



Kemble and Ewen Parish Council: Minutes

Meeting of Kemble and Ewen parish council was held on: **Friday 15 April 2011 at 7.30pm**

in: Kemble Village Hall

Present: Councillor D Ball, Vice-Chairman Councillor W Cole
Councillor S Sorabjee Councillor G Somerville
Councillor S Lawlor Councillor G Collins
Councillor R Pettit Councillor M Binks

Apologies: Councillor L Napper District Councillor J Birch

In attendance: F Garnet-Lawson, clerk
Visitors: N. Smith; A. Mant; P Waldron; T. Barrow

0. Cemetery Bench:

Agreed that Mr Smith could place a hardwood bench in Kemble cemetery, to the left of the gate by the wall. Bench to be securely fastened to the floor. Smith family to maintain. MR smith to contact clerk when bench purchased to that can agree exact location.

'Keep Kemble a village'

Campaigners outlined draft proposals from Kemble Farms Ltd for revised plan at Top farm – for a nursing home and housing as a result of a meeting they had with C. Rank. Nursing home replaces live-work unit idea. This group retains its objections to any housing development on this site, of any scale, primarily because it would be greenfield development and would be 'thin end of the edge' for larger developments in due course.

KEPC noted the discussion, but until formal planning proposal is submitted, there is little to go on at present.

1. **Apologies for absence:** see above

2. **Declarations of interest on items on the agenda:**

David Ball – Top Farm (to leave meeting after AOB and not take part in discussion by KEPC); S. Sorabjee and G. Collins to take part in discussion but not permitted to vote.

3. **Approval of minutes from previous meeting:** Minutes for March 2011 were approved

4. **Matters arising**

- a. Windmill Road bus shelter proposal – GS presented proposal and process for different builder to undertake the work. Agreed that she would get firmer detailed quote for wood from timber yard, and for construction. GS
- b. Clayfurlong-to-Station permissive path (station end)– Glos Highways has installed bollards without consultation with KEPC (which had asked for rails). GS to raise issue with Chris Franklin. GS
- c. Clayfurlong-to-Station permissive path (playground end) – DB to add white line in order to encourage access to path to be left clear. DB
- d. Station Road S106 ideas – clerk pursuing correct date for deadline with CDC. M

Kitchen and S Gargett currently out of the office.

- e. Agenda for parish meeting 6 May – Chris Conners has agreed to be guest speaker; Shaun Parsons has confirmed attendance; J Birch will be present subject to election result 5 May. Agenda approved
- f. .Kemble Village Hall is holding its AGM at the start of this meeting.

5. FINANCE

- a. The Schedule of accounts for payment was approved unanimously.
- b. Council approved the end of year accounts and description of variances; and completed and signed off the External Annual Audit forms. Clerk instructed to send completed forms to the external auditor.
- c. Clerk reported that the internal audit by P. Newman had been completed successfully, and that the statutory notice for the inspection of accounts by residents had been posted on notice boards as required.
- d. Clerk reported that the end of year tax statement and report had been sent to HMRC online and p60s issued to staff.
- e. Backup disc of the year's files given to GC for data security.

6. Local elections

- a. Clerk reported that the elections for the KEPC has been uncontested. All those councillors who have stood for re-election are therefore elected unopposed. ie D Ball, S Sorabjee, R Pettit, G Collins; M Binks, L. Napper. New member Amy Dike has also been elected as a new parish councillor and will officially join at the next KEPC meeting ie AGM on 20 May 2011. clerk
- b. This means that there will be 2 vacancies on the parish council from May.
- c. The chairman and all the councillors thanked departing members W. Cole, S. Lawlor and G. Somerville for their help, contributions and participation in the work of the council and community over the past few years.

7. PLANNING

- **Application:** 11/01062/FUL Morning Dew – no objection clerk
- **Application:** 11/01341/FUL 178 Malmesbury Road, Kemble – no objection
- Street trader licence renewal - clerk to seek more detail on location.

8. REPORTS

Neighbourhood Watch/policing: WC reported that local communities now expected to take on more of this activity themselves as a consequence of the budget cuts.

KCG Community gardens/allotments: going as well as can be expected during the current period of change and uncertainty over the site lease.

KEPC agreed to ask for an extension to the lease later this year.

Bring forward to June or Sept meeting

Kemble Village Hall: no report.

Highways/traffic:- bring forward

Airfield Liaison no report. No news about Kemble Business park warehousing plan or solar array.

Youth Club: Still very popular and still needs more adult volunteers.

Playing field and play area: Vandalism at site increased in nice weather, including fires. Has been reported to Neighbourhood watch, and in turn to the police.

9. AOB

- Request for shorter meetings.
- GC reported that he had attended the 'Right to Buy' presentation. Reported that this and the Localism Bill were actually a way to encourage development, and that 'permission' rather than refusal; was the default position. Suggested that KEPC prepared an updated Neighbourhood Plan and conducted residents' questionnaire in due course. This Bill does not aid KEPC in potential purchase of Old Manor Gardens community gardens site.
- Airport complaints procedure – clerk to raise up list of priorities.

10. Top Farm

Noted that the latest set of proposals still involve the entire original 10 acre site. The inclusion of a nursing home may be aimed at addressing the need to 'sustainability', although it was doubtful how much employment would be from within the parish. Still an extensive number of new (large) homes proposed. Concern expressed that the farm may, in due course, want to extend development as far as the current equestrian centre.

Extensive debate about the need to have a vibrant village community with a mix of ages and households, against the worry that it will make a more 'sub-urban' or commuter environment in which residents take little active part in village life. Whilst there have been many letters against the proposal, not all were totally against any development. However, none supported the proposal in its present scale.

Recognised the need to take public opinion into account, but aware that there is always a vocal minority and that some sections of the community have not really taken part in the debate even though over 100 people took part in the last meeting (which probably represents about a third to a quarter of all households).

Finally agreed to ask for an update meeting with Kemble Farms, to find out current position and to express concerns. The KEPC representatives would have been some or all of R Pettit, L Napper and M Binks due to conflicts of interests at varying levels by the remaining councillors.

Meeting adjourned at 11.20 pm.

Next meetings:

May 2011 Friday 6th Public Parish Meeting for all residents at 7.00pm

Friday 20th Parish Council AGM - for election of officers, approval of accounts etc

Friday 8 **July** 2011 – 7.30pm

There is no meeting in June or August