

**MINUTES OF THE COMMONS & HAMS COMMITTEE**  
**COMMITTEE MEETING 2 FEBRUARY 2015 AT 19:30HRS**

**PRESENT:** Cllrs. Bowley [Chairman], Bannister, Smith and Waller

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Four Parishioners

1] Apologies:  
Cllr Hay due work commitments - accepted

2] Declarations of Interests:  
None made.

Actions

The meeting was adjourned for Public Question Time, comments attached and then reconvened

3] Minutes - The Minutes of the Commons and Hams Committee Meeting of 30 October 2014 having been previously circulated were signed off as a true and correct record.

4& 5] Motion approved to recommend the Parish Council ascertain the lawfulness of the vehicular access across Kempsey and Kerswell Green Commons currently being used by the Caravan site and Teal Turf respectively.

Cllr.  
Bowley

6] Motion approved to recommend the Parish Council accept Croome Hunt's request to exercise hounds on Kempsey Common as per their letter of 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2015

Cllr.  
Bowley

7] Motion to recommend the Parish Council delegate authority to the Clerk, in conjunction with one or more Committee members, to purchase suitable cattle up to a value of £4,500.00. The cattle will be used in the management of Ashmoor Common. Purchase to be made when conditions are favourable.

Cllr.  
Bowley

8& 11] Agreed Committee members would update 2015/16 year maintenance programmes for all Commons and develop plans for the subsequent three years, all to be put to the next committee meeting planned within the next two months.

Committee

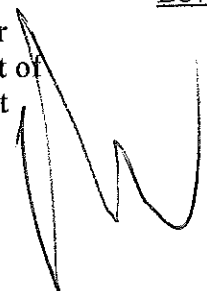
9] The majority of byelaw signs are now in place; Cllr Bannister undertook to pursue completion with the contractor.

Cllr.  
Bannister

10] Cllr. Bowley to follow up with Adam Rea who had offered to prepare a draft document covering FAQs.

Cllr.  
Bowley

12] Fountains have been replaced by Glendales as the Western Power Distribution contractor to manage tree/foliage trimming in respect of overhead power lines. The latter do not operate a tree replacement service so the outstanding offer from Fountains falls away.



- 13] Motion approved to recommend to Parish Council that relevant departments within Police, Fire Brigade and Ambulance Service be advised of the padlock codes on all Commons gates and that notices be installed on each gate giving telephone contact numbers where this information can also be obtained. This action results from a recent problem when there was some difficulty in an ambulance accessing a Common to attend to a victim of a riding accident.

Cllr.  
Bowley

The meeting closed approx 21:10 hrs

R C Bowley

18.03.2015

## COMMONS & HAMS COMMITTEE MEETING 2 February 2015

### PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Mrs Nancy Morris, Mrs Sally Ann Collins and Mr & Mrs Allen all spoke in respect of concerns they had in relation to Kempsey Common resulting from persons with horses providing supplementary feeding for their stock. They specified difficulty in getting through gates onto the Common as the horses crowd them having become accustomed to persons bringing fodder. They also warned of the strong possibility of horses escaping onto the public road when the gates are opened.

With regard to the recently widened and improved entry to Kempsey Common from the Stonehall end, they suggested stones or bollards be installed to prevent vehicular access by unwelcome visitors as the entrance is wide and gate not secure.

Other concerns were:-

No reference in the Chairman's letter in the latest Parish magazine to supplementary feeding and vehicles on the Common (requested at the Council meeting December 2014).

Vehicle parking on Kempsey Common

Gate latch at the Green Street top gate being ineffective

Speeding on the road through Stonehall Common.

Need to manage the anti-trespass ditches and brambles around Stonehall Common to deter incursion by vehicles.

They were thanked for raising these matters and advised:-

The matter of horses on Kempsey Common has been a long running issue. The Parish Council has no power to intervene where grazing rights are being lawfully exercised and there is no byelaw against supplementary feeding. The Parish Council would not get involved in civil disagreements. Hopefully however this issue can be resolved informally.

The gate problems and bollard suggestion would be investigated.

References to parking on the Commons and supplementary feeding would be requested for the next Parish magazine.

Speeding through Stonehall Common would best be addressed by the Stonehall community contacting the police and the Highways Dept.