

PRESENT: (27) Terry Ward (Chairman), Trevor Geens (Chairman Parish Council), Ann Smith (Parish Council), Mike Biddle (Neighbourhood Plan Chairman), Pam Gerrard (Parish Council), Martin Allen, Pat Whitehead, Margaret Davies, Val Dobbins, Gerry Abbott, David Bevan, Peter Thompson (Chairman Kempsey PPG), Simon Bott (Parish Lengthsman), Ian Fenton, Helen Fenton, Joy Clee, Paul Leopold (Chairman Malvern Hills District Police and Community Care Consultative Group), Melody Baker-Joyce, Sharon Baker-Joyce, Pauline Ranson, Sue Cownie, Newton Coen, Wendy Coen, Peter Scurrrell, Roy Padden, Bob Bowley, Marian Walters.

- 1. Introductions:** The chairman, Terry Ward, welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending. Everyone then introduced themselves.
- 2. Apologies:** Bryony Baynes, Cllr David Harrison, Cllr John Michael, Martin Butcher, PC Paul Kennedy, Hugh Hanmer, Kath Padden.
- 3. Minutes of the meeting** held on Tuesday 21st November 2017, having been circulated, were agreed.
- 4. Reports:**

Planning Applications: TG said things were quiet at the moment. He and Sharon Baxter (PC Clerk) had been to a meeting at MHDC regarding the Welbeck site at The Ketch. MHDC need to get it started and outline planning will be heard on 7th March. The first phase of 487 dwellings should start within a couple of years. There is nowhere suitable for a traveller's encampment there, so the developers are giving MHDC £900K to put the site elsewhere. A traffic flow plan is in place but not published. MB said all documents are available on line but they are not easy to access. Parkway station is scheduled to open next year and residents at Norton are asking for traffic calming measures to be installed. The Southern Link Road will be closed from 25th – 31st May for the insertion of the new railway bridge.

Parish Council: More provision needs to be available in the village for middle teenage children. Rev Mark Badger wants to provide somewhere for them to congregate and there is the possibility of a 33ft mess hut being available, but residents near the playing field do not want it put there so another site is being sought. The car park at the Playing Field is being extended and larger signs regarding dog behaviour are being put up. The Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) has now been adopted by MHDC and this has prevented three additional building sites going ahead. The Church Lands Trust has offered land next to the Rocky where youngsters can dig and ride their bikes. The County Council Highways Dept has approved the installation of white gates at Kerswell Green and at the southern end of Kempsey – there is a problem installing one at the northern end. Highways are also looking at altering the bus turning area at Baynhall. Some of the disabled-friendly houses at the Taylor Wimpey site have partly grassed pavements outside which is causing a problem. Paul Middleborough and Hannah Davies are liaising with Fortis to replace broken kerbs at Hillside and Windmill Lane. 54 residents at the Lion Court development have formed a working party to put pressure on the developers to put numerous problems right. Concern was expressed at the state of the path running across the green at The Limes which is owned by MHDC. The Environment committee of the Parish Council would like permission to look after the path themselves. 160 people attended a meeting last Monday regarding the possibility of a traveller's site on land

opposite Hartland's Nursery. At a planning meeting held at MHDC the following day, the owners of the land changed it to a site for travelling show people. As there is no call to provide such a site, it is hoped this will be taken off the schedule.

District Council: No report as neither of our District Councillors was present.

County Council: Our County Councillor was not present but TW said a meeting was held in Powick where details of flood water were put forward regarding the new bypass. Details are emerging slowly.

Police: In the absence of Martin Butcher and PC Paul Kennedy, MW read out the following report from Martin Butcher.

I know the Parish Council have been receiving our monthly newsletters with a summary of the burglary, theft and ASB figures in Kempsey parish. In December 2017 and January 2018 there were a total of 10 reported incidents of ASB, 3 burglary dwellings, 2 burglary non-dwellings and 6 thefts.

The spate of dwelling burglaries in November/December last year seems to be abating (one recorded in January). Kempsey and some of the villages nearby remain on our Malvern Hills Patrol Plan so that patrol officers can conduct passing overnight patrols of the area when they are not dealing with urgent incidents.

Also on the patrol plan, and something I focus on while conducting my regular foot patrols around Kempsey, are early evening and daytime weekend patrols of the village to deter ASB, particularly youth related ASB. When offenders are identified our approach is to seek anti-social behaviour letters to parents/guardians from our Harm Reduction unit. In November ASB letters were sent out to two young Kempsey males for an incident involving the throwing of a firework into a bus shelter.

Evidence of drug activity was found on the Litter Pick on Sunday and the police have been informed. A huge amount of rubbish is being thrown near the Sally Beds in Post Office Lane. The skip at the bottom of Bannut Hill is uncovered and the rubbish is blowing everywhere. TG will mention this.

Neighbourhood Watch: PL re-iterated what he said at the last meeting that The Malvern Hills District Police and Community Care Facebook page is worth looking at for updates. Alfrick and Lulsley are considering becoming a Smartwater village which means villagers would get Smartwater free. This is being organised by the Parish Council and if Kempsey was interested, Geoffrey Brewin, their Parish Clerk has all the details. ***Post meeting note: Paul Leopold has emailed me an article from Alfrick and Lusley PC which I have forwarded to Trevor Geens.*** TW has had contact with residents on the new estates and some people are interested in forming a Neighbourhood - Watch type group. Maybe this is the way ahead.

School: In the absence of Bryony Baynes, Head Teacher, MW read out the following report. The 1st April 2018 will mark one year since we converted to academy status as part of the Hanley and Upton Education Trust. It has been a good year both for the school singly as well as for the academy trust. We have settled well into working together and are beginning to realise the benefits of the multi-academy trust in terms of group procurement, shared resources and shared expertise. This is still in its infancy but, judging by the mood among the school leaders and the successes so far, it can only get better.

