



'YOUR PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS' February 2019

This copy of the magazine heralds in a new year in which we hope we will be able to continue stewarding the community for you, by ensuring regular essential tasks are maintained and new projects are brought forward. This council has sat for nearly four years now and in May of this year the council will be dissolved and a new one formed in line with the local authority constitution. Many members I hope will stand again but there will be opportunity for new members to stand at an election. Worthwhile considering if you feel that you would like to put something back into your community.

I am very pleased to advise that at our January meeting the budget for 2019/20 was agreed and a precept figure finalised. The precept is the amount that we request from Malvern Hills District Council in order to carry out all our proposed work. Malvern pay us this money from the Council Tax that they collect from you. I can tell you that this year the portion that is allocated to Kempsey Parish Council has not increased from last year in percentage terms.

Our halls at the Community Centre and the Youth Centre are now both being used well for regular and one-off bookings. For those who know the Youth Centre you would have been aware of a sound echo within the main hall. We have now installed sound absorbing acoustic panels to the ceiling which has had a dramatic effect and improved the experience when using the hall. Should you wish to hire either of these rooms for a private function, please contact the parish office.

The transfer of land for new sports pitches and a community hall at Pixham Ferry Lane is now nearing completion. Once we have ownership of the land, we will have preliminary designs prepared for the hall and layout of the sports pitches and multi-use games areas (MUGA's) so that we can hold public consultations for you to put forward comments that you may have.

Following our own observations and requests from residents, we have sent a letter to the Chief Constable of West Mercia Police highlighting issues within our parish and pointing out the growth that we have experienced over the last few years and that police presence within Kempsey has not increased to reflect this growth. We will keep you informed of the response that we receive.

Although our clerk is still off work following surgery please be assured that any questions or representations you may have for your parish council will be dealt with as usual. If I am not in the office, please leave a voicemail or email. I am pleased to say that our clerk, Mrs Sharon Baxter, is recovering and is expected back in the not too distant future.

For detailed minutes of all meetings please refer to one of the six Parish Noticeboards or to the website www.kempseyhub.co.uk

Trevor Geens
Chairman