

KEMPSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Teresa Griffin, Winterwood, Whelford, Fairford, Glos. GL7 4EB

Tel: 01285 713691 Email: clerk@kempsfordparishcouncil.net

To all Parish Councillors

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, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, religion and any disability), Crime and Disorder, Health and Safety, and Human Rights.

D R A F T

Minutes from the Parish Council Meeting of Tuesday 16th April 2024

Present:

Mark Strange (Chair)
Stephen Andrews
Neil Green

Karen Saunders
John O'Connell
Debbie Watson

GC Cllr Dom Morris
Teresa Griffin (Clerk)

1. **Apologies:** Christine Nugent
2. **Minutes:** Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 19th March 2024 were approved.
3. **Disclosure of member's interests:** None
4. **Dispensation requests:** None
5. **Matters Arising:**
6. **Questions from members of the public:** None present.
7. **County Councillor's Report:** Dom Morris reported -
 - The latest update on the Hannington Road closure is that a temporary bridge or similar will be put in place for RIAT in July and then work on the permanent repair will start in August. There are final agreements that need to be in place with the adjacent landowner but the idea is supported in principle. A full press release will be issued ahead of the Annual Parish Meeting and Local Highways Manager Dan Tiffney is planning to attend.
 - Mark Strange advised there was some damage caused to a property wall on the corner of Chapel Road and the High Street by a large lorry trying to navigate the turn. Residents have asked if a weight or length limit can be placed on Chapel Road as it is unsuitable for HGV's turning right on to the High Street. Any changes would require a TRO which are extremely expensive. Dom suggested talking to Ann, the new Highways Manager, about it to see if it could be bundled in with any other TRO's. The alternative would be to put up some warning signs to say the road/junction is unsuitable for long vehicles etc. and this was considered to be the best first option.
 - Karen Saunders asked if the condition of the Kempsford to Whelford Road was discussed at the recent meeting with Highways. The Highways Manager was going to check if it was in this year's plan to be resurfaced as he recalled it being costed. The Clerk was asked to follow this up.
 - Stephen Andrews advised that Thames Water are still tankering from Kempsford
8. **District Councillors Report:** - Not present. Report sent from Cllr Mansilla – see Appendix A
9. **Kempsford Parish Council**
 - a) **Future changes to Public Rights of Way proposed by Aggregate Industries and Landowner –**
Clerk to draft response and circulate. Key points to raise –
 - Welcome the proposed addition of a permissive path alongside Site 16 to Link Whelford with BKD19.
 - Support the re-routing of BKD28 around the field margins from Jenners to Dudgrove, and in particular the connection it will make between BKD19 (Kempsford) and Dudgrove. As part of the bigger path network plan in the area, and the work that is being done to create a multi-user off road path from Fairford to Lechlade, we would like to propose that the BKD19 and BKD28 route that will link Kempsford to Dudgrove, be upgraded to a bridleway.
 - Object to the proposed extinguishment of BKD28 and BKD34 in phases 1,2, & 3 as there will be no route from the village by the telephone box/cycleway to Starvall Lane (BKD27). The only alternative is to cross at Pope's Court Bend, which has poor visibility and dangerous with the problem of speeding. We suggest a path around the field edge from the gate opposite the telephone box to connect up with BKD27.
 - No objection to the proposed extinguishment of BKD22, 23 & 24.
 - In principle we would have no objection to the re-routing on BKD21 providing it is suitably surfaced to enable it to be walked all year round without the need for wellies. We propose that it is upgraded to a bridle-way.

The Clerk was asked to check the status of footpaths BKD25 and BKD26 as it is believed one access point of BKD26 has been developed over or incorporated in to a private garden and an extinguishment had been applied for.

- b) **Parish Litter Pick** - An annual litter pick has previously been organised by Phil Nickson in advance of the Air Tattoo. It was agreed to ask at the Annual Parish Meeting if anyone would be interested in organising this. Aggregate Industries would be happy to co-ordinate a pick with ours. It was suggested they may wish to concentrate on Washpool Lane first.
Mark Strange advised that the litter picking equipment purchased has been handed out to the resident who volunteered.
- c) **Request for vehicle weight/length restriction on Chapel Road, Kempsford** - discussed in County Councillor's Report above.
- d) **Updates from meetings attended and working groups –**
- Kempsford Village Hall – Minutes of the last meeting have been circulated by email.
 - The Quarry meeting was useful but we remain concerned about the hydrology proposals. The impression given was that if the plans don't work, additional measures could be implemented to deal with it. An updated draft Section 106 will be prepared that contains stricter and more detailed monitoring and rectification measures.
The Concrete Plant planning application is still being worked upon and the quarry are looking to improve the access from Washpool Lane.
The temporary closure which was planned for January due to some works at North End works didn't happen and will not take place in May.
 - Mark Strange attended the Annual Parochial Church Council meeting and minutes have been circulated by email. The toilet plans are progressing well.
 - Community Speedwatch and ASW Cameras - Karen Saunders and the Clerk met with the ASW Co-ordinator for Hatherop to discuss the scheme and the issues.
We are hoping the data from the Police Survey box at Whelford will be shared with us.
Data from the smiley face sign at Top Road has been downloaded and shows an average speed of 26.3 mph. It was agreed to rotate the sign back round the other direction.
 - Stephen Andrews attended the River Coln Trail Launch in March. There are sections of it that will need to be considered as part of the ongoing discussions with the MUP from Fairford to Lechlade.
 - Karen Saunders requested that the issue of litter signs can be raised at the forthcoming meeting with RAF Fairford. They have been notified and promised to pick them up but this has not been done.
 - Forthcoming RIAT Community Briefing - Clerk to find out more and confirm who is attending.
- e) **Residents reports to Councillors – None**

10. Planning, Policies and Licensing –

- **Local Plan Reg 18 Consultation** - Stephen Andrews submitted the comments in Appendix B.
- The following Tree works planning applications came in today –
 - 24/00922/TCONR Works to trees in conservation area, Kempsford Manor, Kempsford
 - 24/00920/TCONR Works to trees in relation to neighbouring house, Honeysuckle House
 It was agreed to circulate any comments by email once they have been looked at fully.

11. Finance

1. The following bills paid between meetings were approved:-

002412	Village Hall Kempsford (Donation towards maint. Bills)	£2,400.00
002413	C Nugent (mileage exp's collecting newsletters)	£33.75
002414	T Griffin (Norton software & litter picking equipment)	£35.33 inc. VAT
002415	Police & Crime Commissioner (ASW Ltrs Oct – Dec)	£91.70

The following bills were approved to be paid:-

002416	M Dyball t/a Willow Gardening (Kempsford Grass)	£280.00 inc. VAT
002417	GAPTC (membership renewal)	£281.62
002418	T Griffin (Wages & use of home)	£610.20
002419	HMRC (PAYE)	£94.20

Receipts since last meeting

Bank Interest January 2024	£66.71
VAT Reclaim for 01/04/23 – 31/03/24	£1, 144.07

2. Finance Reports – The monthly Finance Report consisting of bills to be paid, receipts received, bank reconciliation and income/expenditure vs budget was received and agreed.

3. Ear-marked Funds – It was agreed to reduce the fund held for Traffic Calming given the additions of ASW cameras and new Smiley Face VAS last year. The provision to be reduced to £3,670 which is the approximate cost of replacing a VAS and considering the age of the Reevey sign.
As discussed previously, it was agreed to create a provision for the cost of a new burial ground. The Clerk was asked to contact Down Ampney and Fairford, who have both been through the process recently, to find out more. It was agreed to ear-mark £3,000 for year ending 31st March 2024.
4. A Whelford resident has offered to paint the red telephone box at Whelford. It was agreed to purchase the red paint for it.

12. **Clerks Report –**

- Audit, payroll and financial statements for year ending 31st March 2024 have been completed and a CD sent to the Independent Auditor. The AGAR and related to be approved at the May meeting.
- Insurance quotes are being obtained ahead of the renewal date of 1st June 2024.
- Remittance for the first instalment of the Precept received today.

13. **Correspondence** – Noted and all correspondence received via email has been circulated. Magazines and literature distributed.

14. **Date of next meeting** – Annual Parish Council Meeting – 21st May 2024 at Kempsford Village Hall

Copies:- Mrs Nugent, Mr Green, Mrs Saunders, Mr Strange, Mr O’Connell, Mr Andrews, Mrs Watson CD.Cllrs, C.Cllrs.

Meeting ended at 10:20pm

Report from District Councillor Mansilla

The third council meeting of the year 2024 was held on the 20 March 2024. The main decisions made by the Cotswold District Council (CDC) were:

- (1) the approval of the recommendations outlined in the Local Partnership Report;
- (2) the authorisation of the Monitoring Officer to amend Part E2 of the Employee Code of Conduct in the Constitution;
- (3) the annotation of the decision taken by the Chief Executive under urgency powers;
- (4) the agreement to apply an Empty Homes Premium tax of: • 100% - for dwellings which are unoccupied and substantially unfurnished after 1 year up to 5 years of becoming empty; • 200% - for dwellings which are unoccupied and substantially unfurnished between 5 years and 10 years; • 300% - for dwellings which are unoccupied and substantially unfurnished for 10 years or more. The premium will commence from 1 April 2025, and all owners of second homes will receive a notice of 12 months from 1 April 2024.
- (5) the extension of the age that a care leaver can receive a reduction in their council tax from 21 years to 25 years. Full details of the event can be found at the following link: [https://meetings.cotswold.gov.uk/documents/g2135/Public reports pack 20th-Mar-2024 18.00 Council.pdf?T=10](https://meetings.cotswold.gov.uk/documents/g2135/Public%20reports%20pack%2020th-Mar-2024%2018.00%20Council.pdf?T=10)

Other Matters

Net Zero

a. Community bike stands In Jan 2024, Cllr Mansilla in collaboration with The Trout Inn and Life Cycle installed four bike stands at the Trout Inn. Additional stands will hopefully be installed at the Lakes at Yoo kitchen/bar car park. Other sites were contacted but not further sites have been confirmed to date.

Flooding & Sewage

a. WASP Planning for Sewage Seminar In April 2024, Cllr Mansilla attended the Planning for Sewage seminar organised by Wasp where points around the impact of insufficient sewage works or pipework in new housing developments were discussed.

b. Manor Farm Quarry In March 2024, Cllr Mansilla attended the liaison meeting organised by Aggregate Industries UK where drainage related to the quarry and other matters were discussed.

Funding

a. Community Ownership Fund Funding is available to buy or renew venues and meeting spaces used by the local community e.g. shops, post office buildings, that are at risk of being lost to the community from e.g. unsustainable current business model, being for sale, etc. Applications to be submitted by the 10 April 2024 or in late May 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/community-ownership-fund-round-4-how-to-express-your-interest-in-applying>

b. Community Green Spaces Fund Funding of up to £75k is available to help communities to: • plant fruits, vegetables and trees, creating orchards and kitchen gardens for all to access and enjoy; • landscaping projects to create raised beds and plant flowers around village hall facilities and other community green spaces; • expand play facilities to encourage children to spend more time outdoors; • improve access to green spaces e.g. new paths and seating and to improve disabled access to such spaces by creating disabled parking spaces. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/rural-community-green-spaces-to-be-rejuvenated-through-new-government-investment>

Planning

a. The Round House A site visit has been scheduled. The next steps will be reviewed once that the visit has been completed.

b. Lakes by Yoo Leisure Facility This month's meeting has been cancelled. The next meeting will take place on 14 May 2024 at The Lakes.

Future Meetings

The next full Council meeting will be held on Wednesday, 15 May, 2024, at 6.00 pm.

Feedback

Please do let me know if there are particular matters/subjects which you would like to see included in my updates. Moreover, please do get in touch if there are any queries arising out of this report. My email is: helene.mansilla@cotswold.gov.uk

Local Plan Update: Regulation 18 Consultation – comments submitted

- Policy CC6: Water Management Infrastructure
 - Regular tankering at the Kempsford and Whelford pumping stations is indicative of the requirement to upgrade relevant work associated with the Kempsford STW before any further development is consented in the Parish.
- Policy DS4: Market Housing outside Principle and Non-Principal Settlements
 - Since the 1970's, Kempsford has periodically grown by 20-30 houses. This has contributed to the continued vibrancy of the village and the retention of key aspects of village life, such as the Primary School.
 - Noting that Policy DS3 *may* allow exceptions that would allow this to continue, should/can specific reference be made either as part of DS3 or H3 to the need for a current evidence based Housing Needs Assessment (rather than Survey) to support the case for any further development.
- Policy EC2:
 - EES29 Map 12 – There would seem to be no justification for reducing this allocation. Kempsford Parish Council wishes to ensure the retention of local employment sites that are close to the Parish.
- Policy EN3: Local Green Space.
 - The Kempsford Playing Field (centred upon SU 15483 971 13) should be designated as Local Green Space
- Policy INF1: Strategic Infrastructure Delivery – South Cotswold. The following should be noted:
 - Junction improvement at A417/Whelford Road junction - why? This may be justified for improved access to the adjacent employment site (EES28) but otherwise would encourage the inappropriate use of the C124 by heavy vehicles. [Comment: I suspect that it is a hangover from a time when there was an idea that the C124 would be developed into a "spine road" with land also protected for a Fairford bypass.]
 - Sport and Recreation – Re-use of the former Severn-Thames Canal route for cycling, linking Lechlade to the Cotswold Water Park via Kempsford.
- In addition, the following points should be included in respect of Kempsford:
 - Improvements to the provision of footpath and cycle links between Kempsford and both Fairford and Lechlade, the Cotswold Water Park and canal route, in particular the provision of a bridleway between Ham Lane and Dudgrove Lane in order to connect Kempsford with the Severn Thames Way, to be provided through negotiation of footpath re-routing with local landowners and as part of the Restoration Plan for the Kempsford Quarry;
 - The retention of reserved rights of way lost to the development of RAF Fairford, to be restored as rights of way should RAF Fairford close;
 - The provision of suitable land for allotments; and
 - The provision of suitable land for a burial ground.