

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 11th MAY 2015 AT 7.30p.m.
AT KEMPSEY COMMUNITY CENTRE

PRESENT: - Mr. J Michael (Elected as Chairman)

IN ATTENDANCE: - The attendance list indicated 28 parishioners were present.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: - Apologies were received from Cllr Bannister, Mrs Clee, Mr. Biddle and Mr. Padden.

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS ANNUAL PARISH MEETING:-

The minutes from Monday 19th May 2014 had been previously circulated were signed as a true and correct record.

3. GUEST SPEAKER – MR TOM VAUGHAN FROM WORCESTER ARCHIVE & ARCHAEOLOGY

Mr. Vaughan presented an interesting and informative talk on the findings from Kempsey Main Road Site (Saxon Meadows – Lioncourt)

A power point presentation lasting approximately half an hour was given and the findings were reported. Three evaluation trenches were excavated where various pieces of broken pottery were found relevant to the area. Drainage issues were discussed It was thought the settlement was probably a cattle enclosure rather than an actual settlement.

Questions

Q1. A Patrick – Asked when the report had been completed would it be possible that KPC could have a copy ?

A1. Yes, this is a requirement of Planning.

Q2. B Hodgkins - Questioned how is a planning archaeologist appointed?

A2. A Brief is prepared and then this goes out to tender for the project.

Q3. T Geens – Did you experience problems with the water table during the dig?

A3. Yes, pumps were used during excavation

Q4. D Harrison – Drew reference to the plan of the evaluation ditches questioning land drainage especially as the A38 experiences problems with flooding.

A4. No nothing to do with any structural findings. Study suggests field drains only.

Q5 T Geens – Did The Roman Road ever have any other name?

A5. There is a Roman milestone cemented in the wall of church.

Q6. N. Brookes – Why is the enclosure so far away from the road on the east side and the brook?

A6. It was common for settlements to be on higher ground as drainage was better.

4. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PARISH COUNCIL: –

The Chairman referred to the Annual Newsletter recently distributed to households and thanked the team of volunteers organized by Mrs Joy Clee for their efforts.

Councillors past and present were thanked for their time and effort in improving the community.

Reference was made to the Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) document which is due to go out to Public Consultation shortly. Parishioners were urged to express their comments before submission to MHDC. Consultations are due to take place in June at St. Mary's Church. It is hoped the document will be concluded by the end of the year.

5. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2014/15:-

The annual accounts were distributed (subject to audit) for information only.

Any queries please direct to the Clerk.

Questions

N Brookes queried miscellaneous receipts – This was confirmed as relating to NDP grants. This will be separated for forthcoming financial year for clarity.

D Harrison queried allotment rents total. RFO to respond to this query directly.

6. POLICE REPORT: - Sarah Ransome-Williams presented a report for the period April 2014 to March 2015 confirming there had been 63 crimes (83 last year).

The following Crime Statistics were quoted:-

1 Arson

12 Thefts

10 Vehicle Thefts

8 Criminal Damage

8 Dwellings

6 Assaults
2 Dangerous dogs
7 Drugs
0 Warrants

44 Anti-Social Behavior Orders (57 last year) – Emerging trend with a couple of locals. The Police are Aware of and dealing with in a robust manner.

Safer Roads partnership is re-launching Rural Watch – 100 farms have signed up for this scheme which directly links with NHW.

Safer Roads Enforcement – Data to be fed at PACT and The Parish Council copied in.

Questions

Q1. B Hodgkins – How does crime in Kempsey compare to other villages?

A1. On par with anti-social behavior crimes in other areas.

Q2. J Michael – Crime activity seems very much controlled when compared to NHW reporting

A2. Only aware if reported

Q3. T Geens – we are due to have a sudden influx of housing due you envisage any problems?

A3. The only comparison is Malvern Vale where there has NOT been a massive increase. There is more control with Fortis Housing with shorter tenancies to eliminate problems.

Q4. David Harrison congratulated Sarah and her team for their excellent work and Police presence within the Village. He continued to ask if there were any plans to increase PCSOs from 1 to 2.

A4. Sarah confirmed she had no idea – but one post had been dropped due to lack of funding.

Cllr Patrick confirmed there were resources within section 106 agreements to allow for extra policing. The Parish Council to write to request the support of an extra PSCO within the village.

Q5 .B Hodgkins – 10-17 year olds do not seem to be reprimanded via The Crime Prosecution Service.

A5. There is new legislation surrounding anti-social behavior.

7. COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT: - Cllr R Sutton

- Speed watch scheme administered by The Safer Road Partnership to combat speeding issues.
- VAS sign due to be installed at the northern end of the village.
- Concerns at The Ketch Island with pedestrians and cyclists. This is being investigated.
- Investigating parking problems at the shop.
- Commented on the bus service which extends to Upton at weekends
- Funds/grants available from Divisional scheme.
- Lengthsman scheme remains unchanged

8. DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT: - Cllr Harrison reported on

- Planning applications incurred over the last 12 months (70+).
- SWDP currently being discussed confirming there was 1 gypsy site (10 pitches/20 caravans)
- Significant gap – Appeals have been won throughout various parts of the country however Kempsey didn't have the opportunity to try to protect.
- Planning Update
Future planning application to come forward between The Limes and Broomhall Lane.
Appeal lost 7-6 on Kings Hill Development
Appeal lodged Post Office Lane – No decision as yet.
Appeal ongoing for Farmers Arms
- Thanks were expressed to Adam Rea for his work over the last 4 years.
- Welcome to John Michael newly appointed District Councillor.
- SWDP meeting Tuesday 2nd June 2015 at 9.30am Six Ways Worcester – In discussion Kempsey is a category 1 village.

Questions

A Patrick – Expressed thanks to Cllr Harrison for all his hard work and support over the last four years and is looking forward to working with him during his next term of office.

9. DISCUSSIONS ARISING FROM REPORTS:-

Mrs Kelly mentioned the state of the footpath leading from The Limes. Cllr Smith confirmed she was the footpath coordinator and would report any problems she was made aware of to Worcestershire County Council who are responsible for repairs/improvements to footpaths.

Mr. Brookes commented on the amount of dog mess in the alleyway leading to the shop.

He also commented that several new fences had been erected along the alley at the detriment of removing the hedging. He requested then an audit be conducted on boundary areas and if necessary the hedges be reinstated.

He also raised concerns with the ongoing problems of the footway at the top of Hillside. The kerb has collapsed and disappeared and is causing a problem channeling rainwater from the road creating drainage issues. Cllr Sutton to investigate.

Cllr Patrick highlighted to Cllr Sutton that overgrown hedges and vegetation 6/8feet tall located by the bungalow on the Main Road needed immediate attention. He confirmed this was on his action list.

Cllr Patrick highlighted to Cllr Sutton that the bus timetable appeared to be somewhat confusing and requested clarity.

The Chairman thanked parishioners for attending. He then closed the meeting at 9.13pm

Sharon Baxter
Clerk
13th May 2015