KPC 125-06

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF KEDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
TUESDAY, 19 NOVEMBER 2019
HELD IN THE MEETING ROOM, PARISH COUNCIL OFFICE, ARMS LANE, KEDINGTON

***Present**:*	Cllr Simon McGuire (Chairman) Cllr Joe Harrison (Vice-Chairman) Cllr Ian Evans Cllr Ann Naylor Cllr Justin Waite Cllr Terry Wheeler Cllr Stella Wilsher
In attendance:	Ms Marion Farrant – Parish Clerk
Also in attendance:	District Councillor for West Suffolk Council Richardson. Penny Mills, Principal Planning Officer, West Suffolk Council. Two Parishioners present

ACTION

1 **Parishioners Question Time and to acknowledge agenda items of interest to members of the public present (extra time allowed to cover items raised)**
Both Parishioners declared an interest in agenda item 5.

Open meeting

2 **Welcome and apologies**
The Chair welcomed all present. Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Heather Carre-Skinner (work) and Councillor Andrew Quick (work). Suffolk County Councillor David Roach (other meeting) and District Councillor Jim Meikle (personal). Councillors unanimously agreed Councillor Carre-Skinner and Quick's apologies.

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**
None.

4 **To agree and sign as a correct record the minutes of the Meeting of Kedington Parish Council held on 15 October 2019**
A resolution was put forward by Councillor Waite, seconded by Councillor Wheeler that the minutes of the meeting of Kedington Parish Council held on 15 October 2019 be agreed as a true record. There were no other resolutions; unanimously agreed. The Chairman duly signed the minutes.

Close meeting

5 **Development of North East Haverhill**

5.1 **Principal Planning Officer from West Suffolk Council to address meeting:**
The Chairman welcomed Mrs Penny Mills, Principal Planning Officer at West Suffolk Council and thanked her for attending the meeting.

One of the Parishioners present informed Mrs Mills that traffic on the B1061 through Kedington is worse now than it has ever been. He stated the traffic lights on the A143 at Little Wratting (near to the Haverhill North West development by Persimmon Homes), where there has been recent flooding have caused long delays and vehicles were using the B1061 as a "cut through". The Parishioner added that heavy vehicles (large HGV lorries) often used the B1061 to save going into Haverhill and this would only get worse when building on the North East Haverhill commences. The Parishioner added, this heavy movement of traffic was affecting his property, making cracks appear in the walls of his home.

Mrs Mills replied that both the Haverhill North East and North West developments will have urban drainage schemes. It was the failure of a large pipe under the highway near the Persimmon Homes development that had caused the recent severe flooding and Persimmon Homes are working with Suffolk Highways and the drainage authorities to rectify this.

Mrs Mills addressed the meeting, saying she was invited to the meeting to speak regarding the Reserved Matters Application (DC/19/1940/RM) for the Haverhill North East development and concerns regarding the landscaping on the northern site boundary. Mrs Mills explained that a Reserved Matters application deals with outstanding details of the outline planning permission, namely:

- Appearance
- Means of access
- Landscaping

Reserved Matters applications have to fit into the parameter plans on the outline planning permission. Redrow Homes (developer of the first phase of the North East development) were given five years from the date of approval of the Outline Planning Application (15 August 2018) to submit a Reserved Matters application. Redrow Homes have had an application granted for a temporary construction access on land south of the A143 Haverhill Road and a separate application for a temporary construction access off Chalkstone Way, Haverhill has been submitted and is being considered by West Suffolk Council. The Reserved Matters application is for the key internal highways and drainage infrastructure for the First Phase, including the delivery of the spine road which runs through Phase 1. According to the Masterplan for the First Phase, Redrow Homes will be building 503 mixed homes on parcels A1, A2 and A8.

The other Parishioner who is a member of the Kedington Action Group (KAG) who originally opposed the application raised concerns that Redrow Homes seemed to have little knowledge of the landscaping/tree-belt to protect Calford Green that had been agreed when KAG met with Chris Rand from the Planning Department and the Landowner during early consultations for the development. Mrs Mills stated that Redrow Home's interest in the site relates to the western half and does not include the areas of strategic planting in parcels A10, A11, A12 and A13 shown in the parameter plan. Mrs Mill stated there should be no change in what was previously agreed with Chris Rand and the Landowner. Mrs Mills said the Planning Department were already in consultation with an Officer from the Public Rights of Way Team at Suffolk County Council regarding the new circular PRoW which was designed to link with the new parkland area adjoining Calford Green. The Parishioner said that in discussions, KAG agreed with Chris Rand that this would make planning sense and from the Coupals Road end, it would mean a short walk along the road to link with the closest entrance to East Town Park. Mrs Mills replied that Condition 18 of the Outline Planning Application Approval states:

Notwithstanding the requirements of condition 2 above, the landscape planting to the northern site boundary where it adjoins residential parcels A10, A11, A12 and A13 shown on the approved Land use Parameter Plan 5055-ES-01 rev N shall be laid out and completed prior to the first occupation of the 450th residential unit in accordance with such details as shall be approved as part of an application for reserved matters consent.

