



KEMPLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the ordinary Parish Council Meeting

Held on Monday 18th July 2022 at 7.30pm in Kempley Village Hall

Present:

Councillors: Martin Brocklehurst (Chairman), Robert Howson (Vice Chair), Tom Jackson,
Edward Lewis joined the meeting at 7.50pm

Officers: Tim Dain (Clerk)

In attendance: Chris Bligh (DyFRA)

Cllr Gill Mosely (Gloucester County Council, Newent Division) joined at 7.50pm

44 Cllr Howson was ratified as Vice-Chairman for the 2022/23 civic year following the proposal made at the Annual Parish Council in his absence (agenda item 2).

45 Apologies were accepted from Cllr Cruse and Cllr O'Rourke. It was noted that Cllr Lewis and Cllr Mosely would be joining the meeting late.

46 Cllr Howson declared an interest relating to a planning application (agenda item 64.2)

47 It was agreed to amend the minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on 16th May 2022 for historical accuracy following comments received from Chris Bligh, item 33 to read as follows:

*Biodiversity strategy: Cllr Brocklehurst reminded Council of an agreement with GCC made in 2008 to initially allow the Wild Daffodil Project to manage road verges in the 'Golden Triangle', 4 in Oxenhall and 5 in Kempley Parish, with the objective of re-introducing wild daffodils as part of work funded at that time by the National Grid gas pipeline. The agreement placed obligations on the Parish Council and it is unclear if those obligations remain. Council **resolved** in the first instance to request information from DyFRA regarding the baseline and current species diversity data for these verges, and current ideas for verge management in the Parish.*

Action: Clerk to invite DyFRA to offer their guidance and advice for the September meeting and to seek confirmation from the County Highways that the agreement and all its obligations on the Parish Council are still current.

With this amendment made, the minutes were approved.

48 Public Participation

Chris Bligh requested that he be identified by name in these minutes and raised a number of points relating to the Parish Council and its actions. He was asked to summarise these in a written report and it was agreed that if received they would be appended to the minutes (as Appendix I).

Chris Bligh requested that this year's Remembrance Day service follow his suggested format (Appendix II, previously circulated)

Cllr Brocklehurst asked Chris Bligh to share his knowledge of events pre-dating the tenure of all current Parish Councillors to help current Parish Councillor's understanding and accurate recording. Cllr Jackson asked Chris Bligh for his suggestions to inform a constructive way forward.

For Consideration

Cllr Gill Mosely and Cllr Ed Lewis joined the meeting.

Financial Matters

49 The following Year-end financial reports were received and noted, having been unavailable at the Annual Parish Council Meeting

- Bank reconciliation summary as at 31/03/2022
- Receipts and payments summary for the 2021/22 financial year
- Reserves balance as at 31/03/2022

50 The following financial reports were received and noted:

- Bank Statements for the current Financial Year's first quarter: April – June 2022
- Bank reconciliation for the current Financial Year's first quarter: April – June 2022
- Receipts and payments summary as at 30/06/2022
- Budget monitoring report as at 30/06/2022
- Reserves statement as at 30/06/2022

51 Council **resolved** to approve the following list of online payments:

DATE	PAYMENT TYPE	DESCRIPTION	POWER	AMOUNT
25/05/22	DD	Website/IT - Website Hosting	LGA 1972 s.142	£7.20
26/05/22	SO	Clerk's Salary	LGA 1972 s.112	£216.80
25/06/22	DD	Website/IT - Website Hosting	LGA 1972 s.142	£7.20
26/06/22	SO	Clerk's Salary	LGA 1972 s.112	£216.80

52 Council **resolved** to approve the following list of cheque payments:

DATE	CHQ No	DESCRIPTION	POWER	AMOUNT
18/07/22	471	Clerk's salary (overtime Mar-Apr)	LGA 1972 s.112	£260.16
18/07/22	472	KVHT – Jubilee Party contribution	LGA 1972, s137	£500.00
18/07/22	473	Community Heartbeat Trust (Defib pads - Fishpool)	Public Health Act 1936, s234	£100.80
18/07/22	474	Clerk's expenses (inc. new laptop)	Various	£742.24
18/07/22	475	BHIB Insurance renewal		£283.01
18/07/22	476	SLCC Membership		£85.00
18/07/22	477	Clerk's salary (overtime May-Jun)	LGA 1972 s.112	£271.00
18/07/22	478	Perpetua Press - Broadband Leaflets	LGA 1972 s137	£48.00
18/07/22	479	Perpetua Press – Maps/PROW pack	LGA 1972 s 142	£60.00

53 Council **resolved** to sign a mandate relating to the Parish Council's bank account to change the Council's postal address.

For Exchange of Views

54 Cllr Mosely advised the following:

- Agreement from Andrew Middlecote (Gloucester County Council Local Area Highways Manager) for a 50% contribution for the sixth Public Rights of Way kissing gate upgrade to be funded from Cllr Mosely's GCC Highways fund. (item 57) This would match the funding received from the PROW scheme leaving no further obligation on Parish Council finances.
- Residents are invited to have their say on cycling in Gloucestershire via an online consultation. Working with Sustrans, a charity that looks after the national cycling network, GCC want to identify a potential long-term strategic cycling network across the county. The consultation is

being promoted in other parishes through Facebook. Cllr Brocklehurst suggested this could be advertised through the WhatsApp group. It was also noted that the item could be advertised through the Kempley Noticeboard Facebook site.

- **Action:** Clerk to add Gill Mosely to the Kempley Keep in Touch WhatsApp group and to advise on the administrator for the Kempley Noticeboard Facebook site.
- There is to be a consultation on the future of libraries.
- Cllr Mosley has previously requested that Dymock Ward residents be given access to Herefordshire's recycling centres/waste disposal sites. Having gained no satisfactory response, this has now been raised as a formal 'Council Question' and can therefore be escalated within Hereford County Council. If necessary there will also be an e-petition.
- The Environment Scrutiny Committee is looking into electric vehicle (EV) charging points as there is currently little, if any, availability in West Gloucestershire.
- Cllr Mosely attended a presentation on natural flood management schemes given by James Blockley, Principal Flood Risk Management Officer. GCC has a task group to look at pollution in rivers and storm surge. The group's report is available on the GCC website: https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/media/2115312/local-flood-risk-management-strategy-annual-progress-and-implementation-plan-2021_22.pdf. It confirms that flood risks are considered to be low in Kempley with less than 5 reports of internal property flooding and/or properties affected by flooding and 1-30 properties at risk from a 1:30 year storm. Members discussed Kempley Brook, where in conjunction with the sewage works, steps have been taken to improve water quality. Flooding occurs at Court Farm and Brickyard Cottage. Cllr Brocklehurst suggested inviting a speaker from the Environment Agency/County Council to a future meeting, on the use of nature based solutions to alleviate flood risk and to better understand catchment management arrangements in the parish.

55 The clerk's report (Appendix III) was noted.

56 Centenary Stone.

56.1 Information display: Update (Cllr Cruse)

Chris Bligh is working with Cllr Cruse on wording, the deadline has been extended to September.

56.2 Asset Management arrangements (Cllr Brocklehurst)

Cllr Brocklehurst proposed the Centenary Stone be offered to The Friends of Kempley Churches (FoKC) to manage under lease in a similar way to the iKiosk. Members agreed this to be a positive way forward in principle, subject to the FoKC agreeing. For resolution at the September meeting.

56.3 Remembrance Day arrangements.

The current protocol (Appendix IV) was acknowledged.

Subject to 56.2 being actioned, agreement to transfer management to the FoKC will require a condition of lease to be that the intent of the original protocol is maintained.

Action: Clerk to write to The Friends of Kempley Churches and if the suggestion is received favourably, to draft a contract for approval at the September meeting.

57 Public Rights of Way, Installation of Kissing gates.

Cllr Brocklehurst had a site meeting with the GCC Public Rights of Way officer and landowners, the following upgrades have been agreed with the work to take place in Autumn 2022:

- Matthews Farm - 1 Five Bar metal gate with integral pedestrian gate, KF23 (Daffodil Way link path)
- Matthews Farm - 2 Kissing gates and bridge repair on KF22 (Daffodil Way link path)
- Matthews Farm - 1 Kissing Gate KF27 Route back to village Hall for Circular Daffodil Weekend walks
- Hillbrook Farm - 1 Kissing Gate KF 22 (Daffodil way link path)

Prices and funding arrangements remain as in the 2021/22 Financial Year. The five-bar gate with integral pedestrian gate will be slightly cheaper than the kissing gates.

A request has been made for a 6th Gate along the Daffodil Way KF33 at Moorhouse Farm, which is an addition to the original proposal and will leave just three styles on the Daffodil Way in the parish.

Cllr Mosely confirmed agreement for a 50% contribution from the Cllrs GCC Highway budget (item 54).

58 Highway Matters

58.1 Parish Boundary Signs – Cllr Brocklehurst attended a meeting with Andrew Middlecote on 21st July. Agreement that the Parish Council have power to fund, install and manage the signs has been reached, however their final design and location remains under discussion, with further guidance being sought by Andrew Middlecote.

The money to pay for these was part of the Build Back Better Fund Grant application and if they do not go ahead, or don't require all the allocated money, the balance will be offered back to GCC. Until decisions are finalised, the Grant report will not be submitted to GCC in accordance with Minute 25.

Action: Clerk to share the original Grant application with Chris Bligh.

58.2 Damaged roads/road haunches – An issue has come to light on the verge outside Parkfields cottages. There is an open inspection hatch which constitutes a hazard to road users and pedestrians. Despite being reported, the responsible authority has not been identified.

