MINUTES OF A MEETING OF KEDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
TUESDAY, 22 NOVEMBER 2011
HELD AT THE LIBRARY, ARMS LANE, KEDINGTON

Present:

Cllr Terry Wheeler (Chairman)
Cllr Peter Byron
Cllr Peter Donoghue
Cllr Peter Garner
Cllr Nathan Loader
Cllr Simon McGuire
Cllr Richard Pound

Ms Marion Farrant (Parish Clerk)

In attendance: Mr Peter Rowsell (Parishioner).

ACTION

1 Parishioners' Question Time and to acknowledge agenda items of interest to members of the Public present

Mr Rowsell expressed an interest in agenda item 3.

Open meeting

2 Welcome and apologies

The Chairman welcomed everyone present. Apologies for absence were received from Suffolk County Councillor Anne Gower; Borough Councillor Marion Rushbrook; Cllr Zoe Palmer (Personal); P C Trish Sinclair (Bury Rural South SNT) and Mr Shaun Jarvis.

3 Co-option of new Parish Councillor

Mr Rowsell addressed the meeting and gave a brief resume about himself, his interests and why he wished to become a Parish Councillor. Mr Rowsell left the meeting while Councillors discussed his proposed co-option. A resolution was put forward by the Chairman, seconded by Cllr Byron to co-opt Mr Rowsell to the Parish Council. There were no other resolutions, unanimously agreed. Mr Rowsell rejoined the meeting and was welcomed to the Parish Council by the Chairman; he signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Councillor form, which is attached to these minutes as Annex 1. Annex 1

4 To agree and sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 18 October 2011

Cllr Loader posed a question about agenda items, which are brought to the table, discussed and action agreed but then not updated as time moved on, i.e. highways issues. It was agreed that a "traffic light system" or something similar be set up in order that issues can be progressed and moved along. The Chairman suggested this should be looked at in the New Year. A proposal to accept the minutes of 18 October 2011 as a true record was put forward by Cllr Donoghue and seconded by Cllr McGuire. There were no other proposals. Unanimously agreed by all present. The Chairman duly signed the minutes.

5 To receive members' Declarations of Interest on agenda items in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct (and section 106 of the LGFA 1992)

None.

6 Visitor's Reports

In the absence of a member from the Bury Rural South Safer Neighbourhood Team, a report is attached to these minutes as Annex 2. Annex 2

7 Clerks' Report

The Clerk read out her report which is attached to these minutes as Annex 3. Annex 3

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

Parish Council to write to Lawson Planning Partnership Ltd to complain about the lack of communication prior to the Stourmead Close Exhibition.

Parish Council will consider contributing to "Wos-Up" project for 2012 if requested. Money could be taken from SN 137 or General Reserves.

8 Finance Committee

8.1 Consider any matters arising from 11 October 2011 minutes:

None.

8.2 Receive draft minutes of 08 November 2011 meeting:

In the absence of Cllr Palmer (Chair of Finance Committee) the Chairman went through highlights of the meeting:

- Financial position at 31 October 2011 is that £23,567.90 (53.54%) of the budget had been spent, leaving a balance of £20,452.10. Additionally £27,766.78 is held in Reserves.
- Agreed that Clerk should be paid for 38 hours extra work accrued from June 2011.
- Winter Gritting contract awarded to Mr Richard Pound.
- Problems with refurbishment of cross scales on Old School Field
- Quotation of £350 received for grounds repairs to the entrance of children's play area. However, quotation not clear as to whether this amount included the area on the field at the pedestrian gate entrance.
- Cost of refurbishing the left hand entrance to Riverside Walk (from the bridge in Silver Street Park) to be investigated, possibly using "hogging" and councillors to carry out the work.
- Sixteen payments totalling £3,982.68 for Supplier Payments as at 31 October 2011 were approved and cheques signed by Cllr Palmer and Cllr Wheeler. Cllr McGuire signed Mr Wheeler's cheque.

8.3 Receive and discuss correspondence from St Edmundsbury Borough Council (Waste Management) Department regarding cost of emptying dog and litter bins in Kedington:

The Chairman read from an e-mail received from St Edmundsbury Borough Council stating that Kedington Parish Council has not been charged the correct amount since 2009, an error purely made by St Edmundsbury. The Parish Council currently pay £1154 per annum and the annual charge should have been £4906. The correct price for the financial year for 2012/2013 would be £5195.

Cllr Byron put forward a resolution to ask the Village Cleaner to empty the dog and litter bins and ask St Edmundsbury for a costing to collect from a central collection point. Councillors rejected this on the grounds of Health & Safety.

