

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF KEDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
TUESDAY, 20 MARCH 2007
HELD AT THE LIBRARY, ARMS LANE, KEDINGTON**

Present: Cllr Terry Wheeler – Chairman of Parish Council
Cllr John Cahill – Vice Chair of Parish Council
Cllr Susan Berridge
Cllr Gloria Double
Cllr Peter Donoghue
Cllr John Pelling

Ms Marion Farrant (Clerk)

In attendance: County Councillor Karen Knight; Borough Councillor Marion Rushbrook; Mr Fred Phillips (Press); Mr Shaun Jarvis (Wildlife Group); Mr M Shearer (Parishioner).

	ACTION
<p>1 Parishioners' Question Time and to acknowledge agenda items of interest to members of the public present: Mr Jarvis said he had an interest in Agenda item 10.1. Mr Jarvis also reported on increased litter in the village, especially in the Rectory Road and Barton Grove areas. Mr Jarvis also asked if the Dog Fouling initiative was still having an effect as he had noticed that this seemed to be a problem again in the village.</p> <p>Open Meeting</p>	
<p>2 Welcome and apologies: Apologies were accepted from Cllr Peter Rowsell, Cllr Alan Barney and P C Carl Brandwood.</p>	
<p>3 Minutes of last meeting The minutes of the last meeting (KPC 112-10) held on 20 February 2007 were read and the following changes were necessary:</p> <p>9.1 – 1st line of paragraph should read Cllr Donoghue reported that he was meeting with Greg Dodds.....</p> <p>11.3.1. - 2nd paragraph should read Cllr Pelling and not Cllr Cahill.</p> <p>13 Consultations: 2nd line should read: Protection of Common Land</p> <p>The minutes were then agreed as a true record. Proposed: Cllr Cahill, seconded: Cllr Pelling.</p>	
<p>4 To accept members' Declaration of Interests on agenda items: None.</p> <p>Close meeting</p>	
<p>5 Visitor's Reports:</p> <p>Schools Organisation Review: County Councillor Karen Knight reported that the Full Council would be meeting on Thursday 22 March 2007 to vote on the Schools Organisation Review. Councillor Knight said that from feedback she had received a lot of schools would welcome the changes. If passed by Full Council the second phase of the review would be dealing with the changes and a period of consultation would commence.</p> <p>Review of Day Care for the Elderly: Councillor Knight reported that the review on the provision of day care for the elderly was also on the agenda for the Full Council meeting on 22 March 2007. She said she had visited the Day Care Centre for the elderly at Camps Road in</p>	

Haverhill, currently run by Adult Care Services and was very impressed with what she saw and the activities on offer there. Councillor Knight said she would not want to see this valuable service to the elderly disappear.

Alfie's Parking Bay:

Councillor Rushbrook reported that a grandparent from the village who had been campaigning on behalf of his disabled grandson to get the lay-by just off of Westward Deals in Hundon Road resurfaced with tarmac had contacted her. Councillor Rushbrook said she was liaising with the Parish Clerk about this, as the issue had been ongoing for some years.

New Houses on Haverhill Road:

Councillor Rushbrook reported that she had received a request for a mirror to be erected opposite the exit from the new houses on Haverhill Road. The Chairman said this would be a matter for Highways and not the Parish Council.

Policing in the Village:

Councillor Rushbrook said she had been told that PC Carl Brandwood would be on a course for all of March and April. She commented this was not very reassuring for the village to be without a designated officer. Councillor Rushbrook said she would be speaking to the Inspector about this.

The Chairman thanked Councillor's Knight and Rushbrook for their reports. He went on to read from an e-mail sent by P C Carl Brandwood informing the Parish Council that he would be on a course during March/April. P C Brandwood reported that the Safer Neighbourhood Teams would be starting their work at around the end of April 2007.

