

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF KEDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
TUESDAY, 16 DECEMBER 2008
HELD AT THE LIBRARY, ARMS LANE, KEDINGTON**

Present: Cllr John Cahill – Chairman of Parish Council
Cllr Terry Wheeler – Vice-Chairman of Parish Council
Cllr Jennifer Bradnam
Cllr Peter Donoghue
Cllr Zoe Palmer

Ms Marion Farrant (Clerk)

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

	ACTION
<p>1 Parishioners' Question Time Mr Jarvis expressed an interest in any matters under agenda item 12. Mr Jarvis thanked the Clerk and Parish Councillors for their hard work during 2008. Mr Shearer expressed an interest in agenda item 8.1.</p> <p>Open meeting</p>	
<p>2 Welcome and apologies The Chairman welcomed all present to the last meeting of 2008.</p> <p>Apologies for absence were received from County Councillor Karen Knight (other commitments); Cllr Peter Garner (Holiday); Cllr Gloria Double (other commitments).</p>	
<p>3 Minutes of last meeting held on 18 November 2008 Item 12.2 paragraph three, incorrect spelling of surname, should read Bax not Dax.</p> <p>Item 14.4.1, fifth line down, should read (SS129).</p> <p>Minutes then proposed as a true record by Cllr Donoghue, seconded by Cllr Palmer and agreed by all.</p>	
<p>4. To accept members' Declarations of Interest on agenda items Cllr Wheeler declared an interest in agenda item 7.3. Cllr Donoghue declared an interest in agenda 11.</p> <p>Close meeting</p>	
<p>5. Visitor's Reports</p> <p><u>Borough Councillor Marion Rushbrook reported:</u></p> <p><u>Council Tax</u> Borough Council have voted not to increase Council Tax in 2009/2010.</p> <p><u>Boundary Committee:</u> Consultation period has been extended.</p> <p><u>Visit to Kedington by new CEO at St Edmundsbury Borough Council</u> Geoff Rivers would be visiting Kedington on Wednesday 21 January 2009. Any topics that Councillors or Parishioners wish to bring to his attention, should contact Marion Rushbrook prior to this date..</p>	

Open meeting

At this point, with Councillor's permission, the Chairman brought forward agenda item 8 and 8.1 to alleviate Mr Shearer having to sit through the whole meeting.

8. Local Development Framework

Chairman noted that the LDF consultation was still being circulated to Councillors. Any response to St Edmundsbury will be made as a Parish Council, but the Chairman pointed out that Councillors can put in their own personal views as a Parishioner, not Parish Councillor.

8.1 Receive letter from Bidwells concerning land south of Kedington School:

Letter received from Rob Hopwood, Divisional Partner at Bidwells was read out by the Chairman and is attached to these minutes as Annex 3. The Chairman also reported that Mr Hopwood had made contact with the Parish Council and School Governors on a previous occasion, about this matter but the Parish Council declined to comment on the proposals offered.

Councillors aired their own views and concerns were raised about flooding; ancient sewerage system could not cope and increased traffic.

It was unanimously agreed that the Parish Council would state to Bidwells that at this stage the Parish Council could not either support or make comment on their proposals until such time as it has followed the Planning Process. It was agreed that if Plans were submitted a Public Meeting would be called.

Close meeting

Cllr Rushbrook asked if the land in question was an exemption site. Cllr Donoghue replied it was not, but was Amenity Land.

The Chairman asked if Mr Shearer wished to make any comments. He replied he had no comment to make on the contents of the letter, but thought the land in question was Amenity Public Open Space and not Amenity Land.

Open meeting

6 Clerk's Report

Correspondence:

Jim Nunn from Suffolk County Council Western Area Highways Department in Bury is retiring after 40 years of service on 19th December 2008. I have sent thanks and good wishes to Mr Nunn on behalf of the Parish Council

Highways matters:

Give Way sign at junction of West End Lane with Hundon Road and Playground sign in Mill Road have been repaired.

Faulty street light in Mill Road opposite the Rectory has now been repaired.

30 mph sign just past junction of B1061 with C670 that is lying on grass verge reported to Highways.

Contractors building the two new houses in White Horse Lane will replace the street name sign when work has been completed on the frontage of the site.

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

None.

