

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF KEDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
TUESDAY, 11 JUNE 2019
HELD IN THE MEETING ROOM, PARISH COUNCIL OFFICE, ARMS LANE, KEDINGTON**

Present:

Cllr Heather Carre-Skinner - Chair
 Cllr Simon McGuire – Vice-Chairman
 Cllr Ian Evans
 Cllr Joe Harrison
 Cllr Ann Naylor
 Cllr Andrew Quick
 Cllr Justin Waite
 Cllr Terry Wheeler
 Cllr Stella Wilsher

In attendance: Ms Marion Farrant – Parish Clerk

Also in attendance: Suffolk County Councillor David Roach; District Councillors for West Suffolk Karen Richardson and Jim Meikle.
Mr M Wilsher (Builder).

		ACTION
1	<p>Parishioners Question Time and to acknowledge agenda items of interest to members of the public present (extra time allowed to cover items raised)</p> <p>Mr Wilsher expressed an interest in agenda item 13.4.</p> <p>Open meeting</p> <p>With Councillor's permission, agenda item 13.4 was brought forward</p>	
13.4	<p>Any other housing / planning matters:</p> <p>Close meeting</p> <p>The Chairman invited Mr Wilsher to address the meeting. Mr Wilsher stated he wished to discuss with Councillors, Planning Application DC/18/1945/FUL, 4 The Parade, Westward Deals, Kedington, for which the former St Edmundsbury Borough Council had granted permission for (i) Conversion of 1 no. flat into 2 no. flats on first floor (amended to remove change of use of ground floor retail unit to flats). Mr Wilsher informed Councillors that the retail unit on the ground floor was still empty and has been so for the past three years, which gives an opportunity for vandalism. Given his first Planning Application for change of use of existing ground floor retail space to residential to provide 2 no. flats and conversion of 1 no. flat into 2 no. flats on the first floor had been rejected by the Parish and St Edmundsbury Borough Council, Mr Wilsher said he would like to work with the Parish Council to see if it would be beneficial for him to re-submit his original application and put four flats in the property. Mr Wilsher stated the main objections to his original application were parking and he provided plans (which were viewed by Councillors) to show how</p>	

parking for four flats could work; he added that people put extensions onto houses and these were not refused because of parking. Mr Wilsher stated the property is "land-locked" so the flats would always be amongst the cheapest properties in the village and give young people an opportunity to start on the "housing ladder". Councillors discussed the parking issues and said that any new application must address the concerns of people already living on Westward Deals.

In conclusion, the Chair stated all Councillors would like to see some sort of development at the property and preferably 1 x 2 bed, 1 x 1 bed on the first floor and 1 x 2 bed on the ground floor. Mr Wilsher said he would consider this and thanked Councillors for allowing him to address them.

Open meeting

2 Welcome and apologies

The Chair welcomed all present. Apologies for absence were received from West Suffolk Councillor Marion Rushbrook.

3 To receive members' declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and Local Non-Pecuniary Interests in accordance with the revised Suffolk Code of Conduct and applications for dispensations on agenda items

Councillor McGuire declared a Non-Pecuniary Interest in agenda items 7.4 and 13.1.1.

4 To agree and sign as a correct record the minutes of the Annual Meeting of Kedington Parish Council held on 21 May 2019

A resolution was put forward by Cllr Waite, seconded by Cllr Harrison that the minutes of the Annual Meeting of Kedington Parish Council held on 21 May 2019 be agreed as a true record. There were no other resolutions; unanimously agreed. The Chairman duly signed the minutes.

Close meeting

5 Receive Visitor's Reports

Suffolk County Councillor David Roach reported he was very disappointed with the outcome of the appeals for the School and Post 16 Travel Policies for September 2019 and thought it was an absolute travesty that the decision went against those who put in appeals. Councillor Roach added he thought a really good case against the policy on safety grounds alone, had been put forward, but this was all rejected by the Appeals Committee who stated there was a suitable path and children should be accompanied to and from school. Those who lost their appeals can take their case to the Ombudsman but Unity Trust are looking for a Judicial Review. Councillor Roach thanked the Parish Council for writing letters supporting parents in their quest against the new policy. Councillor Roach reported Suffolk County Council are offering unallocated seats on school buses for pre and post-16 students to buy on a first come, first served basis at £750 from September 2019 with phased in increases of £30 per term (£90 per year) to reduce the public subsidy Suffolk County Council provides.

District Councillor Karen Richardson reported it was still early days in the formation of the new West Suffolk Council. Councillor Richardson said she had match funded Kedington Primary Academy trip to Crucial Crew from her Locality Budget. Councillor Richardson said she would be happy to fund two new dog bins for Risbridge Meadow and the Rosebrook Estate from her Locality Budget if this would help the Parish Council.

District Councillor Jim Meikle reported that West Suffolk Council are proposing that Cabinet establishes a Rural Taskforce to review the qualitative and quantitative evidence base relating to rural areas, and to identify the key

issues, assets and challenges. This review should encompass all of West Suffolk's areas, in order to understand the issues and opportunities that all rural or all urban areas have in common, as well as those facing specific localities. Councillor Meikle said this initiative has the potential to be an exciting possibility. Cabinet papers relating to this matter can be viewed on West Suffolk Council website CAB/WS/19/006. Councillor Meikle stated that following a meeting with the previous Chairman (Cllr Wheeler) and the Clerk (just after he took up his role as District Councillor) he was looking to restore Kedington's status as a Key Service Centre; he said Lloyds Bank are looking at the possibility of a "mobile bank" to visit villages and this could include Kedington. Councillor Meikle said he would also be looking into ways the Doctor's Surgery in Kedington could be improved and also getting the Post Office re-instated.

6 Open meeting

Receive Clerks' Report

Clerk had no matters to report.

6.1 Consider further action (on action taken or reports received since last meeting: None.

7 Finance Committee

Note: no Finance Committee Meeting held in June as Parish Council Meeting brought forward by one week.

7.1 Election of Chairman for the Finance Committee:

A resolution was put forward by the Chair and seconded by Cllr Waite that Cllr McGuire should be elected as Chairman for the Finance Committee. There were no other resolutions; unanimously agreed.

7.2 Agree minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on 14 May 2019:

A resolution was put forward by Cllr Wheeler and seconded by Cllr McGuire that the minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on 14 May 2019 (previously circulated) be agreed as a true record. There were no other resolutions; unanimously agreed.

7.3 Agree bank signatories for Bank of Ireland UK deposit account and Nat West plc current account:

A resolution was put forward by Cllr Wheeler and seconded by the Chair that the bank signatories for both Kedington Parish Council's account should consist of members of the Finance Committee. There were no other resolutions; unanimously agreed.

At this point Councillor Simon McGuire declared a Non-Pecuniary Interest and took no part in discussion or voting.

7.4 Grants:

7.4.1 Ketton Early Birds

The Chair read out an email from Ketton Early Birds requesting a grant from Kedington Parish Council towards the cost of their end of year summer outing. Councillors discussed this application and a resolution was put forward by Cllr Harrison, seconded by Cllr Quick that a grant of £500.00 be awarded under Sn 137, LGA 1972, as being of benefit to local people.

7.5	Receive budget statements and ratify payments for month ending 31 May 2019: The financial position at 31 May 2019 is satisfactory with £12,336.85 of the budget spent (15.07%), leaving a balance of £69,503.15. Additionally, £50,195.05 is held in Reserves.	Annexes 1 - 4
8	School and Post-16 Travel Policies for September 2019 (update) This agenda item was covered in a report given by Suffolk County Councillor David Roach in his Visitor's Report.	
9	Play Equipment	
9.1	Receive defect report(s) (if any); agree action: Play and Fitness Equipment Inspection Reports were received. All defects were noted as very low or low risk and are in hand for repair. Clerk reported she had again been in contact with Playmaintain Ltd regarding the wetpour surfacing on Old School Field and informed them that as the work has not been carried out, Kedington Parish Council have been left with no option but to take legal action against their company.	MF
9.2	Skate ramp (update): Councillor Wheeler reported he and Cllr Quick had tried to remove the side panels to gain access to the middle box but were unable to do this as a specialist rivet tool is needed. Councillor Wheeler said he had spoken to Evolution Skate Parks and read extracts from their email to him about measures that could be taken to try and reduce the noise emission from the ramps; one suggestion given by them was to fill the voids in the ramps with premade expanding foam. The email stated that the Noise Assessment Report was "as concise and professional as any they had encountered during 18 years' experience". Following discussions, it was agreed that the Parish Council should seek quotations to infill the ramps and centre box with sand and also speak with Playscapes who were the main contractor, to see if they could offer any suggestions for noise dampening. Clerk was also requested to contact Teversham Parish Council as they had experienced similar problems with their skate ramps. Councillor Wheeler reported he had a site meeting with DKN Services Ltd regarding fencing around the perimeter of the skate park with a view to it being closed off at night. Three different products and prices were passed round for Councillors to view. It was agreed that the main prospective at present was for noise dampening to the skate ramp and fencing would be looked at again after this work had been carried out. Clerk requested to let the resident's consortium know what was happening with regard to the skate ramp.	MF MF
10	Environmental / Grounds Maintenance Matters	
10.1	Felled tree outside Kedington Primary Academy: Clerk reported she has been in contact with West Suffolk Council regarding the felled tree as there seems to be some confusion with the number of the tree that had been felled with the number on the TPO plan. Clerk still investigating.	
10.2	Receive quotation for pruning work required in Silver Street Park, Mill Road and Sturmer Road: Clerk read out a quotation of £160.00 (no vat) from RMS Trees to carry out pruning work on the raised and lower beds in Silver Street Park and to cut back the dogwood hedge in Mill Road just before the wooden footbridge. A resolution was put forward by Cllr Wheeler and seconded by Cllr Waite that RMS Trees should be asked to carry out this work. There were no other resolutions; unanimously agreed.	

	<p>Clerk read out a further quotation of £60.00 (no vat) from RMS Trees to cut back the mixed hedge and vegetation on the footpath adjacent to the old White Horse Pub on Sturmer Road. Councillors requested the Clerk to contact the letting agents for the old White Horse as this would be their responsibility.</p>	MF
10.3	<p>Any other environmental/grounds maintenance matters: Councillor Wheeler reported he will be speaking to the contractor who carried out the Strimming Contract 2019, as there are some parts of the contract where work is being carried out that is not in line with the specification.</p> <p>Clerk reported that work on the Great Meadow to investigate the stench around the tree on the left hand side of the meadow, just past Ketton Thatch has been completed. Anglian Water found a broken sewer pipe in this area and rectified the problem. Fencing around the tree has now been removed.</p>	
11	Highway/Footpath/Street Furniture matters	
11.1	<p>Dog bin at entrance to Risbridge Meadow: Clerk read out an email from West Suffolk Council which stated that they no longer replace old dog/litter bins in Parishes but leave it for the Parish Council to decide on the necessity for any such dog/litter bins.</p> <p>Close meeting</p> <p>District Councillor Karen Richardson said she would be happy to fund two new dog bins; one for the entrance to Risbridge Meadow and one near to the entrance to the meadow from the Rosebrook Estate from her Locality Budget. The Chairman thanked Councillor Richardson for this. Clerk to complete Locality Budget Form and send to Councillor Richardson.</p> <p>Open meeting</p>	MF
11.2	<p>Post and Rail Repairs on bridge in Hundon Road: Clerk reported Suffolk Highways will be carrying out post and rail repairs to the bridge outside Stonebridge Farm on Hundon Road, Kedington between 20 and 21 June 2019. The work is necessary to maintain the bridge.</p>	
11.3	<p>Any other Highways/Footpath/Street Furniture matters: Clerk reported there will be traffic lights on the B1061 outside Eagles Farmhouse until September 2019.</p> <p>Clerk reported the School Crossing Supervisor had voiced her concerns and that of parents regarding speeding cars/buses near to the crossing point in West End Lane. Clerk has reported this to the Haverhill Community Engagement Officer at Haverhill Police who has suggested the Parish Council contact the Safety Camera Team. Councillors agreed this would be a good idea.</p>	MF
12	<p>Any other reports (on-going matters) Councillor Evans reported that he and Cllr Naylor have identified possible sites for Community Speed Watch and this information has been passed on to the CSW Team. Clerk reported another volunteer has come forward to join the scheme in Kedington and will pass the details to Cllr Evans.</p> <p>Non agenda item – Guillotine</p> <p>With the time at 9.45 p.m. it was agreed under a proposal put forward by Cllr Wheeler and seconded by Cllr Naylor to raise the guillotine for fifteen minutes to allow remaining business to be transacted.</p>	

13 Housing/Planning

13.1 Applications for discussion at meeting:

At this point Councillor McGuire declared a Non-Pecuniary Interest in that his employment is with a Company who carry out work for Anglian Water.

13.1.1 Little & Great Wratting – New Water Works (update):

Clerk read out a letter from West Suffolk Council regarding Step 2 Complaint – Kedington Parish Council regarding Water Treatment Works at Little Wratting. The letter was accompanied by a report which concluded the Parish Council's complaint would not be upheld and if the Parish Council remain unhappy with regard to this matter they could consider referring it to the Local Government Ombudsman. After discussion, it was agreed that this matter will be taken forward to the Local Government Ombudsman.

**13.2 Planning Applications – Observations conveyed by Parish Council:
DC/19/0545/FUL – Sunnycroft, Mill Road, Kedington**

Planning Application. Subdivision of 1 no. dwelling house with annex to form 2 no. dwellings.

NO OBJECTIONS

13.3 Planning Applications – Decisions received from Borough Council:

None.

13.4 Any other housing / planning matters:

None.

14 Consultations

None.

15 Events

15.1 Nominations:

None.

15.2 Councillor absences (update):

The Chairman requested Councillors update the Clerk with any planned absences.

16 Any new matters (for discussion only)

None.

The meeting closed at 10.00 p.m.

The date of the next meeting will be the **Tuesday, 16 July 2019** commencing at 7.40 p.m. in The Meeting Room, Parish Council Office, Arms Lane, Kedington.

Signed

Dated