



# PARISH COUNCIL *Kempsey*

## MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 15 JANUARY 2024 AT 7.30 PM AT KEMPSEY COMMUNITY CENTRE

**PRESENT:** - Cllr Waller (Chair), Cllr Stevens, Cllr Gardener, Cllr Cooke, Cllr Clamp, Cllr Charnock, Cllr Bicknell, Cllr White and Cllr Anstey.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** - Mr. Biddle plus 3 other members of the public.

1. Apologies: County Councillor Allen (Personal), District Councillor Michael (meeting at MHDC) and District Councillor Harrison (Personal) - Received.
2. Declarations of Interest
  1. Register of Interests: Councillors were reminded of the need to update their register of interest.
  2. To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in items on the agenda and their nature - None
  3. To declare any Other Disclosable Interests on items on the agenda and their nature - None
3. To Consider Written Requests from Councillors for the Council to Grant a Dispensation (S33 of the Localism Act 2011) - written requests to be submitted to the clerk prior to the meeting - None

### PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Notes from Public Question Time are appended to these minutes.  
In the absence of the County Councillor Allen and District Councillors Harrison & Michael, the Chairman read out their reports.

4. Minutes: Having been previously circulated, the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 18.12.2023 were signed as a true and correct record.
5. Correspondence for Information: - Under General Data Protection Regulations names of Identifiable subject/matter withheld. – Nothing to comment on.
6. Committees, Working Party and Panel Appointments
  1. **RESOLVED:** To appoint Cllr Adam Bicknell to serve on Community Centres and Environment & Recreation Committee.
  2. **RESOLVED:** Following receipt of expression of interest forms members were appointed to serve on the following: -  
Community Centres Committee - Cllr Stevens, Cllr Charnock, Cllr Bicknell and Cllr Gardener  
Community Builder Guiding Panel - Cllr Waller, Cllr Charnock and Cllr Stevens  
Biodiversity Working Party - Cllr Waller, Cllr Cooke, Cllr Gardener and Cllr Anstey  
Police Liaison - Cllr White and Cllr Bicknell
7. Finance
  1. **RESOLVED:** Payment of accounts as per schedule were authorised.
  2. Monthly Bank Reconciliation Statement - For Information Only.
  3. Capital Budget - For Information Only
  4. Budget Monitoring Quarter 3 - For Information Only

Action

Clerk

(Please note Agenda item 7.6 was discussed and agreed before agenda item 7.5)

5. The proposal was modified to read ‘Proposal to agree the final budget for financial year 2024/2025 with the inclusion of £5,287.00 for Biodiversity Projects (shown under Environment & Recreation Committee budget heading). This was agreed and then voted on. **RESOLVED:** The final budget for financial year 2024/2025 was set at £227,470.00 with the inclusion of £5,287.00 for Biodiversity Projects (shown under Environment & Recreation Committee budget heading).
  
6. Two options for the precept were devised - A.as per budget showing an increase of 8.2% and B. increasing the budget by12% in line with historic maximum increases.  
Two indicative votes took place to establish if councillors favoured option A or option B. This confirmed option B was the favoured option to vote carried by six votes in favour.  
The proposal was modified to read ‘Proposal to agree a precept request to MHDC for financial year 2024-2025 of £155,187.00 This was agreed and then voted on.  
**RESOLVED:** To request a precept to MHDC for financial year 2024-2025 of £155,187.00  
The Clerk will submit this request to MHDC.
  
8. Committee Report Updates and Proposals: -
  1. Finance & General Purposes Committee: Cllr Waller  
As the focus is on the Public Consultation, an F&GP Committee meeting will be arranged after it has taken place.  
The Clerk is chasing the solicitor regarding the renewal of the tenants leases.
  
  2. Environment & Recreation: Vacant  
It was suggested to have a general clear up around the Rocky.  
It was reported some scooter batteries needed to be removed from the Hatfield Brook.  
Cllr Charnock offered some details regarding small tree planting under a scheme ‘Ecology for Communities’ which he will forward to the Clerk.  
Crime Reports for Dec 2023 - No logged crimes for any KPC properties, or public spaces and no reported issues at the shop.  
It was reported that unfortunately, the Christmas tree almost fell down in one of the winter gales and the metal stand it was sitting in was damaged. The tree was placed upright again and in order to secure it more effectively was tied to the Parish Council notice board as well as the flagpole.  
Following further high winds, the Christmas tree fell down and this time took the notice board with it. The upright posts that held the notice board to the ground snapped (on inspection they had rotted) and the notice board fell on to the tree, bringing it down.  
The noticeboard needs replacing and careful consideration of the Christmas tree for next year is required.  
  