Open meeting

6

Clerk's Report:

- ☐ C R B check has still not come through for the Crossing Supervisor. This was chased up with HAVO again on 12 March 2007. They have been in contact with the Criminal Records Bureau who report that it is Suffolk Police who are holding up the process.
- ☐ The re-issued £500 cheque for the grant from Suffolk Police towards the cost of the Youth Shelter has been received and deposited in the Bank of Ireland account.
- ☐ Bus Companies have been written to requesting that their buses use the designated Bus Stops to drop off passengers. They have been dropping off passengers at other points in the village, and this is causing a nuisance to some members of the community.
- ☐ Clerk has e-mailed David Lyttle from St Edmundsbury Borough Council, as no reply has been received from him about road signs in School Road. Clerk also informed him about the problems with the road signs at Dash End / Dash End Lane.
- ☐ Clerk has chased up Suffolk County Council re the work requested to alleviate flooding at Barton Grove/Westward Deals (water running off green and flooding Suffolk House) and also the blocked drain causing flooding outside Rowans House at Calford Green. SCC informed orders for this work has gone out to Contractors.

6.1

Consider further action (on action taken or reports received since last meeting:

None.

7 Finance Committee

7.1 Receive draft minutes and Financial Statements of 13 March 2007:

Cllr Cahill went through minutes of the meeting not covered elsewhere on the agenda. He asked Councillors to note that the Finance Committee meeting was not quorate so no decisions were made.

- Amounts of £392 and £992 on the Financial Statements were annual invoices for grass cutting from Suffolk County Council.
- £130 on Financial Statement posted under Sundry Sn 137 was posted under the wrong heading. Clerk to request Accountant repost this to Gritting Roads.
- Grant requested by Dance East: Red Shoe Appeal refused as not being of local interest.

MF

Cllr Donoghue commented that he felt the fees for Lubbock Fine were too high. The Chairman requested the Clerk to seek alternative quotes if possible.

MF

The budget statement was discussed and it was thought that the budget for 2006/2007 would be overspent on some headings, i.e. Clerk's Salary (because of their being an overlap when the new Clerk commenced). Other budget headings overspent were Grounds Contract 'A', Councillor Expenses and Clerk's Training.

The Chairman of the Parish Council requested that transfers from the Bank of Ireland be listed as a transfer in the wording on the signature sheet.

MF

Cllr Cahill sought recommendations from the Council for the continuation of:

- Subscriptions to Suffolk Acre. Agreed by all. (Cllr Cahill also asked for it to be noted that Suffolk Acre offer insurance services to Parish Councils. Agreed by all that the Clerk should seek a quotation.
- Continuation of Mrs Turner as Accountant for the Financial Year 2007/8. Agreed by all.
- Village Cleaner – It appeared that the Village Cleaner was only doing a set route and not cleaning the whole village. Agreed that a working party of Cllr's Wheeler and Cahill would formulate a map and see if extra hours were required.
- KCA Perimeter Fencing – an invoice had now been received for the grant allocated at the beginning of the Financial Year. It was agreed by all that this would be deferred to next Financial Year as the entire grant budget had been spent.

MF

MF

TW/JC

Cllr Cahill reported that the Clerk has holiday hours left for the year 2006/7. He said that the Clerk's workload since being in post had been heavy due to installation of new play equipment and building of the Youth Shelter. It was agreed that the Clerk would let the Finance Committee know if she would like these hours to be paid or added to next year's holiday hours. Cllr Berridge commended the Clerk on the work she has done since being in post.

7.2 Consider any matters arising from 13 February 2007 minutes:

None.

Close Meeting

County Councillor Karen Knight said she still had some money left in her Locality Budget and would provide the £250 for the perimeter fencing. Clerk to e-mail Councillor Knight with details.

MF

Open Meeting

8 Office Accommodation

Clerk reported that she had been requested to supply a detailed drawing of where the office furniture would be placed in the treatment room at the surgery and also provide a list of her working hours. The Practice Manager from Christmas Maltings would then pass this information on to the partners for their consideration.