Councillor Evans spoke to Mrs Mills about the demands on planting and said the point of a tree-belt/screen is to screen residents of Calford Green from housing. Therefore, putting in "whips" would not be suitable, it would need more substantial trees being planted. The member of KAG asked when the trigger for funding the tree-belt/screen would be applied, especially if the parcels of land in question weren't sold to a developer. Mrs Mills replied, in this case, the Landowner would be responsible. The KAG member asked if the Landowner was aware that she would be responsible for planting and Mrs Mills's response was that the Landowner would be responsible if no developer had come forward for the parcels of land in question. The Phasing Plan at the beginning of development is to ensure things happen at the appropriate time. The KAG member asked when West Suffolk Council will know when the 450th house is occupied. Mrs Mills said triggers such as the s106 agreement and constant dialogue with the developers will make West Suffolk Council aware.

The KAG member said he was very sceptical that if the landowner doesn't sell the land by the time the 450th house is occupied, will she pay out thousands of pounds for trees, etc. Mrs Mills said she would check with Planning Enforcement about this.

District Councillor Karen Richardson said that a lot of the discussions around the tree planting and buffer zone between Haverhill and Kedington / Calford Green were carried out before Mrs Mills joined the Planning Department and it would be prudent for her to speak to Chris Rand and write down what had previously been agreed.

Parish Councillors also asked Mrs Mills about the provision of an upper school and health provision. Mrs Mills suggested that the Parish Council contacted Neil McManus, who is the person responsible for education at Suffolk County Council. She also suggested that the CCG for West Suffolk NHS should be contacted about health provision. The KAG member asked about the land between the new development and Kedington. Mrs Mills said that West Suffolk Council had no plans for further development of this land. The KAG member replied that this would need to be put in writing as there would always be a "predatory developer", with no regard to the balance of the community, who would come along try to force a development.

Mrs Mills said she would like to set up a forum for key stakeholders of the development, Haverhill, Kedington and Little Wratting, which could meet on a quarterly basis to share information. Mrs Mills will get information about this to the Parish Clerk early in 2020.

6 Receive Visitor's Reports

District Councillor Karen Richardson reported:

- Suffolk County Council have now ruled that Civil Parking Enforcement will come into effect on 1st January 2020. However, it is unlikely that West Suffolk Council will bring in CPE until April 2020 as they have to procure 18 Enforcement Officers and will be unlikely to do this before April 2020.

- There have been a huge amount of meetings relating to West Suffolk Council's Rural Taskforce initiative. Any information relating to requirements of the Parish need to be filtered to Councillor Richardson as this will ensure villages do not have further expansion. Parishes need to think about the geography of their area and what is required.

Open meeting

7 Receive Clerks' Report

- The Practice Manager at Christmas Maltings and Clements Practice has completed the security and IT work on the new eConsult system for booking appointments. There is now one last piece of staff training needed and a start date will be announced.

- National Association of Local Councils have announced that the LGA is to develop a new Model Code of Conduct for Councillors. This is in response to the recommendations made in the Committee on Standards in Public Life's report earlier this year and in response to rising local government concern about officer/member intimidation; abuse and expectations in public debate, decision making and engagement about overall behavioural standards.

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

8 Finance Committee

8.1 Consider any matters arising from 08 October 2019 meeting:
None.

8.2 Receive draft minutes of 12 November 2019 meeting:

- Financial position at 31 October 2019 satisfactory with £40,856.80 of the budget spent (49.93%), leaving a balance of £40,983.20. Additionally £50,195.05 is held in Reserves.
- Budget/precept for financial year 2020/2021 finalised. Will be discussed at this meeting under agenda item 8.3
- VAT reclaim of £2,631.46 for the period 01 April – 30 September 2019 has been deposited into Bank of Ireland account by H M Revenue & Customs.
- Quotations have been received from M D Landscapes (Anglia) Ltd for the following grounds maintenance works:

    1) Cut both side of the river banks along Riverside Walks (The Cut) as in previous years. £350.00 plus vat.
    2) Cutting hedge around Old School Field on top and both sides to include the small piece of hedge to the right of the entrance to the field by the Notice Board. Top of hedge near skate ramp to be neatened but no height taken away. Flail other trees inside the park. Take away all arisings and leave areas neat and tidy. £140.00 to cut the hedge and £50 for flailing trees, both prices plus vat.
    3) Clear brook in Silver Street Park on both sides of bridge as you enter from Silver Street. £100.00 plus vat.
    4) Watermill Field – cut back river banks around the field (in a horseshoe shape). £40.00 plus vat.

    A resolution was put forward by Councillor Wheeler, seconded by the Chairman that M D Landscapes (Anglia) Ltd should be asked to carry

out all works. There were no other resolutions; three votes for; one abstention. Resolution carried.

- All play equipment defects are in hand for repair.
- Kedington Bell Ringers grant application deferred to full Parish Council, agenda item 8.4 this meeting.
- Eleven payments totalling £10,790.54 for Supplier Payments as at 31 October 2019 approved on 12 November 2019 and cheques signed by the Chairman (Councillor McGuire) and Councillor Wheeler.

8.3 Receive, finalise and agree budget/precept in principle for financial year 2020/2021:

Councillors Naylor, Waite, Wilsher and Wheeler signed to declare that they were not in arrears of Council Tax for the preceding two months (Section 106 LGA 1992 Finance Act). Councillors reviewed the budget/precept and a resolution was put forward by Councillor Wheeler and seconded by Councillor Waite that the budget/precept of £84,070 for Kedington Parish Council for the financial year 2020/2021 be agreed in **principle**, allowing for any changes before the precept demand is sent to West Suffolk Council in January 2020. There were no other resolutions; unanimously agreed.

8.4 Discuss grant for Kedington Bell Ringers (deferred from Finance Committee meeting):

The Chairman read out a letter from Kedington Bell Ringers. The group were asking for a grant to pay for the Christmas tree on top of the Church Tower for 2019. The letter was also seeking a grant for the purchase of six new bell ropes for which the cost could be up to £3,000. A resolution was put forward by Councillor Evans and seconded by Councillor Wheeler that a grant of up to £100 be awarded for the cost of the Christmas tree for the Church Tower, under Sn 137, LGA 1972, as being of benefit to local people. There were no other resolutions; unanimously agreed. With regard to the purchase of six new bell ropes, the Clerk was requested to ask Kedington Bell Ringers for a copy of the quotation for the new ropes before a decision was made. Councillor Evans asked for it to be minuted that he was opposed to grant aiding any money to the Church. MF

8.5 Agree whether Kedington Parish Council should hold a social gathering after December 2019 KPC meeting and agree budget (s176 (1)(b) LGA 1972):

Councillors discussed this matter and it was agreed that no social gathering would be held this year. However, a resolution was put forward by the Chairman and seconded by Councillor Wheeler that a budget of £100 be approved to purchase some “beverages” to give as “thank you gifts” to people that have helped the Parish Council over the past year. There were no other resolutions; unanimously agreed.

9 Play Equipment

9.1 Receive defect report(s) (if any); agree action:

Monthly Play Inspection Report for October 2019 received; all defects noted and in hand for repair.

9.2 Skate Ramp – matters relating to:

None.

Non agenda item – guillotine

It was agreed under a resolution put forward by Councillor Wheeler and seconded by Councillor Evans to raise the guillotine by 15 minutes to allow other agenda items to be transacted. There were no other resolutions; unanimously agreed.

10 Environmental / Grounds Maintenance Matters

10.1 Any other environmental/grounds maintenance matters:
Clerk reported Suffolk County Council have responded to a report logged by the Parish Council (No 257530) regarding a pear tree and two sycamore trees on the front of Dane Common that are in need of pruning. Suffolk County Council have said they will not be undertaking any work at this time, but will monitor the trees on a regular basis.

11 Highway/Footpath/Street Furniture matters

11.1 Signs for "No Lorries Turning" into Dane Common (update):
No update available, Clerk will chase up Suffolk County Councillor, David Roach.

11.2 Any other Highways/Footpath/Street Furniture matters:
Clerk reported she has chased up Suffolk Highways regarding sweeping/clearing Footpath No 18 (Sturmer Road to White Horse Road) known as The Baulk.

Clerk reported that the path from No 68 round to No 105 Westward Deals has been put forward for repair/surfacing by Suffolk Highways 2020/2021.

With the time at 10.00 p.m. the guillotine had expired and the meeting was closed.

The date of the next meeting will be the **Tuesday, 17 December 2019** commencing at 7.40 p.m. in The Meeting Room, Parish Council Office, Arms Lane, Kedington.

Signed …… Dated …….