- Working Party: MRWP Update: Cllr Clamp.  
Next meeting to take place on Thursday 18 January 2024.  
To discuss England in Bloom – This is a suggestion to participate in the Royal Horticultural Society Awards. Please notify the MRWP with any ideas. Cllr Waller suggested having a living green wall in front of the Parish Hall.
  
  3. Community Centres: Cllr Stevens  
Cllr Stevens has identified a leak at the Sports Pavilion which he is trying to resolve. Awaiting the new doors for the Sports Pavilion, currently being manufactured.  
The youth club ran at St Mary’s church are seeking funding for a table tennis table. It was identified there is one stored at the Youth Centre which the Parish Council agreed to donate to this worthy cause.

Clerk

Clerk

MC

4. Infrastructure Committee: Cllr Waller

Great effort has gone into planning for the proposed public consultation, now scheduled for the weekend of 3rd and 4th February at the Youth Centre, Plovers Rise, from 10am to 4 pm each day. The story boards are in the process of being devised for display purposes. A calendar of meetings from now to the event has been suggested together with the staffing of the setup at the Youth Centre, the event itself and the breakdown after the event. Councillors were asked for their availability to help staff the event.

The event will be advertised once all the display material is available, via the website, noticeboards, social media and a leaflet drop to houses in the immediate vicinity.

Cllr Waller asked councillors to think about questions members of the public may ask at the event, to help with Q & A preparations.

A review meeting will take place looking at the key outcomes and comments made.

5. Commons and Hams: Cllr Cooke

On behalf of National Grid further tree works are to progress next week in Kerswell Green Requesting a date deferment with Worcestershire Wildlife Trust due to public consultation.

6. Planning Committee: Cllr Gardener

The committee took advantage of the postponed January Parish Council meeting date to hold a meeting on 8.01.2024 to consult on various planning applications.

9. Chairman’s Report: Cllr Waller

- Community Builder Update - Cathy Garner has officially started work on the Community Builder project. She is engaging with MHDC and is attending ABCD workshop training in January/February 2024. The Guiding Panel has been established. Next steps to devise Terms of Reference.
- Councillor vacancies/recruitment - Four vacancies are currently available. Cllr Charnock has re-designed an advert which will be uploaded onto the website, displayed on the noticeboard and advertised on social media.
- Defibrillator Update - Awaiting a date from the electrician to install the defibrillator unit at the Parish Hall. Training is to be pursued on how to use a defibrillator and CPR training.
- Anti-social behavior - No issues have been reported since Christmas. The shop is looking to install CCTV. Cllr Clamp was tasked with drafting a letter but following a visit to the Area Manager felt a better approach might be to liaise with the police in the first instance.
- Kempsey Times - The Editor has received our article due to be published on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2024. It was felt it would be useful to have a list of dates throughout the year of when our contribution needs to be submitted by.

Meeting Closed at 9.35 PM

Signed ..... Chairman..... Date

*Standing Orders were adjourned.*

## PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Mr Biddle had provided an updated plan of the passing bays at Pixham Ferry Lane ideal for the public consultation. He questioned if the adjoining housing development (Taylor Wimpey site) will be informed of the public consultation. The Chairman confirmed, subject to discussion with the Design Team a household leaflet drop may take place to houses in the immediate vicinity to the proposed new community and sports centre.

He confirmed there is a Patients Participation Group meeting tomorrow where he is happy to feedback any comments. It was brought to his attention that if people are encouraged to use Kempsey surgery it needs to improve its communication links regarding appointment times and location. He will feedback these comments.

A parishioner highlighted that the funding from WCC for the Community Bus Service has now ceased (This was a valuable service which operated on Fridays with a route covering the supermarkets, Doctors surgery and the hospital at a subsidised cost of £2.00 return applicable to bus pass holders). Worcestershire On Demand bus service is expected to operate but there are no contact details available yet.

She advised there is an offer from Worcester Wheels, subject to a free sign up, to operate a service on a Friday at an increased cost of £12.00 per person for a return journey. Cllr Waller thanked her for her efforts on this subject confirming this will be captured by the Community Builder as it touches on social isolation.

