



KEMPLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Highways Report:

Licence to Cultivate Verges

Monday 26th September 2022 at 7.30pm in
Kempley Village Hall

Highway Discussion Re Licence to Cultivate Verges

Kempley Parish Council signed an agreement with Gloucestershire County Council Highways Department on the 6th November 2008 to allow the cultivation of specific areas of highway land for the planting of Daffodils. This followed discussions between the County Council Highways Department, the "Kempley Parish Council and Mr Bligh of the Wild Daffodil Project" (Letter dated 19th August 2008 from Nigel Overal Acting Stakeholder Manager).

The Highways Department (Andrew Middlecote) has confirmed the agreement is still valid. It was signed by a previous Chairman of the Parish Council Simon Haynes.

The agreement places 10 conditions on the Parish Council including:

- The Kempley Parish Council shall keep the land in a trim and tidy condition and shall take any action necessary to ensure that none of the bulbs shall extend nearer than 0.50m to the edge of the mettalled surface of the highway.
- Kempley Parish Council will Indemnify the County Council against any claims by Third Parties for accidental bodily injury or damage to third parties property arising out of negligence of the Kempley Parish Council its officers, servants or agents in the cultivation of the highway verge.
- Kempley Parish Council will liaise with and keep any neighbouring Parish Councils informed of this agreement for those areas of verge that are outside the Parish of Kempley.
- Kempley Parish Council will, liaise with and keep all landowners adjacent to the areas of verge within this agreement informed of their intended cultivation works.

A copy of the agreement is attached which contains maps of the verges affected by the agreement. Council should note the obligations are placed on the Parish Council and therefore whilst the agreement remains live it is the responsibility of Kempley Parish Council to ensure the specified conditions of the agreement are adhered to.

Recommendation – That the Clerk be tasked;

- with reviewing this agreement and the arrangements now in place to ensure the obligations of the Parish Council are being effectively discharged and to report back in due course;
- to ascertain if the original objectives have been met and whether or not any further action by the Parish Council is required such as to seek suspension of or extension of the agreement in line with the Parish Council Policy on biodiversity.