

**MINUTES OF THE COMMONS AND HAMS COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
KEMPSEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON  
THURSDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2013 AT 8.15p.m  
AT KEMPSEY COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**PRESENT:** - Cllr Bannister (Chair), Cllr Campbell, Cllr Rea, Cllr Martin & Cllr Bowley

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mr. David Morris and Mr. William Halford

1. To Elect a Committee Chairman: Cllr Bannister was elected.
2. Apologies for Absence: None
3. Declaration of Interest 1. Disclosable Pecuniary Interests 2. Other Disclosable Interests:  
Cllr Martin declared an interest on Kempsey Common and Ashmoor Common holding commons rights.
4. To Consider Written Requests from Councillors for the Council to Grant a Dispensation: None received.

**The meeting was adjourned for Public Question Time, notes of which are appended to these minutes**

5. The minutes of the meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2013 having been previously circulated were signed as a true and correct record.
6. **Update on:**
  1. Normoor Common – Cllr Bannister to liaise with Mr Coole in respect of the grass cutting. The question arose concerning defining the ditches and upgrading security chains/padlocks as a further security precaution. This will be discussed further at the next meeting.
  2. Kerswell Green Common - Topping is required as is attention to gullies/ditches.
  3. Stonehall Common – It is anticipated that the second pond will be reinstated. Kempsey Common – A gorse cutting programme is in place and monies have already been carried over from last financial year to this to pay for these works. (Prices are to re-checked with contractors)
  4. Ashmoor Common – Six cows have now been purchased and are grazing on Ashmoor Common. Cllr Bannister to obtain quotations for spraying the thistles.
  5. The Hams – The sale of the Lower Ham has been withdrawn.
7. **Issues to address:**
  1. **Normoor Common**
    - There has been some settlement in the trench in which the new drain from the main road to the ditch on the southern edge of Normoor Common was laid. What can be done to rectify this? The Committee agreed that as the Highways Authority repaired the pipe to contact them in the first instance, requesting some top soil.
  2. **Kerswell Green**
    - Repairs are required to culvert/gulley adjacent to the telephone box. As this belongs to District Council a request should be made to them.
  3. **Kempsey Common**
    - To address letter received from Mr. David Morris - damage caused by horses and land disposal. The liability aspects are to be checked with a solicitor together with cost implications. (This item is to be placed on the June Agenda)

Mr Halford suggested we contact MFG solicitors who could offer expertise in this area.

- Address letter from Mr David Morris concerning damage to track on Kempsey Common (from Green Street) leading to Malvern View and also to G Morris at Stonehall Farm. Mr Morris confirmed repairs had already been carried out to the track except for a few potholes which he kindly offered to repair and re-seed if necessary. The Committee agreed to accept this offer.

#### 4. **Ashmoor Common**

- Update on land drainage issues (Communication with Tom Palmer) Cllr Bannister is to liaise with Mr Watkins (Croome Estate) to establish what work is still required to be carried out to the ditch and the associated costs of repair. Cllr Bannister and Cllr Martin to inspect the damaged pipe to consider replacing it. Clerk to update Mr Palmer of the situation.
- Updates on purchase of the cattle – The cattle have now been purchased.

#### 5. **The Hams**

- Clerk to respond to the letter from Mr Quibell's solicitor – Sale of Land Lower Ham
- Lower Ham – Sale by Public Auction – The Committee resolved to discuss this item in confidential session due to the confidential nature.
- An update was provided concerning the disabled access query from Mr Smart.

**8. To formulate an action plan to deal with gypsy traveller invasion.** The Committee felt this was not necessary as in the first instance the police should be informed followed by the solicitors.

**9. Commons Rights Leasing Agreement Register** – To devise a strategy moving forward of how to manage the updating of the Commons Rights Leasing Register. Clerk to seek some advice from Trading Standards. This item is to be included on the June agenda.

Meeting Closed 10.10pm

Sharon Baxter

Clerk

## **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

Mr Morris highlighted concerns raised as detailed in his letters with Kempsey Common and the damage caused by horses to the common and the boundary fences. He had concerns with the welfare of the animals, supplementary feeding and land at disposal.

Legal advice is to be obtained to establish the bye-laws.

Mr William Halford – Reiterated the same concerns as Mr Morris.