The Chairman put forward a further resolution to accept the St Edmundsbury cost for 2012/2013 and try and claw back some money by reducing other budget headings if possible; seconded by Cllr Garner. There were no other resolutions, unanimously agreed. Cllr Donoghue requested the Clerk write to the Borough Council to see if it was necessary to retain deodorising blocks in the dog bins as they corroded the metal. MF

8.4 **Receive, discuss and ratify precept / budget recommendation from Finance Committee for financial year 2012/2013:**
Deferred to next meeting.

8.5 **Ratify social gathering after December KPC meeting, set budget and receive recommendation for this meeting to finish at 9.00 p.m:**
A resolution was put forward by Cllr Byron and seconded by Cllr Loader that a social gathering should be held after the December 2011 KPC meeting, which should finish at 9.00 p.m. There were no other resolutions, unanimously agreed. Budget set at £120.00

8.6 **Parish Council Website Training available from SALC – 6th December 2011:**
No uptake from Councillors. Chairman suggested Clerk should attend and be able to pass on information to Councillors.

9 **H M Queen Elizabeth's Diamond Jubilee Celebrations 2012**
Clerk requested to contact Parochial Church Council for their views on having a Beacon on top of the Church. It was acknowledged that some areas in the village will have their own parties as part of the Jubilee Celebrations but Councillors were urged to bring ideas forward for consideration. MF

10 **Environment / Grounds Maintenance Matters**

10.1 **Any other environment/grounds maintenance matters:**
The Chairman read out a letter from a Parishioner regarding the maintenance of Silver Street Park and in particular the "raised bed". The Chairman reported that the Finance Committee and Clerk had volunteered to clear the "bed" and replace some of the shrubs with more suitable species. Clerk was requested to acknowledge Parishioner's letter and seek a quotation for appropriate pruning. The Chairman also requested the Clerk contact Colin Jakes at East Town Park to see if he had some ideas/suggestions that could help.

11 **Highway/Footpath/Street Furniture matters**

11.1 **Any other highway/footpath/street furniture matters:**
Cllr McGuire reported that the sign on the grit bin on Kings Meadow had been removed. Clerk to do a replacement sign. MF

12 **Any other reports (on-going matters):**

12.1 **Update on local libraries in Suffolk:**
Suffolk County Council have announced that all 44 of Suffolk's libraries will remain open and be helped to flourish by a new, slim line and cost-effective organisation, if councillors approve plans put before them on 8th November and then in December 2011. The proposals would see Suffolk County Council create an Industrial and Provident Society (IPS), an organisation working with, but independent from the County Council and free from council bureaucracy, to support the county's library network. The IPS would hold charitable status, be able to benefit from an 80% reduction in property rates and apply for external funding. The new model would cost a maximum of £652k to set up but would be 27.6% cheaper to run than the current arrangement.

13 **Housing/Planning**

13.1 **Applications for discussion at meeting:**
None.

13.2 **Planning Applications – Observations conveyed by Parish Council:**
None.

13.3 Planning Applications – Decisions received from Borough Council:

SE/11/1148 - Meadowcroft, Arms Lane, Kedington
Planning Application – Erection of four dwelling (following demolition of existing dwelling) with associated vehicular access without compliance with condition 5 of SE/10/1224 to allow land contamination investigations to be carried out upon commencement of works. **GRANTED.**

13.4 Any other housing / planning matters:

13.4.1 Development Control Training for Parish and Town Councillors:
Councillors Loader and Pound attended Module 1 of this event on 26 October 2011. The module covered the basics of the planning system and focussed on the role of Town and Parish Councillors. Cllr Loader reported that when a planning application is called to Committee, representatives have only a few minutes to lodge opinions and there are no minutes taken at these meetings. Cllr Loader said he asked about Parish and Neighbourhood Plans and the criteria for these. The Chairman requested Cllr Loader do research into this and prepare a draft document to bring back to the Parish Council. It was agreed that Ian Poole from St Edmundsbury Borough Council should be invited to a Parish Council meeting in early 2012.

Guillotine

With the time at 9.45 p.m. it was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Cllr McGuire to raise the guillotine for 5 minutes. Agreed by all.

14 Consultations
None.

15 Events

15.1 Nominations:

15.1.1 Workshop/Presentation on Emergency Planning facilitated by St Edmundsbury Borough Council – date and venue to be confirmed:
No uptake.

15.2 Councillor absences (update):
The Chairman requested Councillors update the Clerk with any planned absences.

16 Any other business (new matters for discussion only)
None.

The meeting closed at 9.50 p.m.

The date of the next meeting will be **Tuesday 20 December 201**1 commencing at 7.40 p.m. in The Library, Arms Lane, Kedington.

Signed …… Dated ……...