

## Kemble and Ewen Parish Council: Minutes

*A Meeting of Kemble and Ewen parish council was held on:*  
**Monday 23rd April 2012 at 7.45pm in Kemble Village Hall.**

This was an **additional meeting** to consider the Council's approach to the appeal hearing in relation to the proposed residential development at Top Farm, West Lane, Kemble, and the issue of advice to residents on possible further actions they may take.



Present: Councillor R Pettit (Chairman)  
Councillor M Binks  
Councillor A Dyke  
Councillor L Napper  
Councillor G Somerville

Apologies: Councillor S Sorabjee  
Councillor D Ball  
Councillor G Collins

Visitors: 7

- 1. Apologies for absence: see above. These Councillors absent because of a declared interest.**
- 2. Declarations of interest: none**
- 3. To discuss and agree how the council should approach the appeal:**
  - a) Report from Chairman on how things had proceeded since the last council meeting: Firstly, he was disappointed to say that the meeting with the planning officer that District Councillor John Birch said he would set up had not taken place. Secondly, Rob Eaton had replaced the original planning officer, Deborah Smith, and there had been no response from him to requests for a meeting. Thirdly, after a phone call to Deborah Smith he had confirmed that that the parish could have an input into the S106 recommendation that will be put to the appeal inquiry.
  - b) The Chairman then put forward his recommendations which were:**
    - That the council should write to request "Rule 6" status at the Inquiry for three reasons. Firstly, to represent the views of the parish as expressed in the parish survey of opinions on the proposed development. Secondly, because the very recent Localism Act allows a parish to prepare a Local Plan which we have not yet been able to do and which the application proposal forestalls. Thirdly, so we can inform the Inquiry of our actual housing stock and needs.

4. That we give out to residents a letter explaining the council's views and a second letter which they can sign and send to the Planning Inspectorate or hand to the parish council who will deliver it by hand.

Following discussion the formal meeting was adjourned.

**Open discussion between council and visitors, summary of main points:**

- Can we slow down the process so that we aren't at the front of the 'queue' in planning decisions? No legal grounds for challenging appeal. There is nothing wrong. It needs to be remembered that Inquiry is based on the old planning rules. The Localism Act hasn't set up a new system.
- Hunter Page has appealed against the non-determination of the original planning permission. Included in this is a reference to the CDC not fulfilling its quota of a 5-year building land supply. How do they know this? The five-year land supply for housing is nearly full for the CDC. Top Farm cannot be included in this as it isn't a suitable location and it's not ready for development, now.
- We need to make some 'noise' to make people aware of the issue and concerns. Need to contact the local paper. It was thought a good idea to contact the CDC Chair and the CDC Chief Executive.
- Affordable housing issue – 50% of the site is now proposed for this. The village doesn't need that amount of affordable housing. We have modest needs in that regards. Small developments on infill sites would do the job.
- The need for legal advice. Where can we get help that isn't too expensive? Suggestions made.
- What help will be needed to give out letters to parishioners? Visitors volunteered to help with this.

In conclusion the council agreed to go forward with the Chairman's recommendations in 3b) above and to act on points highlighted in 4.

Meeting Finished at 9.20 pm. Minutes LN