9 Affordable Housing Scheme

9.1 Update:

Cllr Donoghue reported that he had met with Greg Dodds from Orwell Housing, a Housing Officer and two Planning Officers. The Planning Office had now back pedalled from their original view and now preferred the site at Stonecross Flats. The Planning Office said that they wanted this site to be well connected to the village by a footpath to Mill Road and Risbridge Drive; Orwell Housing would take care of the cost for this. Cllr Donoghue reported the Landowner was amenable to the idea of using his land for Affordable Housing, but had some reservations. It was suggested that the Parish Council still look at other sites. One suggested was the field near to the school.

10 Environmental / Grounds Maintenance Matters

10.1 Risbridge Meadow (update):

The Chairman read from an e-mail received from John Smithson which stated:

"The Kedington Volunteers and the Rangers have managed to plant all the 'Treelets' complete with a mulch mat, mulch chippings and tree guards and stakes taken from the maturing shrub belt alongside the houses. They hope to put some steps in where there is a slippery bank leading up on to the estate over the next couple of weeks. The Rangers have some native black poplar cuttings (one of the country's rarest trees), it would be great to plant a few along by the river if the Parish Council agrees? The sign will be approx 70cm long by 30cm deep".

Close Meeting

The Chairman asked Mr Jarvis if he had any comments he wished to make. Mr Jarvis replied that he was generally happy with what was going on at the Meadow but voiced his concerns about the kissing gate at the entrance.

Cllr Berridge said that she had reported concerns from a Parishioner about the kissing gate to the Clerk, who had forwarded his e-mail to John Smithson for comment. Cllr Double said the Borough Council had a legal obligation under the Disability Discrimination Act. Cllr Donoghue said he would like to see access to the estate ramped as well. The Chairman requested the Clerk to contact John Smithson and seek his comments about the kissing gate.

MF

Open Meeting

10.2 Church Walk Trees:

The Chairman reported that Cllr Pelling had e-mailed the Clerk concerning an article in the Ketton Review about ideas for Heritage Projects within the Stour Valley. From this article the Clerk had e-mailed Simon Amstutz who is the Project Manager. Simon explained that the Dedham Vale AONB and Stour Valley Project has been working with organisations across Essex and Suffolk in a partnership bid for major Heritage Lottery Funding for the Stour Valley. A workshop was being held on 24 April 2007 at Gainsborough House, Sudbury. It was agreed that this project could benefit Church Walk Trees, but as the date of the workshop coincided with the Annual Parish Meeting nobody from the Parish Council would be available to attend.

The Chairman requested the Clerk to contact Simon Amstutz to arrange a site meeting that would include local landowners.

MF

12.4	Any other housing/planning matters:	
12.4.1	Parish Councils – Attendance at Committee Meetings: The Chairman read out a letter from St Edmundsbury Borough Council. It was agreed that if there is a particular site that the Parish Council and Planning Department are in disagreement over, then a representative from the Parish Council should attend. It was also agreed that there should be a designated councillor to attend any such meetings and this role agreed at the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council in May.	MF
12.4.2	Future Planning in North West Haverhill The Chairman notified Councillors about a Workshop being held on Saturday 24 March 2007 at Samuel Ward Upper School & Technology College in Haverhill regarding future planning in North West Haverhill. Any Councillors wishing to attend should give their names to the Clerk.	
13	Consultations None.	
14	Any other reports (on-going matters)	
14.1	St Edmundsbury Borough Council – Rural News St Edmundsbury Borough Council will be publishing Rural News every two months. This will be circulated to Councillors in a reading pack.	
15	Events	
15.1	Nominations: Parish Council Conference : 12 April 2007. Cllr Cahill to attend.	
15.2	Councillor absences (update): None	
16	Any other business (new matters) Cllr Pelling reported on a television programme currently being worked on by Anglia Television and called Along the River. The presenter Paul Heiney will be canoeing down the river in Kedington and talking to Parishioners.	

The date of the next meeting will be Tuesday 17 April 2007 at 7.40 p.m.

Signed:

Date: