KEMPLEY PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Virtual[[1]](#footnote-1) Ordinary Parish Council Meeting**

Held on Monday 15th March 2021 at 7:30pm via video conference call

**Present:**

Councillors: Martin Brocklehurst (Chairman), Stafford Cruse, Tom Jackson, Ricky Goodwin

Officers: Arin Spencer (Parish Clerk)

In attendance: Two (2) members of the public

1. **Apologies**

None

1. **Declarations of interests and requests for dispensations**

None

1. **Minutes**

**Resolved** to approve and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 26 January 2021 as a correct record. Proposed by Cllr Jackson, seconded by Cllr Cruse.

1. **Update on progress of resolutions from the last meeting held on 26 January 2021**

There were no items to report on not dealt with elsewhere on the agenda.

1. **Reports from District and County Councillors**

None received.

1. **Public Participation**

No members of the public wished to speak at this point.

1. **To receive motions presented by councillors in accordance with Standing Order 9**

Motions proposed by Cllr Brocklehurst:

* 1. Motion: Condition of highways in the Parish

Following discussion of this item members **resolved** that the Clerk be authorised to:

* write a letter of complaint to Herefordshire and Gloucestershire County Councils regarding the continuing deterioration of the highway network within the parish;
* seek support from all neighbouring parish councils for joint action on highway matters; and
* implement a campaign for action by local residents to increase pressure on both councils to improve the standards for highway maintenance in the parish.
	1. Motion: Footpaths Warden

To appeal to the community for a volunteer Footpaths Warden responsible for:

* completing an annual assessment of the state of the footpath network in Kempley;
* undertaking minor repairs;
* liaison with local landowners to resolve outstanding matters of concern;
* liaison with Windcross Footpaths Group and coordination of volunteer working groups; and
* reporting progress to the Parish Council.

Mike Townsend (Windcross Paths Group Chairman) was invited to speak by the Chairman. He introduced himself and the Windcross Paths Group (WPG) to members and explained some of the work that they do for the protection and improvement of the footpath network in the Golden Triangle.

The Chairman made representations to members in motivation of the appointment of a Footpaths Warden for the parish.

It was agreed that surveying the footpath network in the parish and liaising with landowners would be time consuming and would require a volunteer from the community to come forward.

It was suggested that a volunteer might be acquired from among the members of the Kempley Walking Group.

However, concern was expressed that diplomatic and constructive relationships with landowners would need to be carefully developed and it would be important to find the right volunteer for the role.

It was agreed that this item be deferred for further discussion.

1. **Public Rights of Way and the significance of 2026**

Members discussed the letter received from Andrew Houldey, Engagement Officer (PROW Definitive Map) and what action, if any, should be taken to identify and claim unrecorded routes in the parish.

It was agreed that Kempley already has a dense footpath network and that any claim for unregistered routes in the parish should only be made if they have a greater or practical purpose, for example more direct routes linking Kempley to Gorsley or Newent.

1. **Superfast Broadband**

The Chairman updated members on current progress regarding the rollout of superfast broadband to the parish.

There are two schemes coming to the village:

1. Airband (northern end of the parish near St Marys and Court Farm)

Physical works have been done and Airband hope to start offering contracts to the northern end of the parish (around St Mary’s and Court Farm) from the end of March 2021. Available speeds will be in the region of 100Mbps.

1. Gigaclear

The Gigaclear Community Officer would like to brief Council in May on their proposals for installation this year and also attend a public meeting to update parishioners.

1. **Climate Change**

The Chairman updated members on progress in respect of the Parish Council Climate Change Action Plan. The full written report had been circulated prior to the meeting.

1. **Commemoration of major events**

**Resolved** to authorise the Clerk to open discussions with the Parochial Church Council (for St Edwards Church), English Heritage (St Marys) and other landowners as appropriate to identify and agree suitable locations for commemorative tree planting programmes in the parish in support of major national and local events.

**PLANNING**

1. **Planning applications considered**

Lower House Farm Barn Shelter Shed and Yard Wall, Kempley, GL18 2BS (P0254/21/FUL)

*Conversion of existing agricultural building to create family dwelling and associated agricultural worker accommodation. Change of use of an area of curtilage from agricultural to residential.*

**Resolved:** To support the application on the grounds that it provides good use for, and secures the future of, a listed building in the parish.

1. **Planning decisions noted**

Chibblers Hill Farm, Chibblers Hill, Kempley, GL18 2BT (P0614/20/FUL)

*Erection of a portal framed calf building with roof mounted photo-voltaic panels, infrastructure works and an area of hardstanding for the siting of a calving operation.* **Granted permission**.

**FINANCE**

1. **Payments**

**Resolved** to approve the following list of payments compiled by the RFO:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| BUDGET | DESCRIPTION | CHEQUE NO | AMOUNT (£) |
| Website & IT (Jan - Feb) | Website Hosting | DD | 14.40 |
| Subscriptions | SLCC Membership | 430 | 40.50 |
| Staff Costs | Clerk’s Expenses | 431 | 112.28 |
| **Total** |  |  | **167.18** |

1. **Receipts**

Noted income received as follows:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| DATE | FROM | DESCRIPTION | AMOUNT (£) |
| 04.01.2021 | Cllr Stafford Cruse | KVHT Donation | 20.00 |
| 18.01.2021 | Cllr Tom Jackson | KVHT Donation | 20.00 |
| 26.01.2021 | Cllr Ricky Goodwin | KVHT Donation | 20.00 |
| **Total** |  |  | **60.00** |

1. **Receipts and Payments Summary (including budget monitoring) / Bank Reconciliation / Reserves**

Received the above financial reports for Month 11 (February 2021) which had been circulated prior to the meeting.

**GENERAL**

1. **Annual Parish Meeting**

Resolved to set the date for the Annual Parish Meeting on 27 April 2021 at 7:30pm.

1. **Councillor submissions / items for next agenda** (for information only)

None

1. **Date of next meeting**

**Resolved** that the next Full Council meeting be held on Monday 17th May 2021 at 7:30pm in Kempley Village Hall and broadcast via Zoom to enable members of the public to attend remotely.

With no further business the meeting was closed at 21:05pm.

Signed (Chairman) Date

1. In accordance with The Local Authorities & Police & Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority & Police & Crime Panel Meetings) (England & Wales) Regulations 2020 this meeting was held by video conference call. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)