

## Kempsey PACT meeting held at Kempsey Community Centre

on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2016 at 12.30pm

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**PRESENT:** (14) Terry Ward (Chairman), Cllr Roger Sutton (County Council), Cllr David Harrison (MHDC), Trevor Geens (Chairman Parish Council), Hugh Hanmer (Parish Council), Mike Biddle (Neighbourhood Plan Chairman), Ann Patrick (Parish Council), Marian Walters, Wendy Coen, Paul Leopold (Chairman Malvern Hills District Police and Community Consultative Group), Howard Farnhill, Margaret Davies, Bob Stokes (Kempsey Sports Association), Bob Bowley,

The chairman, Terry Ward welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending. Everybody then introduced themselves.

- 1. Apologies:** Cllr John Michael (MHDC), Joy Clee, Pam Gerrard (Parish Council), Sharon Joyce (Neighbourhood Watch), Mel Baker, Sarah Ransome-Williams (West Mercia Police), Roy Clarke, Newton Coen, Bryony Baynes (Headmistress Kempsey Primary School), David Walters, Rev Mark Badger, Peter Scurrrell, Sue Cownie, Pat Whitehead.
- 2. Minutes of the meeting** held on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2016, having been circulated were agreed as being a true record.
- 3. Matters arising:** The SWDP was approved at a recent meeting so will not need to go to a judicial review. Wendy Coen thanked MW and TW for producing the agenda and minutes efficiently.
- 4. Police and Neighbourhood Watch update:** Sarah Ransome-Williams had sent her apologies for this meeting adding that she is being temporarily “borrowed” by HQ to work for six months on an operation involving West Mercia and Gloucester. **MW will send her PACT’s best wishes**; she will be sorely missed. She reported that speed enforcement continues in the village and more members of the Special Constabulary are being trained to work in this area. The annual crime figures show an increase from 61 to 84 and there were 43 recorded incidents of ASB in the village compared with last year. She emphasized that these can be the result of neighbour disputes and parking problems and not necessarily youth disorder which remains low.

**Neighbourhood Watch:** Paul Leopold had little to report other than to say the AGM of the West Mercia NW forum will take place on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30 pm at Hindlip Hall. The speaker will be Amanda Blakeman, Deputy Chief Constable. There will be a presentation showing a new messaging system and another showing the use of social media for NW. This is being developed in the Teme Valley and is proving to be a good way of reaching the younger generations. Smart Water is still being promoted by MHDC and the police. 200 free packs are available to victims of crime and it was suggested that **TW liaises with PL** regarding an article to be placed in the Parish Magazine.

- 5. Update on the Neighbourhood Plan:** MB said the consultation period would be reached on 30<sup>th</sup> April after which a meeting of the working party will take place on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> May at 10.00 am to discuss all 48 submissions. The Plan will then be amended, updated and submitted to MHDC. A six week consultation will then take place after which MHDC will appoint an inspector to vet the proposals. A referendum will take place giving each

villager the opportunity to express their opinion. The Plan will hopefully become a valid document by the end of 2016.

MB is concerned that the government brought in a “new homes bonus” in 2011 and Wychavon allocated 40% of their £1,761,000 to parishes. Worcester City allocated some money to their two parishes but MHDC allocated nothing. Where has this money been used? This is question no-one seems to know the answer of. MB will put his concerns in writing to the Chief Executive. AP said there was little development when the scheme was launched, but the Parish Council gets no increase in their precept and MHDC gets the total amount of the “new homes bonus.” MB added that Norton-juxta-Kempsey had received £44K from Wychavon, but we received nothing. **TG will write to the Chief Executive expressing the Parish Council’s extreme concern.**

## 6. Hot topics of the moment:

- i) **Roadworks present and planned & new water main on A38:** These are ever present and very visible. Cllr Sutton said the road from Kerswell Green to Kinnersley on which a lot of patching has recently been done, will have a surface dressing in May. He said there had been no further progress on the suggestion of painting yellow box junctions at the Ketch Island.

Flooding at the north end of the village where there were three blockages, has been addressed in part, meaning two have been cleared and the third blockage will be dealt with in the near future. Work is being carried out to the south of Kempsey to address the flooding issues at Bestmans Lane and Draycott Lane which feed into the main culvert on the west side of the A38. Water from Teal Turf’s land is going into these lanes and the silt is causing a blockage. The culvert and ditch are being cleared down to Baynhall and a 4” pipe is being replaced with an 8” pipe to reduce the volume of water. Hugh Hanmer was thanked for working with the contractors to find the blockages.

- ii) **Bus Services:** A new, improved bus service came into force on 11<sup>th</sup> April.

- iii) **Parking and traffic problems:** The parking problems at the village shop are to be addressed with the placing of bollards near the junction with Church Street. This will prevent delivery and other vehicles from parking in this area. It is imperative that pavements are kept clear to allow wheelchairs, mobility scooters and buggies to pass unhindered.

- iv) **School and Church reports:** Bryony Baynes, Headteacher sent a report which MW read out. There are now 268 pupils on roll and 38 have listed KPS as their first choice for Reception class in September. Following consultations with parents, staff, governors and other stakeholders, the Governing Body formally voted on 20<sup>th</sup> April, to join with Hanley Castle High School, Hanley Swan Primary and Upton upon Severn Primary in a Multi-Academy Trust. A programme of refurbishment is programmed for the summer holidays. Junior Car Park Wardens are proving very effective at patrolling the areas outside the school to ensure parking is more responsible at the start and end of days. There is a vacancy on the Governing Body and anyone interested should contact Marian Walters, Clerk to the Governing Body. Anyone is welcome to go into school at any time to look around or volunteer. After half term, the school is embarking on a project to look at how the environment changes over time. **If anyone has any old maps or photographs of Kempsey, could they please allow the school to scan them to show how Kempsey has changed over the years.**

Rev Mark Badger sent a report which was read out by MW. The church has developed a range of activities based around the school which include a Sunday school, a Saturday morning breakfast and bounce club and Café Church. The Youth Club has been

relaunched on Thursday evenings at the Youth Hut on Plovers Rise. The graveyard extension is due to start imminently but has been delayed by new H & S procedures. The church is working with the Parish Council to look at the provision of parking on Church land along the side of the existing track to the pumping station. This would only be used on a limited number of occasions. St Mary's House has now been sold and the money ring-fenced for future development of the church building. Work on plans to re-order the church are underway in order to make the church a multi-function community space and as part of the process a presentation will be held on 18<sup>th</sup> June

**v) Planning matters:**

**a) Applications in the pipeline:** Ann Patrick said there were very few applications at the moment.

**b) Road naming:** The Parish Council was happy with road names at the Saxon Meadows, Linden Homes and Taylor Wimpey developments but not at Florence Close which will be called Kemys Gardens rather than Florence Close. The Parish Council will submit suggested road names to the developers of the King's Hill site.

**c) Traffic management plan for Post Office Lane development:** Ann Patrick had written to Duncan Rudge at MHDC following a recent planning committee meeting but as yet has received no reply

**7. Communicating with new residents:** It was felt that Kempsey should receive some money from the MHDC Rural Community Grant to provide welcome packs. **AP will check with MHDC to ascertain where the money lies.**

**8. Litter Picking report:** Few people had turned up for the litter pick on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> April, but a huge amount of litter had been removed. There was a particularly bad area opposite the new development south of the village where large pieces of white polystyrene were found in the hedges and verges. **Trevor Geens will speak to the developers regarding this matter.** Our lengthsman cleared a large amount of rubbish at Marlbank in their own time. MHDC only has one part-time litter picker for the whole district, but it is the responsibility of the District Council to clear litter. Wendy Coen asked if it would be possible to purchase hoops to help keep the sacks open when picking litter. **Terry Ward will contact Rob Rich at MHDC. David Harrison will write to MHDC to see if something can be done to reduce the build-up of sand and mud on the western pavements through the village.** It is thought this comes from lorries returning loaded with sand from the quarries at Clifton.

**The next litter pick will take place on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> July at 2.30 pm.**

**9. Any other business:** TW reported on a recent lightning strike which hit a telegraph pole in the Post Office Lane/Ellsdon area. It caused considerable damage to phone and internet connections to many properties in the vicinity and several homes lost televisions. The problem continued for quite a few days giving cause for concern as people had to rely on mobile phones as their only means of communication. This raises the worry as to how a total communication blackout would be dealt with.

Bob Bowley said he had approached Rev Mark Badger asking if a meeting could be arranged in church to which local MPs would be invited to give people more information on the forthcoming EU referendum. **Terry Ward will liaise with Trevor Geens about this.**

**10. Date of next meeting:** Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> July at 7.00 pm for 7.30 pm.

Many thanks to those who made tea and cleared up after the meeting.

The meeting closed at 2.25pm

Terry Ward  
Chairman