

on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2017 at 12.30pm

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**PRESENT:** (24) Terry Ward (Chairman), Cllr Roger Sutton (WCC), Cllr David Harrison (MHDC), Trevor Geens (Chairman Parish Council), Hugh Hanmer (Parish Council), Sharon Baxter (Parish Council), Bryony Baynes (Headteacher KPS), Mike Biddle (Neighbourhood Plan Chairman), Mr & Mrs Bunn, Peter Scurrrell, Roy Padden, Gerry Abbott, Val Dobbins, Marian Walters, Newton Coen, Wendy Coen, Bob Stokes (Kempsey Sports Association), Martin Butcher (PCSO), Paul Kennedy (WMP), Bob Bowley, Pat Whitehead, Margaret Davies, Sue Fitzjohn

1. **Introductions:** The chairman, Terry Ward welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending. Everyone then introduced themselves.
2. **Apologies:** Mel Baker, Sharon Joyce, Cllr John Michael, Ann Smith, Simon Bott, Rev Mark Badger, Pam Gerrard, David Walters, Ann Patrick, Sue Cownie, Jan Fowler, Kath Padden.
3. **Minutes of the meeting** held on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2017, having been circulated were agreed.
4. **Police Report:** Martin Butcher now updates the Parish Council on crime levels via email. Since the last meeting there have been four ASB incidents, three dwelling burglaries, one non-dwelling burglary and one theft. Malvern Hills have added overnight patrols to the Kempsey area and road side checks with rural partners are held on a regular basis. This is a pro-active measure to disrupt travelling criminals. A CID investigation is on-going following the theft of the ATM at Kempsey and another in Barnards Green. Criminals are aware that Automatic Number Plate Recognition technology is used to detect and deter crime. As always, the police ask that people make their properties as hard a target as possible - information packs are available. Parking at the surgery is an on-going problem and Martin Butcher has issued warning notices and has also asked people to move their vehicles. Mike Biddle is determined to find a way of dealing with this problem. Paul Kennedy said the **Community Messaging Service** is an easy to access website where people can receive crime alerts and crime prevention advice.
5. **Our Growing Community:** DH reported that 108 of the 116 houses built at Saxon Meadows are now occupied, 42 are occupied at Linden Homes site and 39 at the Taylor Wimpey site. 86 are to be built at Post Office Lane and a further 113 are planned for Pixham Ferry Lane. All these will have a huge impact on the school, doctor's surgery, church etc. Rev Mark Badger is co-ordinating the distribution of welcome packs to the new homes.
  - i) **The school:** BB said there has been a significant increase in pupils at Kempsey Primary and all year groups apart from year 3 are over the Planned Admission Limit (PAN) of 40. The school is now officially part of the HUET Academy with Hanley Castle High School and Hanley Swan Primary School. Three additional classrooms and a turning circle at the front of the school are planned. Funding from the new developments (Section 106 money) should make provision for an increase in the PAN from 40 to 45. Subject to funding and planning permission, it is hoped the extension work will start in September. BB said everyone was welcome to come and look around the school.
  - ii) **The Church:** The initial plans for re-ordering of the church have been scaled down due to other community projects planned for Kempsey. The Project Board is looking at

various schemes and a public presentation will take place when plans have been drawn up.

- iii) **The Parish Hall:** No further news on the new Parish Hall until money is received.
- iv) **Community Youth Centre:** TG said the church was using it for a nursery, but sadly the guides have had to leave due to lack of leaders. There are enough cubs to start a second group, but again there are too few leaders. Pat Whitehead will speak to Sue Ranscombe who is assistant District Commissioner and maybe an advert can be placed in the Parish Magazine to encourage new leaders.
- v) **Neighbourhood Plan:** No inspector has yet been appointed by MHDC who have now handed over to Wychavon. It is disappointing that the process has again been delayed and this affects the Taylor Wimpey application for housing at Pixham Ferry Lane which will not be approved in the near future.
- vi) **Parish Council report:** TG said the Parish Council was now back to its full complement of 13 councillors with the recent appointment of Tim Dodge. A Vehicle Activated Sign is to be installed at the southern end of Kempsey to remind drivers of the 30mph limit. There have been fewer complaints of speeding since the installation of the one at the northern end of the village. The Annual Parish Meeting will take place on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30 pm in the Community Centre. Work on the David Wilson homes site in Post Office lane has started and site traffic is not allowed to access via Post Office Lane. Anyone seeing a lorry doing so should make a note of the registration number and report it. TG thanked Simon Bott, the lengthsman, for his excellent work. It was hoped we could keep his post going as Herefordshire Council has withdrawn funding for theirs. Simon has been asked to remove horse droppings from the roads and pavements, but this is not a legal requirement. TG has written to John Hobbs regarding the entrances to Taylor Wimpey and Linden Homes sites as we need to keep the bus laybys. A defibrillator has been installed at the Community Centre and training on its use has taken place.
- vii) **County Council report:** Cllr Roger Sutton said the width of roads on the new developments was totally inadequate and he would like to see the enforcement of standard specification road widths. MB said he was disappointed that the County Council doesn't follow its own design plans. DH said that Highways have guidelines for parking spaces and road widths, but they are only a guide! TG had attended a SWDP presentation but very little was said about the quality of estates. The new railway bridge over the southern bypass should now be completed by May 2018 so the road will be duelled up to the Whittington roundabout. Two other bridges will also be completed within that time.
- viii) **District Council report:** Cllr David Harrison said Draycott Lane will be closed from 22<sup>nd</sup> May to 20<sup>th</sup> June because of flooding problems. Post Office Lane will be closed from 27<sup>th</sup> April to 8<sup>th</sup> May for kerb work to take place and St Peters Drive will be closed from 4<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> June. The shepherd's hut at Lanes End will be moved by the end of August as planning permission was refused. DH passed around paper copies of plans for the development north of Taylor's Lane which will be discussed at MHDC within the next two months. This will set the standard for all other developments in the SWDP - infrastructure, affordable housing etc. A further upgrade is being made at the Kempsey flood defences with a path being laid through land belonging to the Church Lands Trust. Brian Clarke has handed over as FLAG chairman to Louise Kissingbury. The matter of bus stops was discussed. The one near Saxon Meadows was working well at the moment so let's not ask for others to be moved before this one is permanent.

**6. Litter Picking report:** A successful litter pick took place and two members of MHDC turned out to help. The next litter pick will be sometime in early September and a date will be fixed nearer the time.

**7. Any other business:**

- MB said the Fire Service will give free advice and fit free smoke alarms to pensioners and also carry out carbon monoxide testing. Cllr John Michael can also arrange this.
- MB also said people can receive a reduction in their Severn Trent water charges if their roof water goes into a soak away.
- The gulley at the doctor's surgery needs clearing of tree debris. Thanks were paid to the MHDC for cleaning the pavements.

**8. Date of next meeting:** Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July at 7.00 for 7.30 pm

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

The meeting closed at 2.15pm

Terry Ward  
Chairman