### **District Councillor Report: David Harrison & John Michael**

**Happy New Year to you all,**

#### **Peter Griffiths.**

Some of you will know Peter Griffiths who lived in Holdings Lane in Kempsey for many years with his wife and family. Peter was a “planner” with his own business in Evesham. He assisted in the purchase of the Pixham Ferry Lane field from the previous owners and then from Taylor Wimpey and now it is the ownership of Kempsey Parish Council. Sad to state that he passed away suddenly and unexpectedly on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> December 2023. He was a County Councillor for Evesham, and a town Councillor also for Evesham. He was involved in the purchase, design and Planning for “Six Ways” for Cecil Duckworth and also “Swindon Community areas” amongst others

#### **SWDPr**

This plan Regulation 19 was submitted in September 2023. Two Government Inspectors have been appointed and a series of questions have been asked of the Planning Department. See [South Worcestershire Development Plan Review | Local Plan Examination Services \(localplanservices.co.uk\)](https://localplanservices.co.uk)

## Neighbourhood Planning

### Malvern Hills

- The date for the Welland Neighbourhood Plan Referendum has been set for Thursday, 7 March 2024.
- Hallow Neighbourhood Plan Review – the Examiner has been appointed to oversee the examination of the HNP Review.
- Hanley Castle PC are undertaking a material review of its neighbourhood plan and will be consulting on a revised first draft from late January 2024.

### Five Year Housing Land Supply

The Five Year Housing Land Supply Statement has now been published on our [website](#). None of the SWCs can currently demonstrate a 5YHLS. As such, the presumption in favour of sustainable development, as set out in the NPPF paragraphs 11 to 14, should be applied. The 5YHLS calculations at 1 April 2023 are 3.31 years for Malvern Hills, 4.81 years for Worcester City and 2.65 years for Wychavon against the standard method housing requirement, including a 5% buffer. An addendum is due to follow showing the calculation for the four year supply, following the NPPF updates.

### Enforcement

**M/ENF/23/0048 52 Windmill Lane, Kempsey** – Enforcement Notice appeal dismissed. Enforcement Notice was issued for the unauthorised erection of a building. The appellants appealed on grounds (g) that the time given to comply with the Notice was too short. The Notice has now taken effect and the owners have 4 months to comply with the removal of the building.

**This means that the building should be removed by 14<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

**Appeal** APP/J1860/W/23/3330334 for planning application M/22/01257/FUL

An appeal at **67-69 The Anchor Inn, Main Road, Kempsey, Worcestershire, WR5 3NB** requires any further information to be forwarded to the Planning Inspectorate by Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at the latest.

Planning Application Fees.

These change and were increased from 6<sup>th</sup> December.

## **Draft Local Habitat Map, and details on how to participate in the consultation**

- The consultation document, a link to the Draft Local Habitat Map, and details on how to participate in the consultation can be found on the Council's website at [www.worcestershire.gov.uk/lnrs](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/lnrs). The consultation period will commence on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January and end on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2024. The Council welcomes any comments you may wish to make, and these should be received by 5pm on 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2024.

Consultation responses must be submitted in writing. The following methods are available for submitting responses:

- Completion of the Issues and Options Paper questionnaire (powered by SnapSurveys), available at [www.worcestershire.gov.uk/lnrs](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/lnrs).
- Completion of the Draft Local Habitat Map questionnaire, available at <https://gis.worcestershire.gov.uk/website/localnaturecoverystrategy/>
- By email to: [lnrs@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:lnrs@worcestershire.gov.uk)
- By post to: Environmental Policy Team, Worcestershire County Council, County Hall, Spetchley Road, Worcester, WR5 2NP

### **Car in the Rocky.**

The Toyota car was still in The Rocky as of yesterday 14h January and thus Malvern Hills District Council have been unable to clean the area.

### **On-Demand Bus Service.**

Unfortunately, this is still not on the Worcestershire County Council website as of this week and they started charging from the beginning of January.

## **County Councillor: Martin Allen**

Good evening,

Sorry I cannot be with you tonight. Due to the Christmas break I have very little to report. Please see below.

### **ON DEMAND BUS**

As from last Monday the bus service started to charge and is now considered to be live.

I am still waiting for leaflets showing the areas that the service cover.

Tewkesbury is now a destination that residents can travel to.

The last Community Bus will run week commencing Monday 22/01/2024.

### **PUFFIN CROSSING NORTH END OF KEMPSEY BY THE COMMUNITY CENTRE**

The trees along on the Service Road that runs parallel to the A38 are to be removed in the 1<sup>st</sup> week of February. The tree removal work will take approximately five days.

To keep the workforce safe, traffic lights will be in operation between 0900 and 1500 each day. I have made it crystal clear that the lights should only be present during those hours and must be removed overnight just in case there is a closure of the M5. Also plans have been made if the M5 closes suddenly during the day due to an accident.

Warmest regards

Martin Allen.

*Standing Orders were reimposed.*