

**MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING OF
KEMPSEY PARISH COUNCIL. THURSDAY 31ST OCTOBER 2013
AT 7.30 PM. AT THE PARISH OFFICE, KEMPSEY COMMUNITY CENTRE**

PRESENT: - Cllr Stevens (Chair), Cllr. Blackwell, Cllr. Bowley, Cllr.Geens, & Cllr. Bannister (from 8.00pm due to work commitments).

IN ATTENDANCE: - One member of the public.

1.Apologies: None

1a. Cllr Stevens was re-elected as Chairman (following his recent appointment as Vice-Chairman of the full council).

2. Declaration of Interests:

1. Register of Interests: Councillors were reminded of the need to update their register of interests.
2. Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI): None.
3. Other Disclosable Interests (ODI): None

The meeting was adjourned for Public Question Time.

3. Having been previously circulated, the minutes of Monday 29th April, 2013 were signed as a true and correct record.

4. Cllr Stevens reported that he had arranged for pupils from Oak class of Kempsey Primary School to attend the Rocky woods on Friday 8th November 2013 from 1.00pm to plant assorted flower bulbs in the woodland and grassed areas. Cllr Stevens requested that members of this committee also attended, where possible, to assist, supervise, and promote the Parish Council's efforts.

Cllr Stevens is going to ask the 6th Worcester (Kempsey) Scouts if they would like to help in clearing and burning brash from the woods.

The above involvements are to comply with the requirements of the LEADER grant.

5. Cllr Blackwell reported that two new benches for the Rocky woods are now made and awaiting installation. A decision was made as to their proposed locations and Cllr Blackwell will now organize their installation. It was agreed that they would be set back from the path edge and slabs laid in front of them to avoid obstruction of the path by people's legs.

6. It was agreed to spend up to £200 purchasing bulbs for the planting scheme. This was done under Delegated Powers.

7. It was agreed to spend up to £50 on bird nesting boxes. This was done under Delegated Powers. The above is to comply with the requirements of the LEADER grant.

8. Three welcome and information signs for the Rocky woods' entrances are required. Cllr Stevens will present a design, and circulate round the committee prior to obtaining quotes. The above is to comply with the requirements of the LEADER grant.

9.Further improvements for the Rocky woods:-

1. A contractor is to be approached to extend the handrails of the old wooden bridge to prevent persons falling into the brook adjacent below.

Action by:

All

Cllr
Stevens

Cllr
Blackwell

Cllr
Stevens

Cllr
Stevens

Cllr
Stevens

<p>2. Cllr Geens proposed we develop a small BMX track within the Rocky woods. The motion was rejected by the committee.</p> <p>3. It was decided to leave further improvements within the woods for 12 months to allow it to settle before consulting again with residents.</p> <p>4. The question of a bench in memory of County Councilor Bob Bullock arose. It was suggested that an appropriate position may be on the grassed area adjacent to the Lych Gate outside of the churchyard. The possibility of this will be investigated.</p>	<p>Cllr Geens</p>
<p>10. A proposal was put forward to look into the development of a skateboard park in the village. This proposal was carried unanimously. This committee will ask the Recreation committee if they would wish to share this project with us.</p>	<p>Cllr Geens</p>
<p>11. A discussion took place to consider the merits of pursuing a closure of the Rocky ford to road traffic. This could enable the numerous unsightly 'depth in flood' signs to be removed and provide a pleasant area continuing from the Rocky wood project. The committee thought it had potential and agreed to pursue the possibility further.</p>	<p>Cllr Bowley</p>
<p>12. It was decided that a tree maintenance schedule to manage the trees in the Rocky woods should be drawn up. This document would be used to obtain quotations for tree works, act as a maintenance plan for the council, and be used for an application to obtain permission for tree works from Malvern Hills District Council.</p>	<p>Cllr Stevens</p>
<p>13. Discussion took place regarding the poor state of some public footpaths within the village. A proposal will be put forward at the next Parish Council meeting to apply to the County Council to resurface the footpath from Windmill Lane to the shop, including the spurs to the Main Road and Rookery Road, and the footpath from Meadow Close to the Main Road.</p>	<p>Cllr Stevens</p>
<p>14. The Budget has been amended for presentation at the F & GP committee. Included, was an element to extend the Lengthsman scheme within the village as it is thought there is ample work to justify this. It also included the provision of additional equipment (either purchased or hired) for the Lengthsman.</p>	
<p>15. The committee task list was reviewed and updated.</p> <p>Meeting Closed 10.06 pm</p>	

Signed Chairman Date

Standing Orders were adjourned for Public Question Time

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Adam Rea – The Limes

It was suggested by Mr Rea that Kempsey Parish Council should employ a Dog Warden to patrol our streets, but also be contracted out to other parishes and raise an income for ourselves

Standing Orders were reimposed

