



Kemble & Ewen Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council on Friday 20 March 2015 at 7.30pm in Kemble Village Hall

Present: Parish Councillors – Roger Pettit (Chairman), David Ball, Michael Binks, George Collins, Lester Napper, Eric Silk, Sohrab Sorabjee.

Clerk - Nick Spindler

District Councillor - John Birch

Three members of the public – Tom Alston re the Airport development proposal; Tony Berry who recently moved to Kemble; and resident John Hadfield.

To hear any contributions from local residents before the meeting begins.

TB introduced himself as the prospective Conservative candidate for District Councillor for the new ward of Kemble. This replaces the Thames Head ward currently overseen by John Birch. TA is present to hear the PC's comments on the airport development proposal submitted to the CDC, and to note any questions which he will take away. A 'vision document' has been provided to the Chairman and will be circulated, plus there is a kembleairfield.com website with more details freely accessible.

JH had nothing specific to speak about.

1. **There were no apologies for absence** (LN had apologised in advance for arriving late)
2. **There were no declarations of interest**
3. **The minutes of the meeting held on 13 February 2015 were approved after a correction to the spelling of a name, and duly signed by the Chairman**
4. **Matters arising from previous meetings:**
 - a. Highways – update on Highways meeting with Richard Gray – RP had met RG and agreed a list of priorities:- the A429, Ewen, Windmill Road – for repairs. He proposes to meet us again in early April once his budget is in place. We have had notice that the Smerrill Road will close for repairs already. CC Shaun Parsons has agreed to chip in from his special budget to help with repairs to Windmill Road. RP felt this was a promising step forward.
 - b. Trees on A429 update – RP has examined these with a contractor, Keith Harrison, and proposes removing the 4 defective trees, clear the top right-hand side near the bridge where the ash trees were removed by Glos Highways, grind down the stumps, replace 3 of the 4 trees and seed the cleared area. KH estimates a cost of £2,500, plus for road safety, traffic light hire at £396.64/week, so we should budget for £3,000 plus VAT, plus grass seed and the tree purchase. Approved, and agreed Rowan (mountain ash) is a suitable tree, with DB to email other suggestions. Dr Fletcher has offered to pay for an additional tree near his house in The Oaks, which was accepted.
 - c. Kemble Station parking update – RP had sent an email to the PA to the CEO of First Great Western about the *Standard's* campaign. They replied that the application for 330 spaces was imminent, but CDC had not processed it swiftly, and they hope we will support the scheme. It is 180 spaces more than we need, but allows for growth in numbers.
 - d. Railway bridge protection/preservation update – LN had a reply about the railing on the main road bridge which installed were for safety concerns, but there are no plans for any

- on the humped-back bridge on Station Road. LN to let Network Rail contact know we want to the humped bridge listed, and then proceed with that.
- e. Defibrillators update (3rd device installed) – ES confirmed the third device is now installed at The Tavern, and thanks are recorded for landlords Phil and Ann for being so helpful, and to the Defib team for their efforts. Item closed.
 - f. Neighbourhood Watch/ 'Our Watch' report – LN advises no meeting since February, and next one is in April. MB mentioned the Speedwatch team will be in action this coming Friday.
 - g. Update on repeat of First Aid training from St Johns – NS has been in contact with some residents and George Tarte of St Johns, the area training coordinator. He is aiming for a Wednesday afternoon as the Village Hall is usually free. No day/date will be ideal for everyone, but this should suit many.
 - h. Co-option update (two Councillor Vacancies) – RP has spoken to Carol Dougill and she would be pleased to join. This had unanimous support, and as elections are imminent it was agreed she should receive the formal nomination pack.
 - i. Decide whether to use new supplier for playground annual checks/inspections – having reviewed the better service offered of three quarterly visits as well as the formal Annual inspection, it was agreed to switch to the new supplier recommended by insurance brokers Came & Co., namely The Play Inspection Company, of Ferndown, Dorset, at a cost of £195 per annum. NS to action.

5. Planning items - All

a. Discuss and agree response to planning committee on Bovis Homes/Top Farm 'reserved matters' proposals, following public consultation [Proposal: Erection of 50 dwellings (Reserved Matters details relating to Appearance, Layout, Landscaping and Scale of residential development approved under permission 11/04236/OUT)] due to CDC Planning committee being delayed from March to April since the last meeting.

The agreed response has been submitted to CDC and RP and JB will divide up the actions to be covered at the Planning Committee on 8 April. Rob Stroud from Bovis came to see the PC a while back and has sent RP a fully updated set of plans. RP reverted with the Council's comments and we will endeavour to meet him his coming week [subsequently held on 25 March in Village Hall].

b. Neighbourhood Planning update – ES reported that Pat Ayres has expressed an interest in learning more and he will contact her. On 25th March there is the GRCC meeting at Brockworth which he and GC are attending. RP acknowledged John Hadfield's interest in contributing further and they will talk again.

c. Details of new planning applications:-

1. Cotswold Airport/Kemble Airfield proposal for 2000 homes – details not formally advised by CDC but now in the public domain.
RP said the Council could have a specific meeting on this topic with TA's colleagues, as their position is that the proposal has been submitted to CDC for inclusion in the Local Plan. As the CDC is at the review stage they 'could' include it, but there seems to be some reluctance on their part. These seem to be fairly long-term plans. GC said he thought it would be worth further discussion.
2. Ref. No: 15/01069/TCONR - Works to trees in conservation areas for T.1 - Holm Oak - fell; T.2 - Yew - fell; T.3 - Yew - crown lift all round leaving clear stem to 5m height at 157 Church Road, Kemble, Cirencester, Gloucestershire GL7 6AA
No comment required.