Annex 3

7	Finance Committee	
7.1	Consider any matters arising from 11 November 2008 minutes: None.	
7.2	Receive draft minutes of 09 December 2008: Cllr Wheeler went through highlights of the meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Financial position was satisfactory with 49% of the budget spent and £36,061 held in Reserves. A Petty Cash imprest of £50 was agreed. Annual Return had been received back from BDO Stoy Hayward. Comments made were only minor issues. Annual Return for 2007/2008 attached to these minutes as Annex 1. Richard Pound will provide gritting services to the village at the same hourly rate as last year, which is £25 per hour. Wording on new signs for playground area agreed and Clerk asked to order. A grant of £50 was awarded to Newtalk, as being of benefit to local people. A grant to Stop Stansted Expansion was declined. Eight payments, one Direct Debit and one Petty Cash cheque totalling £4142.62 were approved by Mr Wheeler and Mr Cahill. A cheque for £62.96 for renewal of Ordnance Survey Licence was signed at the meeting. 	Annex 1
7.3	Ratify recommendation by Finance Committee to go ahead with building new wheelie bin compound in Community Centre Car Park: Cllr Wheeler declared an interest and signed the Interests Book; he remained in the meeting but took no part in the discussion or vote. Cllr Cahill took the Chair. He explained that Kedington Community Association had stated they had no funds available to build new wheelie bin compound. A vote was taken and unanimously agreed that the Parish Council should undertake this work before commencement of new office building and the contract be awarded to Steven Wheeler as per his quotation of £770.45. Cllr Wheeler retook the Chair.	
9	Freedom of Information Act	
9.1	Agree to adopt new model publication scheme: Clerk reported she had attended training at SALC. Under the Freedom of Information Act, it is the duty of every public authority to adopt and maintain a publication scheme to facilitate the release of information. In line with Section 20 of the Act, the Information Commissioner has approved a new model publication scheme, which should be adopted by all public authorities effective from 1st January 2009. Template guides have been provided and it was agreed that the Clerk and Chairman would put these into practice. It was proposed by Cllr Bradnam, seconded by Cllr Donoghue and unanimously agreed by all present to adopt the new model publication scheme.	JC/MF
10	Youth Shelter (update) It had been reported that trees planted by the Community Association around the Great Meadow had been vandalised. Other acts of vandalism in the village had happened on the same evening. The Chairman read out an e-mail from Simon Pickering regarding plans to redecorate the Youth Shelter during the February half term in 2009. The Chairman also reported that he planned to look at the basketball court in Wickhambrook and speak to the Chairman of their Parish Council about suppliers, cost, etc.	JC
11	Office Accommodation (update) Cllr Donoghue declared an interest and reported that he was looking into the cost of refurbishing the flat roof on the Community Centre and reinforcing the roof on the Library with materials that offer a 25-year guarantee.	PD

12	Environmental / Grounds Maintenance Matters	
12.1	Any other environmental / grounds maintenance matters:	
	<p>Moles in Churchyard: noted that an advertisement for pest control had appeared in December 2008 edition of Stourhead Benefice News.</p> <p>Risbridge Meadow: Colin Jakes, Park Ranger, reported via e-mail that the winter management programme is now catching up, after losing all of November due to very wet weather. The top wildflower area has been cut and raked off. Vegetation has been cleared around half the young trees. Landscapes team have been instructed to cut only the top half of the main meadow, with the opposite half being cut next Autumn, and alternately thereafter, as this should benefit the population of grassland butterflies and small mammals. Part of the footpath along the river has been resurfaced with bark chippings, the aim is to complete this in the new year.</p> <p>Close meeting</p> <p>Mr Jarvis reported that volunteers had worked on the Meadow the previous Sunday; he added that out of ten people contacted only two turned up. The Chairman thanked Mr Jarvis and the Wildlife Group for all the work they do.</p> <p>Mr Jarvis asked when the overgrown vegetation on The Cut would be attended to. Cllr Wheeler replied that a decision had been made, not to cut because of the recent wet weather. It is anticipated that cutting will take place before beginning of March (to avoid nesting season).</p> <p>Open meeting</p>	MF
13	Highway/Footpath/Street Furniture Matters	
13.1	Any other highway/footpath/street furniture matters:	
	<p>Clerk was requested to contact Highways, after Council heard a report from Cllr Wheeler about villages in North Essex, North Suffolk and Norfolk who had compact solar powered speed signs as a deterrent to speeding traffic.</p> <p>Proposed footpath in Silver Street:</p> <p>John Goodyear had sent an e-mail, which was read out by the Chairman. The e-mail stated that now the Parish Council has confirmed the preferred scheme, he could proceed with detailed designs, cost estimate and priority assessment. A safety audit would have to be undertaken. Mr Goodyear's e-mail confirmed that the County Council would not provide a pedestrian route marked on the road by white lines rather than a kerbed edge path as suggested by Cllr Donoghue ("shared surface"). He said legal colleagues had advised against this type of pedestrian route due to issues about safety and liability. Plans would be sent to the Parish Council as soon as they are available.</p> <p>Parking at top of Church Walk during school drop off / pick up times:</p> <p>Kevin Shipp had sent an e-mail, which was read out by the Chairman. The e-mail stated that any changes to the existing times would have to go through the Traffic Order process. The request to provide new restrictions will be listed, but at the present time he was unsure of funding for the new financial year. Mr Shipp has asked contractors to provide yellow lines to help compliance with the existing restriction times.</p>	MF
14	Housing / Planning	
14.1	Applications for discussion at meeting:	
	None.	

14.2	Planning Applications – Observations conveyed by Parish Council: None.	
14.3	Planning Applications – Decisions received from Borough Council: None.	
14.4	Any other housing/planning matters: None.	
15	Consultations None.	
16	Any other reports (on-going matters)	
16.1	Report from Kedington Community Association: Cllr Double was not at the meeting and although she had dictated some of her rough notes from the KCA AGM to the Clerk, the Chairman felt it would be better to wait until Cllr Double could report personally at a future meeting. A copy of the KCA Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 30 September 2008 is attached to these minutes as Annex 2.	GD Annex 2
17	Events	
17.1	Nominations: None.	
17.2	Councillor absences (update): The Clerk noted absences for the Chairman and Cllr Palmer.	
18	Receive meeting dates for 2009 A copy of all meeting dates for 2009 was handed out to those present, with the exception of Mr Shearer who had left the meeting. Clerk will e-mail a copy to the Chairman for inclusion on the website.	MF
19	Any other business (new matters) None. The Chairman thanked everyone for the support he had received since he took over the role and wished all present the compliments of the season. The date of the next meeting will be Tuesday 20 January 2009 in the Library, Arms Lane, Kedington, commencing at 7.40 p.m.	

The meeting closed at 9.00 p.m.

Signed:

Date: