

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF KEDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
TUESDAY, 19 DECEMBER 2006
LIBRARY, ARMS LANE, KEDINGTON**

Present: Cllr Peter Byron
Cllr John Cahill – Vice Chair
Cllr Peter Donoghue
Cllr Peter Rowsell
Cllr Terry Wheeler – Chairman

Ms Marion Farrant (Clerk)

In attendance: County Councillor Karen Knight; Mr F Phillips (Press); Mr S Jarvis (Wildlife Group).

		ACTION
1	Parishioners' Question Time and to acknowledge agenda items of interest to members of the public present: Mr Jarvis recorded a vote of thanks to the Parish Council for all their hard work during 2006. Open Meeting	
2	Welcome and apologies: Apologies were accepted from Cllr Gloria Double (Health); Cllr Susan Berridge and Cllr John Pelling; Borough Councillor Marion Rushbrook. Cllr Barney did not attend the meeting and no apologies were received.	
3	Minutes of last meeting The minutes of the last meeting (KPC 112-07) held on 21 November 2006 were agreed as a true record. Proposed: Cllr Donoghue, Seconded: Cllr Rowsell.	
4	To accept members' Declaration of Interests on agenda items: None Close meeting	
5	Visitor's Reports: County Councillor Karen Knight gave her report: Schools Consultation: Councillor Knight reported that responses on this consultation had been low, but confirmed that Head Teachers of primary, middle and upper schools had all been involved in the process. Councillor Knight said that there was a small majority in favour of the two-tier system, but further consultations were due to be held in January before reports were made to Committee for a final decision. The Chairman asked Councillor Knight if the two-tier system was voted in, when would it be adopted? Councillor Knight replied that it would be phased in gradually over the next three years from either September 2007 or 2008, but a date had not yet been finalised. Day Care Consultation: Councillor Knight requested that if any Councillors had friends or relatives (or knew of anyone else) in hospital, who are waiting for a social care package before they are allowed home, to let her know by contacting her direct or through the Clerk. Councillor Knight said this information was important, as it would help to show how long care packages were taking to be set up before people were allowed to leave hospital..	

Grants: Councillor Knight reported that she still had some money available in her Locality Budget for grant applications. The deadline for new applications is March 2007. The Royal British Legion, Stourhead Benefice and the Youth Shelter have all benefited from the Locality Fund.

Open meeting

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Clerk's Report:

- Mr Eric Chapman has requested permission from the Parish Council to purchase and install two signs to ask cars to refrain from turning on Calford Green. Mr Chapman said he hoped this would alleviate him having to keep going out and towing cars off the green with his tractor when they have got stuck in the mud. Mr Chapman said he was more than happy to pay for the signs and erect them himself.

MF

This request was unanimously agreed by all Councillors present.

- Fly tipping in Rectory Road has been reported to the Borough Council and a request has been made for a metal bar to be put across the entrance to the "old quarry" to stop re-occurrence.

- Parishioner reported concerns over a building erected next to the stables in Rectory Road, as to whether this had Planning Permission. This has been reported to Planning Department who will investigate.

MF

- Play Equipment finished with the exception of refurbishment of Scales. It is hoped project will be completed shortly after Christmas. *The Chairman reported that the new gate on the play equipment has a bolt protruding, which could be hazardous and requested Clerk report this to Playworld.*

MF

Cllr Donoghue asked when the bark would be ordered for the Fort. Chairman replied this had been discussed at Finance Committee meeting and would be done when the Handyman had finished painting the Fort.

6.1

Broadband:

Cllr Cahill reported that Broadband services provided by Tiscali was now up and running in the Parish Office. Cllr Cahill will change Clerk's e-mail address on website. Clerk will ensure it is changed on Parish Council stationery.

JC

7

Finance Committee

7.1

Receive draft minutes and Financial Statements of 12 December 2006:

Cllr Cahill went through highlights of the meeting not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

- Financial position satisfactory.
- Earth has been levelled around Youth Shelter and the back wall has been painted.
- Work on improvements to The Baulk will be started in the New Year.

7.2

Consider any matters arising from 14 November 2006 minutes:

None.

7.3

Receive Budget Sheets submitted for 2007/2008:

Budget sheets were distributed to Councillors present.

