W holds them once a month in Alfrick and at The Fold and would be more than happy to hold one in Kempsey. It was agreed that a venue and date will be arranged. **TG to liaise.** It was reported that the number of eight wheeled lorries going to and from the quarry at Clifton has increased of late and SR-W will visit the quarry to speak to the operators.

Neighbourhood Watch: Paul Leopold said the link to the National Neighbourhood Watch Scheme is [www.ourwatch.org.uk](http://www.ourwatch.org.uk) He encouraged people to register as co-ordinators, adding it was a very simple concept providing active vigilance. Smartwater now has to be ordered on-line at a cost of £25 using the code on the attached flyer. This cost does not include a UV torch, but Paul has several if people require one. A Horse Watch event is to take place in Alfrick on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> March – see attached flyer.

<https://www.westmercia.police.uk/article/8200/Register-to-receive-watch-messages>

<https://member-registration.neighbourhoodalert.co.uk/30/Join>

- 5. Hot topics of the moment:**

- i) **SWDP:** John Michael said the plan was to be ratified by Worcester City Council this evening (24<sup>th</sup> Feb) – Worcester County Council and Wychavon CC have already done so. It will then go for judicial review and the plan should give Kempsey some protection from further development for the next five years. The SWDP takes us to 2030 with a rolling 15 year programme of gradual development.
- ii) **Roadworks on the Southern Link road:** Cllr Sutton said that Phase 3 is underway and will not be completed until 2018 because it includes the dualling of the road to Whittington and the widening of the railway and pedestrian bridges. Phase 4, to dual the Carrington bridge would cost the government in the region of £70-£80 million. There are on-going problems at the Ketch roundabout and the WCC Highways department is considering painting yellow boxes to improve the situation. There is continuing concern about the difficulties experienced by cyclists and pedestrians trying to cross. Mike Biddle said all data relating to this area is available at County Hall. Residents of Brookend Lane are concerned about the increasing amount of traffic using it as a rat run. It is dangerous to walk or push pushchairs along the road as there is no pavement.
- iii) **Current building developments and planning applications in the pipeline:** The Post Office Lane development has been given the green light and WCC Highways Dept has to agree a plan for heavy construction traffic to access the site. This is a serious issue and the Parish Council would like to see what proposals are put forward and a traffic management plan put in place. It is not certain when building will start on the 30 dwellings at King's Hill. Lionscourt want to build 21 bungalows on the significant gap next to their housing development – an eye needs to be kept on this separate application. Rapid progress is taking place at the Bight Farm development and work has commenced on 15 bungalows behind The Firs.
- iv) **Parking and traffic problems:** A meeting had taken place regarding the serious parking problems at McColls shop. Various ideas have been suggested, none of which can so far be implemented. The shop provides an excellent village facility and care must be taken not to upset the management. John Frazer from Highways Dept is coming to have a look at the situation next week.
- v) **Community activities:** Brian Clarke said the flood defences have worked this winter and the EA has given excellent support. He said there is always someone looking out for problems by monitoring the gauge and also the water level post at The Rocky. Anti-flooding arrangements are in place at the Saxon Court development and the EA are happy that there is no more flow into the Hatfield Brook now than before which shows the defences are coping at the moment. Outflow from the Post Office Lane development into the stream will need to be monitored. Brian said the government is working with insurers about **Flood Re** whose purpose is to promote the availability and affordability of flood insurance to households in flood affected areas.
- vi) The Parish Council has taken over responsibility for the Youth Centre and has installed new lights, security etc and the building is now being used by various Youth Groups. Mike Biddle has had a meeting with Rev Mark Badger regarding the re-ordering of St Mary's Church. Money from the sale of St Mary's House will go towards making the church more of a community facility. A meeting will take place at some stage with users of other buildings in Kempsey. Trustees of the Parish Hall have agreed that it will be re-developed.
- vii) **Our lengthsmen:** John Watkinson and Simon Bott are doing a great job and have already uncovered a problem with litter at Marlbank. Roy Clarke was thanked for his hard work as lengthsmen over a considerable length of time.

6. **Neighbourhood Development Plan:** Mike Biddle said the plan would go out for Public Consultation with presentation meetings by Cllr Ann Smith being held in St Mary's Church on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> March at 11.00 am and 3.30 pm and Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> March at 7.00 pm. A four page summary of the plan will be delivered throughout the village in the near future. A six week consultation period will follow during which people can make representations and task groups will be formed to look through feedback comments.
7. **Litter Picking report:** Litter picking started in Kempsey in 2008 and has continued ever since. The lengthsman keep the paths and verges clean and tidy and litter picking sessions ensure that the village remains well kept. Terry asked that the lengthsman report any areas of concern to him. The next Litter Pick will be on **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> April at 2.30 pm** for an hour, but people can borrow equipment at other times if they wish to do so. Again, please contact Terry beforehand. On behalf of the Parish Council Trevor Geens thanked Kempsey PACT for the regular litter picks.
8. **Any other business:** The Parish Council has approved village participation in commemorating the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday by way of lighting a beacon on Kempsey Common at dusk on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2016. Posters will be put up beforehand and a working party will be formed to organise the event.
9. **Date of next meeting:** Terry Ward said the date of the next meeting would be decided in the next few days and emailed out. ***Post meeting note: The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2016 at 12 noon for 12.30 pm***

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

The meeting closed at 9.25pm

Terry Ward  
Chairman