

Minutes

Kemble & Ewen Parish Council



Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on **Monday 28 November 2011** at 7.30pm in Kemble Village Hall.

Present: Parish Councillors – R Pettit (chairman), D Ball, A Dyke, S Sorabjee, G Collins, M Binks, L Napper, G Somerville

Clerk: N Spindler

Public: 4 members of the public

To hear any contributions from local residents before the meeting begins

The chair of the village hall presented recently drawn up plans for an extension to the rear of the existing hall, as there is currently no smaller room to hire in the villages. Storage is also inadequate. A usable space of 18 feet by 15 feet would result, along with a kitchen area, disabled toilet and lockable storage. This would increase income and make a more versatile offering for potential users. The design is of an oak framed appearance with largely glazed rear aspect. Although the hall's finances are sound, and costs are covered by hire charges, a project of this scale would have to be considered as an aim over time.

The council appreciated the presentation and the design, and noted the aspiration that would be considered alongside other submissions for a S106 grant in the event that the Top Farm proposal proceeds (see item 5a. below).

1. To accept any apologies for absence

District Councillor John Birch had sent his apologies. He wanted to highlight that Kemble and Ewen rubbish collections are not affected by the seasonal changes recently circulated.

2. To receive any declarations of interest

Cllrs. Ball Collins and Sorabjee on item 5a. Cllrs. Dyke, Napper and Somerville on 4f.

3. To approve the minutes of the last regular council meeting of 14 October 2011 and the additional meeting of 8 November 2011

14 Oct – Proposed Cllr Binks, seconded Cllr Napper, approved and signed as a true record.

8 Nov – Proposed Cllr Binks, seconded Cllr Somerville, approved and signed as a true record.

4. Matters arising from previous meetings:

- a. **Bus shelter in Windmill Road** – GS reported that after a delay due to holidays the suppliers, the Oak Frame Carpentry Co Ltd., they could proceed on receipt of a letter from the clerk. GS could get Chris Frankland to re-lay the foundations if necessary.

- No deposit required by supplier. ACTION, NS
- b. **Car Parking in Station Road and 'hockey sticks' and**
 - c. **Car parking in Windmill Road and meeting with Highways** - GS said some of the new lines had been incorrectly painted, partly because cars had been parked in the way, and partly because the preparation markers had washed away in the rain. Some adjustments were needed where lines were too close to junctions, and a new H-shaped line would be required by a new drop-kerb where West Hay Grove footpath meets Station Road. It was agreed that early signs were that the scheme was working. It was also reported that a resident near Kemble station had been told that a yellow line was likely to be placed by the electricity sub-station near the railway bridge. For Windmill Road, the Highways dept will install posts to prevent driving on the verge if the Parish Council buys four posts at a total cost of £112+ VAT. Proposed Cllr Napper, seconded Cllr Collins, and carried. ACTION, GS
 - d. **Notice Board** – RP had a recent letter from Seager Joinery requesting a £500 deposit for supply of a new notice board for outside Kemble village stores. Agreed to raise cheque subject to receipt of a VAT invoice. Proposed Cllr Ball, seconded, Cllr Collins. ACTION, Clerk to request invoice.
 - e. **S 106 – further quotes for reinforced play wall** – DB read out three quotes for construction of a 7m wide by 2.5m high play wall with a 7m x 7m tarmac flooring area, with edging. The quotes were £6747, £8200, and £7140. After much debate on cost and desirability, in which it was noted that funds of this magnitude had been set aside from the Station Road development around four and a half years ago for such a purpose. Cllr Dyke said she had seen these at several play areas in Taunton on a recent trip. It was concluded that the quotes were probably realistic as three were in the same range, that safety must be paramount, and that further enquiries on options should be made. Cllr Dyke offered to do this. ACTION – AD to review options, Clerk to provide brochures and magazine adverts from recent Parish Clerk journals.
 - f. **Renewal of Community Gardens lease** – RP reported that a new lease proposal on broadly similar lines for a further two years had been received from CDC, with no obligation to renew. It required at least two signatures. ACTION – RP, DB and GC.
 - g. **Parish Clerk new appointment wef 1 November 2011** – RP confirmed that Nick Spindler had been appointed and this was his first full PC meeting. He had already attended two additional meetings this month, had followed-up the resulting actions, and had settled in well.
 - h. **Kemble station garden improvement costings** – RP had heard from the lady with the garden layout plans, costed at £45,000 and she had secured Cotswolds MP, G Clifton-Brown's support in approaching First Great Western to allocate funds from its grant for improvements. It would not require financial support from our Parish Council. ACTION, RP to check progress with GC-B.
 - i. **Ewen Electricity Sub Station** – SS has spoken to the distribution company's area engineer who has said work will start near The Timbrells, Ewen, in the beginning of 2012, following which, after a period, the existing equipment and pylons will be removed. As this had been under consideration for nine years, it was felt that any date might not be entirely certain.

5. Planning matters

- a. **Top Farm proposed residential development comprising 43 new dwellings and 34 extra care units – update from sub committee on actions and meeting with CDC and Hunter Page.**

RP said he and NS had met CDC and circulated a note. As this had only gone to the sub committee it would be circulated to the whole Council. ACTION, Clerk (completed 28.11.11). RP felt this had opened up genuine communication channels. The Case Officer can recommend refusal in line with guidance without full committee, or acceptance, which would require submission to Planning Committee.

The meeting with HP had come first, and covered detailed aspects of the scheme, including access to Old Vicarage Lane (OVL), which has now been revised and egress from the proposed development ends with a turning area, not entry into OVL. Traffic calming is also revised with texture and colour changes to the A429, and additional gateway features on the other access routes to the villages, matching those on the main road.

There had been a late upsurge in correspondence about the overall proposals, and the CDC had 102 letters so far. The PC's survey was part complete and indicated an overwhelming rejection so far. There was some debate about archaeological digs during other developments nearby, and it was concluded trenches had been dug prior to the outline submission.

RP anticipated that recently filed changes would delay the consultation deadline, but as of today this remained at 1 December (*N.B. this was later amended by CDC to 12 December*).

b. Other planning items

Application: [11/04326/FUL](#) - Noted

Ward: Thames Head

Date decided: 28 October 2011

Decision: Application Permit

Location: 10 The Oaks, Kemble, Cirencester, Gloucestershire, GL7 6BH

Proposal: Insertion of dormer to front and additional rooflight to rear

Application: [11/04837/FUL](#) - Objection lodged

Ward: Thames Head

Date: 07 November 2011

Location: Jackaments Bottom Farm, Tetbury Road, Cirencester, Gloucestershire, GL7 6PJ,

Proposal: Change of use from workshop/storage/office to dwelling

Application: [11/03325/FUL](#) and **Application: [11/03329/LBC](#) - Noted**

Ward: Thames Head

Date decided: 09 November 2011

Decision: Application Refused

Location: Ewen Manor, Main Street, Ewen, Kemble, CIRENCESTER, Gloucestershire, GL7 6BX

Proposal: Conversion of attic space over drawing room and dining room with installation of dormer window, windows and rooflights

Application: [11/04665/ADV](#) – responded to as below

Ward: Thames Head

Date: 10 November 2011

Location: Wild Duck Inn, Main Street, Ewen, Kemble, CIRENCESTER, Gloucestershire, GL7 6BY

Proposal: Erection of two signs

"In general the Parish Council wishes to support the success of local business and, in principle, is not opposed to the proposal. However the site is prominent and it is considered that a single sign, carefully and appropriately designed, sensitive to the location, and of smaller scale would produce the desired result while avoiding significant detriment to the general environment."

6. **Update and items for Business Plan & Budget 2011-12** - GS said he had not had many suggestions so far, so RP read from the 14 October minutes where various topics were raised in GC's absence. In addition GC mentioned the cemetery was running out of space, which might be captured under the previous S106 discussion, and the desire from Kemble Community Gardens members to acquire land currently occupied to limit further development would be considered.

GC asked NS to advise him about the precept submission deadline (*later confirmed as 27 January 2012*).

7. **Finance – to receive and approve accounts for cheque payment** – Approved with the addition of the £500 to Seager Joinery per item 4d. Proposed Cllr Sorabjee, seconded Cllr Binks, and carried.

8. **Any other business subject to the Chairman's approval**

A recent email had been circulated to Cllrs about a possible **Sainsbury's Sport Relief fun run** in our villages, as a number of these will take place nationwide on Sunday 25th March 2012, when hundreds of thousands of people will come together to walk, jog or run 1, 3 or 6 miles. It would require volunteers to organize. ACTION, MB to provide Cirencester AC contact, Clerk to enquire further about nearby events.

GC asked if there was scope to waive the **cemetery fee** for special cases, in particular the death of a day-old baby. Agreed that discretion was available to the councillor responsible.

LN reported contact with a **Network Rail Community Relations** people in Swindon, over recent late-night noise when sidings were being dug up. This contact would be useful going forwards with the track-widening scheme. LN believes the yard between Kemble and Kemble Wick will be used during those works.

DB mentioned news reports about war memorial **metalwork thefts**, and did the PC have suitable records? GC said we have photographs and a typed list, and there are plans to have a national register by 2014. RP added that the items are insured too.

RP mentioned he had two calls about **dog mess** on pavements near Clayfurlong. Other Cllrs had seen a loose dog in Windmill Road. If necessary this would be reported to the CDC dog warden. ACTION, RP