

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF KEDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
TUESDAY, 17 JANUARY 2012
HELD AT THE LIBRARY, ARMS LANE, KEDINGTON**

Present:

Cllr Terry Wheeler (Chairman)
Cllr Zoe Palmer (Vice-Chairman)
Cllr Peter Byron
Cllr Peter Donoghue
Cllr Peter Garner
Cllr Nathan Loader
Cllr Simon McGuire
Cllr Richard Pound
Cllr Peter Rowsell

Ms Marion Farrant (Parish Clerk)

In attendance: Suffolk County Councillor Anne Gower, Borough Councillor Marion Rushbrook, Mrs M Pelling, Mrs B Surridge.

		ACTION
1	Parishioners' Question Time and to acknowledge agenda items of interest to members of the Public present Mrs Pelling expressed an interest in agenda item 10.2.	
2	Welcome and apologies The Chairman welcomed everyone present. Apologies for absence were received from PC 18 Trish Sinclair (Bury Rural South SNT), Mr Shaun Jarvis.	
3	To agree and sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 22 November 2011 and 20 December 2011 A proposal to accept the minutes of 22 November 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 at that meeting. A proposal to accept the minutes of 20 December 2011 as a true record was put forward by Cllr Byron and seconded by Cllr Palmer. There were no other proposals. Unanimously agreed by all present at that meeting. The Chairman duly signed both sets of minutes.	
4	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) Cllr Pound declared an interest in agenda item 10.1. Cllr Palmer declared interests in items 8, 13.2 and 13.3. Close meeting	
5	Visitor's Reports <u>Borough Councillor Marion Rushbrook:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A new joint initiative is taking place between St Edmundsbury Borough Council and Forest Heath District Council called "West Suffolk Working Together". A new Chief Executive for the joint initiative will be appointed on 15th February 2012.	

- A Public Exhibition to be held at Haverhill Arts Centre between 27th January and 10th March 2012 showing plans for the pedestrianisation of Haverhill High Street.

County Councillor Anne Gower:

- The pedestrianisation of Haverhill High Street was a joint initiative between Suffolk County Council and St Edmundsbury Borough Council. The major overall will cost £750,000 and is funded from Growth Area Funding.
- Following consultation with partners and members of the public, Suffolk County Council is set to discuss budget plans to save £26 million and freeze Council Tax. The County Council proposes saving £12 million by cutting bureaucracy; £8 million from Adult Care Services; £1.5 million from reducing management costs and £700,000 from cutting office space. The Council also plans to invest £115 million on projects including school reorganisation; better broadband and improvements to roads. The budget is the first stage of a two year plan to save £50 million from its £1 billion annual budget.
- Consultation on Schools Admission Policy due to come into effect in 2012/2014 – parents/carers have the opportunity to make comments by 28 February 2012.
- Warmer Homes Initiative

Bury Rural South Safer Neighbourhood Team

Report from the Bury Rural South SNT is attached to these minutes as Annex 1.

Annex 1

Open meeting

6 Clerks' Report

Clerk's report is attached to these minutes as Annex 2.

Annex 2

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

None.

7 Finance Committee

7.1 Consider any matters arising from 13 December 2011 minutes:

None.

7.2 Receive draft minutes of 10 January 2012 meeting:

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

- Financial position at 31 December 2011 is that £28,304.89 (64.3%) of the budget had been spent, leaving a balance of £15,715.11. Additionally £21,265.14 is held in Reserves.
- Repeal of Part VI of the Local Government (Discretionary Payments) Regulations 1996 SI 1680 ("the 1996 Regulations") means that Councils will no longer have the discretion to pay a gratuity to employees. SALC are seeking advice about what will happen to gratuities already held in Parish Council Reserves after the repeal date. Clerk's gratuity for the current financial year will be transferred into Reserves with immediate effect.

- Strimming Contract for 2012 discussed; full Parish Council to agree the position of “windows” along The Cut.
- M D Landscapes will clear the brook in Silver Street Park.
- Persistent dog fouling was discussed. Children at Kedington School to be asked to design posters to be put up in areas around the village. Clerk asked to seek costings.

Councillors discussed the provision of free dog bags being made available to dog owners. It was agreed that this should be “trialled”.

Close meeting

Cllrs Gower and Rushbrook said they could possibly provide funding for free dog bags.

Open meeting

- Grant of £120 awarded to Suffolk Accident Rescue Service under Sn 137 LGA 1972 as being of benefit to local people.
- Further information being sought following a grant application from CQ-Kedington.
- Nine payments totalling £3, 487.31 for Supplier Payments as at 31st December 2011 was approved and cheques signed by the Chair (Cllr Palmer) and Cllr Wheeler.

8 Proposed development on land to the south of Kedington School

Cllr Palmer declared an interest and signed the Interest's Book, but remained in the meeting. Chairman reported this item had been included on the agenda at the request of a Parishioner. Unfortunately, the Parishioner was unwell so unable to attend the meeting.

Village Housing Questionnaire was discussed and proposed amendments noted. Cllr Rowsell agreed to take lead on working party to collate responses.

9 H M Queen Elizabeth's Diamond Jubilee Celebrations 2012

- Chairman read out an e-mail received from the History Group stating they hoped to be able to contribute something to the Jubilee Celebrations.
- Chairman reported St Edmundsbury Borough Council were offering to provide each Parish in St Edmundsbury with one standard sized oak tree, tree stake, rabbit guard and commemorative plaque, free of charge. It was unanimously agreed to pursue this offer and ask the KCA if the tree could be planted on the Great Meadow.