As an academy, we are able to submit bids to the government's Condition Improvement Fund for capital funding for significant building condition needs to ensure our premises and buildings are safe and in good working order. We have submitted two funding bids – one to renew our perimeter fencing and one to repair the roof above the staff room/reception area and replace windows and doors along the front of the school building. We will not know the outcome of these bids until April but are keeping our fingers crossed!

We have also submitted a planning application to build three new classroom spaces. The local authority have asked us to increase our PAN (the number of pupils we take in each year group) to 45 from its current 40 and, as a result, have agreed to release funding to enable us to build some extra classrooms. It is important to note that, just because we are building three new classrooms, does not mean we are adding three new classes of pupils! Many of our current year groups are already over PAN due to the new houses in the village; with a PAN of 45 per year group, our total number of pupils in the school would be 315 (we currently have 300 pupils on roll). That would mean an additional 15 pupils if every year group were at PAN. I want to clarify this as I know there has been some speculation that we are going to take in “hundreds” of more pupils or add additional year groups. Additionally, some of our key stage two classrooms are quite small; when these additional classes are built, we will be able to move out of these smaller rooms and spread our wings a bit!

We are hoping that our planning application will be approved in the next month and we will then be able to commence the building work in the spring. When the classrooms are built we will have an Open Day for prospective parents and members of the community and everyone will be most welcome to come and have a look round.

Part of our School Development Plan this year is to increase our links with the community. We have a very good relationship with St Mary’s Church, but we are also keen to hear from any community organisations (groups for the elderly, toddler groups, etc) who might be interested in forming links and sharing activities!

Our topic for the start of this term has been “Money Makes the World Go Round ...?” We have explored the idea of money in all its forms and designs and have worked with the children to see that, sometimes, money does NOT make the world go round. As a conclusion to the topic, the classes have chosen different charities and are making collections for those charities. Some of the chosen charities include Maggs Day Centre, Worcester Animal Rescue and Kidney Research UK. Our value for this term is “kindness” and the children have been encouraged to do a “random act of kindness” for each other throughout the day.

We are in the process of transferring to a new website so our current website (www.kempseyprimary.net) is not being updated as frequently as previously. Please do bear with us. We hope to launch the new website on 1st April so do check back then to see everything we are doing! I should also point out that our email addresses have also changed - mine is included at the bottom of this report so please do feel free to use it to get in touch at any time.

And finally, I am aware that there has been some outspoken discussion in the village about future developments or building plans. I have been approached for opinions or to sign petitions. I have done neither. I would like to go on record as saying that Kempsey Primary School is a school that serves the needs of its community. As long as I am head teacher here, we will welcome children from all backgrounds, and of all colours and creeds.

As always, we are very happy to welcome anyone from the community who wishes to look round the school or volunteer in any way. We are always looking for people to listen to readers or help out in classes so do get in touch if you might be interested.

Surgery: Peter Thompson, Chairman of the Patients Participation Group at the Kempsey practice, said the surgery was looking at the workload of its staff and formalising a new venture which will take the form of a survey conducted over four months. Parking continues to be a huge problem and various ideas have been discussed such as making people feel uncomfortable by informing them they are parking illegally or without due care and attention. Notices have been put up and patients are reminded of the difficulties when visiting the surgery. The surgery is arranging meeting for patients in April when Diabetes will be

discussed. The Parish Council is having talks with the County Council regarding double yellow lines. PT clarified the situation regarding Upton surgery patients being able to collect their medication from Kempsey. A couple of Upton patients are allowed to pick up their medication from Kempsey due to their specific medical needs but the prescriptions are made up by the Upton surgery, not the Kempsey practice. The possibility of purchasing land next door to the surgery was once again mentioned, but the outcome is unknown at present.

- 5. Role of Social Media in 2-way communication in the community:** TW said 1050 people have now signed up to Spotted Kempsey which is an off shoot of Facebook. This is the way many people now communicate and is sometimes the best way to get messages across. TG doesn't feel the Parish Council needs a Facebook page, but it would be a good way to publicise meetings etc. Following the meeting MW heard of another local site similar to Spotted Kempsey, called next door [<no-reply@rs.email.nextdoor.co.uk>](mailto:no-reply@rs.email.nextdoor.co.uk)
- 6. Litter Picking:** TW reported a successful litter pick on Sunday with 27 people turning out and dozens of bags collected. TW has placed an order for sack hoops with Helping Hands, but hasn't heard back from them yet. He will initially purchase 10 and see if they serve their purpose and if so purchase more. MW said some of the Eco group children in school would be keen to help with the next litter pick. The District Council is keen for PACT to support a litter pick on 2nd March, but TW said he was disinclined to get involved and will speak to the lady concerned tomorrow. TG said the whole of the parish was pleased with what PACT does, but CALC say many PACT groups are disbanding. It was generally felt that PACT meetings are less formal and restrictive than Parish Council meetings and our PACT was very successful indeed.
- 7. Any other business:** It appears that dog mess is increasing once again, and the number of dogs in the village is reckoned to be about 650. TG said dog walkers have to carry a supply of poo bags with them and are fined £100 if they are found not to have them. How they are caught however, is another matter. The Parish Council is negotiating for more signs to be put up in the village. It was thought that children walking dogs do not pick up the mess as frequently as adults. MW will mention the danger of children riding on scooters on the pavement in Old Road North when she goes into school this week.
- 8. Date of next meeting:** Tuesday 15th May 2018 at 12.00 noon for 12.30pm

Date of next litter pick: Sunday 13th May at 2.00 pm

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

The meeting closed at 9.15pm

Terry Ward
Chairman