



Kemble & Ewen Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on **Friday 12 April 2013** **at 7.30pm in Kemble Village Hall.**

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

Clerk: N Spindler

District Councillor: John Birch

To hear any contributions from local residents before the meeting begins:-

Five boys from the village attended the meeting at Cllr Dyke's invitation to explain their idea for an extension to the skate park with newer apparatus - known as a half-pipe, of up to 10 metres in length. They were considering a wide-range of fundraising activities, including coffee morning, car boot sales, bag packing at Waitrose or Tesco, a grant from the National Lottery or Children in Need community sources. They had their parents' support and had researched the options very thoroughly. Although it was highly ambitious the Council congratulated them on their enthusiasm and their skilful presentation. Their preferred supplier is rampmental.co.uk whose indicative quote is £30,000 inc. VAT. (Subsequently, we find that Rampmental are RoSPA registered members, CRB checked and based in Telford) They left us quotes from three other suppliers and 12 signatures of support. The Council was happy to support them with applications and initiatives where possible, and to consider a grant of up to £1000 in due course, possibly as matched fundraising.

Cllr Ball, in his private capacity as Farm Manager and Director of Kemble Farms Ltd updated the Council on recent reports about the sale of shares by family members. The facts are that all the current family shareholders have jointly agreed to place their personal shareholdings with an agent for potential sale. He anticipates this could be to a wealthy individual or an investment consortium. It is very much a working commercial farm, not a 'country pile' to exploit. Cllr Birch and all members expressed the sincere wish the farm's support for the village shop in particular should be protected, as it is a very valuable resource both for the Parish and the wider community. RP acknowledged the longstanding contribution to the village made by many generations of the farm's owners and very much hoped this would remain a feature of any new ownership, along with protection for the numerous residents who rely on the farm for employment and housing. All agreed that the various areas where the farm is integral to village life, such as the rental of the Playing Field and village shop, should be kept under review in the coming weeks and months.

Cllr Birch reported:-

On various planning matters: The 430 Building at the airport was objected to by a nearby resident as it was a nine-fold increase in size, but was nevertheless approved; the extra 10 spaces at the station can be completed without disturbing the platform; the refurbished and improved railway toilets are complete; the station garden redesign is also completed and awaiting planting. The railway water tower is not as simple as it should be; in law CDC can only ask the owners to renovate, and the CDC will not buy it. RP noted that as a non-operational asset the responsibility apparently moves to the Railway Heritage Trust. JB agreed that the community wishes to see the tower restored. [See further items below under 5. Planning, about Stanmore House and 41 Clayfurlong Grove].

1. **No absences.**
2. **Declarations of interest re 5a from DB, GC and SS.**
3. **The minutes of the meeting held on 15 March 2013 were approved and duly signed.**
4. **Matters arising from previous meetings:**
 - a. Highways report inc. commuter parking update – next meeting at Highways on the parking plan is 25 April and they will update us. Meanwhile it was agreed to summarise latest position and chain of events in the Annual Report in view of village interest and irritation caused. ACTION:- GS to report faulty 40mph electric sign on airport side of A429 to Highways.
 - b. Kemble Station
 - Update on Network Rail's line-doubling – LN reports Council should choose a date to meet NWR in June, perhaps at lunchtime as they are easier to arrange.
 - Update on contact with Conservation Officer – RP says JB is pursuing water tower works as reported above.
 - c. Neighbourhood Watch/ 'Our Watch' report – LN reports Paul Waldron chaired last meeting on 10 April. Increase in break-ins and thefts around Station Road, Old Manor Gardens, West Hay Grove and Windmill Road was very concerning. Council hears individual reports that thefts from a garage and van occurred on a Friday and by the following Monday a Police letter says case dropped – all agreed unacceptable. Also concerns about how to warn residents when reports via NHW are sporadic. Agreed RP to take up with Chief Constable or P&CC, as nuisance parking was less worrying than local undetected crime.
 - d. Review of Speedwatch applications received – now have 6 names. ACTION: NS to write to each to ensure still interested, then update Police.
 - e. Update on playground repairs – ACTION: NS to chase repairs having delayed annual inspection. Also noted that replacement zip wire seat has been chewed by dog(s). MB to alert dog warden and ask them to visit in the afternoon.
 - f. Update on extending Skate Park – covered at start of meeting, with invitation for an update in a couple of months.
 - g. Youth Funding – GC reports this has been resolved.
 - h. Extension of mowing contract to cover entrance to village – ACTION: NS to confirm if the additional £15 is for both sides of road – if so, then go ahead.
 - i. Invitations for speakers at Parish Meeting – Agreed to invite Shaun Parsons, County Councillor; Martin Surl, Police and Crime Commissioner; John Birch, District Councillor; Andrew McIntyre, Chair of Kemble School Governors.

5. **Planning matters**

a. Top Farm

Summary of feedback on plans at Smerrill Dairy site – RP confirmed he had sent written feedback to the planner, as agreed at the last meeting.

b. Other planning items – ALL

13/01158/FUL

Date: 26 March 2013

Location: 41 Clayfurlong Grove, Kemble, CIRENCESTER, GL7 6AS

Proposal: Sub-division of property to create an additional dwelling. Retrospective permission for deviations made to extensions permitted under 11/03671/FUL

DECISION: Subject to finishing the painting of the extension (previously a feature of an earlier permission) as a priority, regularising the use of the verge owned by Highways, and seeking proper permissions and installing drop curbs for access to driveways, this would be **supported**.

Revised plans for Stanmore House were recently received, after the Planning Officer was not keen on the scale of the previous plan, despite the PC's support. JB explained he might seek committee approval as the new property proposal was completely in keeping with the surroundings.

Regarding the proposed tree works at Stoneleigh, the Council wishes to ask the planning officer if this merits a visit by the Tree Officer, as the willow is a particularly magnificent specimen.

ACTION: Clerk to write to CDC.

Planning Decisions for Information only

Application: [13/00063/LBC](#)

Date decided: 12 March 2013

Decision: Application Permit

Location: Kemble Railway Station, Windmill Road, Kemble, GL7 6AW

Proposal: Amendment to refurbishment of station toilets (12/03664/LBC) for provision of accessible WC

Application: [12/04629/FUL](#)

Date decided: 13 March 2013

Decision: Application Permit

Location: Building 430, Kemble Airfield, Kemble, Gloucestershire

Proposal: Single storey extension (Use Class B1) to commercial unit and associated works including revised parking layout

Application: [13/00298/FUL](#)

Date decided: 19 March 2013

Decision: Application Permit

Location: The Byre, Mill Farm, Main Street, Ewen, Kemble, Cirencester, Gloucestershire, GL7 6BT,

Proposal: Proposed side extension

Application: [13/00299/LBC](#)

Date decided: 19 March 2013

Decision: Application Permit

Location: The Byre, Mill Farm, Main Street, Ewen, Kemble, Cirencester, Gloucestershire, GL7 6BT,

Proposal: Proposed side extension

6. Finance matters - ALL

- a. Receive and approve items for cheque payment – agreed and cheques signed. MB reminded NS that Parish Magazine donation of £100 is due.
- b. Agree Business Plan items for 2013-14 budget following Precept submission of £20,000 – agreed after feedback from various members.
- c. Noted that Peter Newman, as Independent Internal Auditor, is attending on 22 April.
- d. Update on future of Kemble Community Gardens, following meeting with CDC about longer-term use – further meeting anticipated in near future, as planning officer will brief District Council officials on the PC's wish to acquire the freehold. First choice is for PC to be offered the freehold

7. Any other business subject to the Chairman's approval

- a. Road repairs where burnt out car was at Parkers Bridge, Ewen – ACTION: GS to advise Highways on repairs needed.
- b. MB has cleaned off graffiti from Ewen bus shelter noticeboard.
- c. Community Emergency Plan – ES is working on this and suggested neighbouring villages are asked what their plans are, as may be beneficial to co-ordinate. ACTION: Clerk to enquire.
- d. SS reported nothing to update from recent Airfield Liaison meeting. He eventually was thanked for pursuing the recent helicopter complaint – they were going North not South. The new airport manager is being helpful. The first F1 test this season will be on 30 April.