MF

10 Environment / Grounds Maintenance Matters

10.1 Strimming Contract 2012:

Cllr Pound declared an interest, signed the Interest's Book and left the meeting while the matter was discussed. A site meeting for all councillors to discuss the contract was agreed for Saturday 28th January 2012 at 10.30 a.m. The copse in Silver Street Park would also be discussed at this meeting.

Cllr Pound rejoined the meeting.

10.2 Maintenance of Silver Street Park:

Close meeting

The Chairman reported on an e-mail received from The Garden Society concerning the maintenance of Silver Street Park. Mrs Pelling was invited to speak on this matter.

	<p>Mrs Pelling addressed the meeting about concerns regarding the lack of maintenance of the lower and raised "beds". Mrs Pelling put forward a suggestion that a group of volunteers be put together (which could include parents and children from the school), to meet four times per year to undertake necessary maintenance work. Mrs Pelling reported the Garden Society did not want to see the raised bed totally cleared, but acknowledged work needed doing to simplify and provide a better design. It was acknowledged that the log roll on the outside of the bed was solid, but the inside of the bed needed digging and some shrubs removed.</p> <p>Councillors were in agreement that a working party could be formed under the leadership of Mrs Pelling to plan, design and maintain the beds. Working party would include Mrs Pelling, Clerk to Parish Council, Cllrs Byron, Garner, McGuire and Palmer. Cllr Loader also offered to supervise members of the Cubs & Scouts if they wanted to be involved. Clerk to provide Mrs Pelling with contact details so a meeting can be arranged.</p> <p>Open meeting</p>	MF
10.3	<p>Any other environmental/grounds maintenance matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting arranged with Environment Agency regarding clearing the river along The Cut. Cllrs Garner, Palmer and Mr Jarvis will attend. Cllr Loader requested a tree that had fallen across the river on the Great Meadow (rear of Rectory Road) be reported at this meeting. Cllr Byron reported he had removed some tree stakes around the trees near the Watermill and also loosened ties on some others. 	
11	Highway/Footpath/Street Furniture matters	
11.1	<p>Accidents near to school crossing in West End Lane on 10th and 11th January 2012:</p> <p>Photographs were passed amongst councillors of the accident involving branches from trees on the verge smashing through the top window of the school bus on 10th January 2012. Clerk reported the Crossing Supervisor and a local off-duty Police Officer were instrumental in taking charge of the situation and looking after the children on the bus, for which they had both been thanked on behalf of the Parish Council. A further incident near to the school crossing happened between a lorry and car on 11th January 2012. The Chairman requested Cllr Rowsell undertake a new risk assessment for the school crossing area. Clerk reported these incidents had been reported to Highways and would be discussed at a meeting arranged for 19th January 2012 to revisit matters identified in the report compiled by Richard Hobbs in 2010.</p>	PR
11.2	<p>Any other Highway/Footpath/Street Furniture matters:</p> <p>Cllr Rowsell reported the 30 mph sign on the left hand side at top of Kings Meadow had corroded. Clerk will report to Highways.</p>	MF
12	<p>Any other reports (on-going matters)</p> <p>None.</p>	
13	Housing/Planning	
13.1	<p>Applications for discussion at meeting:</p> <p>None.</p>	
13.2	<p>Planning Applications – Observations conveyed by Parish Council:</p> <p>Cllr Palmer declared an interest and signed the Interest's Book, but remained in the meeting.</p> <p>Kimcot, Silver Street: Listed Building Application. Replace windows on ground floor front elevation and associated rendering surround. Not circulated.</p>	

Eagles Farm, Calford Green: Planning Application (revised) – Erection of (i) orangery to rear; (ii) porch to front. **Acceptable.**

Hanway, Dash End Lane: Erection of single storey front extension. **Acceptable.**

Land at Canhams Farm, Nr Stoke By Clare: Planning Application – Erection of 80m high guyed monitoring mast for a temporary period of 3 years. **Not acceptable.**

- 13.3 Planning Applications – Decisions received from Borough Council:**
Cllr Palmer declared an interest and signed the Interest's Book, but remained in the meeting.

Oak View, Taylors Farm Road: Planning Application – (i) Erection of dwelling (following demolition of existing dwelling) and cart lodge; (ii) alterations to vehicular access as supported by permitted development assessment received 8th September 2011 and revised by plans and supporting documentation received 14th September 2011. **Granted.**

Kimcot, Silver Street: Listed Building Application. Replace windows on ground floor front elevation and associated rendering surround. **Granted.**

Eagles Farm, Calford Green: Planning Application (revised) – Erection of (i) orangery to rear; (ii) porch to front. **Granted.**

Hanway, Dash End Lane: Erection of single storey front extension. **Granted.**

- 13.4 Any other housing / planning matters:**
None.

- 14 Consultations**
None.

- 15 Events**

- 15.1 Nominations:**
15.1.1 Rural Vision 2031: drop-in invitation (previously circulated by e-mail).
18th January 2012, West Suffolk House, Bury, 6 – 8 p.m.

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

- 16 Any other business (new matters)**
None.

The meeting closed at 9.35 p.m.

The date of the next meeting will be **Tuesday 21 February 2012** commencing at 7.40 p.m.in The Library, Arms Lane, Kedington.

Signed

Dated