Action: Clerk to report to the police as a safety issue.

59 Kempley Community Broadband Project.

59.1 Following a huge effort from Councillors and volunteers, 184 (71%) of eligible properties in Kempley, Yatton, Dymock and along the Kempley Road have submitted an 'expression of interest' (EOI) and a request for quotations will commence on 19th July 2022. These will be reviewed, and a supplier identified. A WhatsApp group has been set up for all who have submitted an EOI

59.2 Wayleave requirement – The lane beside the Village Green is owned by the Parish Council, a wayleave will be required to allow Broadband Fibre Optic Cables to reach adjacent properties. Councillors expressed support for granting a free wayleave over land owned by the Parish Council, this will require formal resolution when the exact details are known.

60 Biodiversity strategy

Cllr Brocklehurst expressed thanks to Tim Rickard and Chris Bligh for producing their report (appendix V).

Members referred to surveys identifying the species poor and species rich verges within Gorsley Parish and discussed Council's assumed legacy obligation from 2008 to monitor and promote action on the species diversity of verges within the parish (item 47).

Members requested DyFRA's suggestions on how the two organisations can work more closely on Biodiversity issues, inviting DyFRA to share examples of how they are working with other local Parish Councils with a view to adopting any existing good practice.

Chris Bligh suggested that the Kempley Brook water catchment area would be a good area to focus on in the future. Severn Treescape and Gloucester Wildlife Trust were identified as appropriate organisations to work with and it was proposed that a representative from the Environment Agency/County Council be invited to speak on Nature Based Solutions to Flooding at a future meeting to help identify where the Parish Council might best place its efforts.

61 Forest of Dean District Council Planning Policy

61.1 Local Plan 2041, Second Preferred Option Consultation. The draft plan is anticipated imminently, and public comments will be sought.

Action: Clerk to alert parishioners via website, email (Mail Chimp) and WhatsApp when the public consultation goes live.

For resolution and decision

61.2 Council **resolved** that all planning application responses relating to residential design guidelines for farm buildings are to be made in accordance with Kempley Parish Council's existing Planning Applications Policy.

62 Parish Council Facebook page - Council rejected the need for this currently as there is already the 'Kempley Noticeboard' Facebook page which has 287 members.

Action: clerk to link with the Kempley Noticeboard 'admins' if it is felt appropriate to promote events via Facebook

63 Documentation Review

63.1 Council **resolved** to approve the updated Asset Register

Action: Clerk to arrange environmentally friendly and GDPR compliant disposal of the old laptop.

63.2 Council **resolved** to approve the updated Officer Responsibility and Support Policy (revised)

Action: Clerk to write to Kempley Village Hall Trust and the Parochial Church Council to advise them that Cllr Howson will be their primary link to the Parish Council.

64 New Planning applications:

64.1 - P0712/22/FUL - Stonehouse Farm

<https://publicaccess.fdean.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=RCBQTIHIHOE00>

Deadline for comments already past, it was noted that a standard reply was sent for a low impact application in accordance with KPC Planning Application Policy

64.2 - P0775/22/FUL - Meribel

<https://publicaccess.fdean.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=RCQVPPHIOFD00>

Deadline for comments already past, it was noted that a standard reply was sent for a low impact application in accordance with KPC Planning Application Policy

65 Planning decisions: none

66 It was noted that the Kissing Gate located at Moorhouse Farm on the Daffodil Way will be funded by the PROW scheme with a 50% contribution from the County Cllr local GCC Highway fund.

67 Elizabeth Pindar's Charity

Council **resolved** to the re-appointment of the existing trustees for a further 12 months.

Action: Clerk to confirm the above with the Charity's correspondent.

General

68 Items for the September meeting

- Centenary Stone information display
- Centenary Stone asset management arrangements, possible resolution to transfer this to FoKC
- Kempley Community Broadband Scheme
- Climate Change report (Cllr Brocklehurst)
- Welcome pack for new residents

69 Date and time of next meeting:

Monday 19th September 7:30pm
Kempley Village Hall

Meeting Papers:

- Appendix I Summary of points raised by Chris Bligh (item 48)
- Appendix II Requested format for Remembrance Day 2022 – Chris Bligh (item 48)
- Appendix III Clerk's report (item 55)
- Appendix IV KPC Remembrance Day protocol (item 56)
- Appendix V Biodiversity Recovery in the Golden Triangle Parishes (item 60)

Kempley Parish Council is no longer receiving hard copy planning applications. All planning applications can be viewed on the Forest of Dean District Council website at: <https://publicaccess.fdean.gov.uk/online-applications/>

All meetings of the council are open to the public and press with the exception of items considered under Standing Order 3(d)

Members are reminded that the Council has a general duty to consider the following matters in the exercise of any of its functions: Equal Opportunities (race, sexual orientation, marital status and any disability), Crime and Disorder, Biodiversity, Health and Safety and Human Rights.