8 Office Accommodation

Cllr Rowsell reported that the Clerk had spoken personally to Dr C A Cornish about the possibility of the Parish Council renting a room at the surgery. Dr Cornish thought this was a good idea and said he would speak to his partners at the Practice and seek their views.

9 Affordable Housing Scheme

9.1 Update:

Cllr Donoghue reported that a meeting had been held between the Parish Council Working Party; Borough Councillor Marion Rushbrook; Greg Dodds from Orwell Housing Association and Louise Wilby, Housing Enabler with Suffolk Acre. Cllr Donoghue explained the role that Orwell Housing would take in the initial stages before funding from the Housing Corporation would be applied for. The next round for funding bids will be Autumn 2007. Cllr Donoghue said that Orwell Housing would help organise a public meeting before any bids were put in so that any concerns that parishioners may have could be raised.

Cllr Donoghue said that sites needed to be looked at and these sites needed to be acceptable for planning. It was suggested that the Draft Plan be looked at to see what possible sites the Inspector would allow. The Chairman requested that the Clerk pass on the Inspector's Report to Cllr Donoghue to ascertain what sites might be suitable.

MF

It was decided that a limited development to benefit young people and the elderly should be encouraged. Figures of eight to ten units were suggested; the Chairman put forward a suggestion received previously from an absent Councillor who suggested six units.

Cllr Rowsell said that the timescale to be able to put in bids for Autumn 2007 was tight. The Chairman suggested that Cllr Donoghue survey the Draft Plan and come up with sites that may be suitable and that a decision be taken at the January KPC meeting as to how many units would be acceptable. It was agreed that once this was decided, a public meeting could then be arranged.

PD

10 Environmental / Grounds Maintenance Matters

10.1 Herald Contract – update from meeting:

Cllr Cahill reported that a meeting had taken place between himself, Cllr Berridge, Mr Newitt from Herald and one of his operatives. It was agreed that a "ticket" showing what work had been carried out, would be left at the Post Office for the Parish Council every time Herald contractors were in the village. The Chairman suggested that perhaps Herald should look at the type of equipment they use when mowing in the churchyard, as the last contractor used a "flymo" between the graves. Cllr Cahill reported that the piece of "hallowed turf" on one of the graves in the cemetery that had been sprayed with "round-up" would be topsoiled and re-seeded. The Chairman also read from a letter sent by Herald with proposals for the damage to the gravestone, which has been an on-going matter.

It was agreed that a Working Party would be formed, consisting of the Chairman, Cllr Cahill and Cllr Byron to review the specifications contained in Herald's contract, as it could be seen that there were faults on both sides, with clearer clarity from the Parish Council needed on what works were to be carried out. It was also agreed that a meeting should be arranged with the Parochial Church Council re grounds work in the cemetery/churchyard.

MF

10.2 Any other environmental/grounds maintenance matters:

Cllr Byron said he had a site meeting with John Smithson from St Edmundsbury Borough Council about Risbridge Meadow.

11	Housing / Planning The Chairman read from a letter received from St Edmundsbury Borough Council about Parish Council Objections to Planning Applications. This letter will be circulated to all Councillors with a comments sheet.	MF
11.2	Planning Applications – Observations conveyed by Parish Council: None.	
11.3	Planning Applications – Decisions received from Borough Council: None.	
11.4	Any other housing/planning matters: None.	
12	Highway/Footpath/Street furniture matters	
12.1	Any other highway/footpath/street furniture matters: Decision to purchase salt bins was deferred because of the mild winter.	
13	Consultations Mobile Skate Park: Chairman read out a letter received from Abbeycroft Leisure. Councillors agreed they would like to take up Abbeycroft's offer. Suggested site were Old School Field and KCA site (with their permission). E-Petition against Stansted Expansion: E-mail received will be circulated to all Councillors.	Annex 1
14	Other Matters None.	
15	Any other reports (on-going matters) None.	
16	Events	
16.1	Nominations: Local Crime: Community Sentence (LCCS) Project. To be circulated to all Councillors.	
16.2	Councillor absences (update): None.	
17	Any other business (new matters) None.	
17.1	Receive meeting dates for 2007 (Year 113): Agreed that Parish Council meetings will still be held on third Tuesday of every month with the exception of August when there is no meeting. Clerk will distribute meeting dates at January meeting. The date of the next meeting will be Tuesday 16 January 2007 at 7.40 p.m.	MF

Signed:

Date: