



## **Kemble & Ewen Parish Council**

Minutes of an additional meeting of the Parish Council held on  
**Friday 23 November 2012 at 7.30pm in Kemble Village Hall**

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

Clerk: N Spindler

Two members of the public.

There were no contributions from local residents before the meeting began

- 1. Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Dyke**
- 2. There were no declarations of interest**
- 3. To meet and ask questions of candidates for the vacant Councillor position**

Two candidates were able to attend, Jeff Brown and Angela Gurney, and the chairman welcomed them and asked them to summarise their interests and background. Councillors then asked some further questions and the chairman thanked them for attending after inviting any questions from them both.

Cllrs discussed the options for voting at the next meeting to ensure a clear majority could be determined. The clerk explained that advice received from GAPTC and SLCC has been contradictory (one had suggested a ballot was possible by resolution, the other that a show of hands or written record was required by statute). **ACTION** – Clerk to pursue further and advise

#### **4. Finance matters**

GC highlighted the higher than planned expenditure, as set out in estimates circulated in advance by the clerk. Legal and expert advice fees incurred in the Top Farm appeal and the Cotswold Airport plans set before Wiltshire Council were the principle cause.

The clerk reported that he was awaiting the third quote on playground repairs from RSS Playmakers.

After discussion of priorities, it was agreed that the following items on the Business Plan would not be carried out in this business year:

- Road Safety                    £ 300
- Pedestrian Access        £2000
- Thames Path Signage £ 300
- Website                        £ 500

Initial thoughts about next year's precept were discussed, with a possible increase after 5 or more years of being held at £18,000 as this would restore reserves over time. A VAT reclaim could yield c £4k and the clerk will ACTION this.

The schedule of cheques was approved for payment and duly signed by two signatories.

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

MB said he had attended the Top Farm inquiry that had resumed on Monday. He thought the Council's expert witness and the chairman had given very good accounts. RP thanked him and said the inquiry chairman was on track to conclude next week.

The meeting ended at 9.15pm