Planning DECISIONS made by CDC. for information.

Application: 14/05111/FUL

Date decided: 9 March 2015

Decision: Application Permit

Location: 1 West Hay Grove, Kemble

Proposal: Erection of single storey side extension and erection of 2 metre high wall (wall elevation

revised)

Application: 14/05397/FUL
Date decided: 13 February 2015
Decision: Application Permit
Location: Collingwood Cottage, Ewen
Proposal: Erection of single storey side extension

Application: 15/00528/TCONR
Date decided: 6 Feb 2015
Decision: Application Permit
Location: The Old Forge Church Road, Kemble, Cirencester GL7 6AA
Proposal: Pollard Ash tree

Reference	15/00475/COMPLY etc.
Application Validated	Various dates in Feb and March 2015
Address	Land At Top Farm West Lane Kemble Cirencester Gloucestershire GL7 6AD
Proposals [various technical conditions relating to the proposal]	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Residential development comprising up to 50 dwellings - compliance with condition 7 (boundary treatments)• Residential development comprising up to 50 dwellings - condition 5 (masterplan) of outline planning permission reference 11/04236/OUT• Residential development comprising up to 50 dwellings - condition 11 (water drainage)
Decision	Application Permit

6. Clerk to distribute Nomination Packs to all Councillors for forthcoming election (any members unable to attend, please contact NS). The packs provided by CDC were handed out, and each must be returned by 9 April. All current Councillors had a pack each.

7. Finance matters - All

a. Discuss and agree expenditure:-

- i. Litter Bins and related signage near station. RP recorded thanks to Sue Hill and others had carried out a successful litter pick, as had Tom Barrow in Ewen. Items included an abandoned motorbike and wardrobe near the bus shelter in Ewen, which CDC have now removed. As Sue reported the station users seemed to be the source of much litter, RP would like to propose up to four extra bins and suitable 'Keep Kemble Tidy' signs. Agreed that LN will write to Sarah McManus first, as potential issues with bins on railway land (though CDC should empty them).
- ii. Dog fouling signs in Abbots Way. This has been a problem, and CDC will provide signs. MB to contact CDC Dog Warden.
- iii. Cleaning of road signs and furniture. The village gate approaching from Malmesbury has been knocked from its fastening, and signs generally need cleaning. SS said that Highways should maintain them, and ES noted some were obscured by foliage. If using hi-vis jackets, as provided for litter pick, some Councillors may clean a few signs near their homes.

b. Grant Scheme – decide distribution from applications for 2014/15 scheme. Four requests were made, and as the total required was only £88 over the budgeted sum, it was unanimously agreed to increase the budget to £788 and meet all requests. One was made on behalf of an informal group, so was agreed in principle with funds of up to £200 retained until required. The others are:-

Open the Book - £150
Kemble & District Playgroup - £288
Little Fishes - £150

- c. Receive and approve items for payment by cheque – Approved, with the addition of the three grant requests set out above.
- d. (Carried forward) To review and consider for adoption new Financial Regulations, including

- setting suitable monetary limits – All discussed the revised regulations and agreed appropriate monetary limits. Document to be published on village website for transparency.
- e. (Carried forward) Review of audit procedures, particularly internal audit scope, and frequency, and service provision options – GC explained the forthcoming changes, which aim to be more open, yet weaken the established audit methodology in favour of public scrutiny. It was agreed to continue with the regular audits this year, with the GAPTC establishing a panel to provide internal auditors going forwards.
 - f. (Carried forward) Discuss and agree new Standing Orders – GS explained the background to the changes and these were unanimously adopted. NS to get bound copies for all Councillors.
 - g. (Carried forward) Discuss Governance procedures (included in the annual audit each year). This includes the now mandatory audio/visual policy permitting filming, blogging, tweeting, etc., during meetings.
 - h. (Carried forward) Discuss mandatory introduction of the Transparency Code - Adopted
 - i. To approve the 2015-16 business plan and the associated risk assessment – Agreed and to be published.
- 8. Cemetery** - (Carried forward) Discuss options to extend burial grounds. After discussions about the challenges and cost of any potential site, and the lead time necessary to make suitable, it was agreed that GC and RP will aim to meet Bathurst Estate representatives, and RP will make initial enquiries.
- 9. Any other business for discussion, subject to the Chairman's approval**
- a. After some debate about options and feasibility for 'stopping up' Old Vicarage Lane to avoid it being used as a 'rat run' to and from the new Bovis estate, it was decided not to pursue this route and to liaise with Bovis on the exact layout at that junction.
 - b. A resident in West Lane had expressed concern about speeding traffic approaching the dip (when travelling from Cirencester to the village) and the possibility that the Top Farm development may worsen things. Agreed to get a 7 day measurement at a cost of c £140 which will give a reference of volumes and speeds. RP to order the test.
 - c. RP is about to send a letter to the Railway Heritage Trust about restoring the water tower. It was noted that the pipes are unlikely to be restored as they are a danger to today's higher speed trains.
 - d. RP advised the meeting that the Clerk had tendered his resignation. The Clerk's resignation was received with regret and appreciation was unanimously expressed for his professionalism and valued contribution. Accordingly, NS will embark on publicising for a successor, and has agreed to stay on until at least the audit.
 - e. ES reported that the children's sundial at the station is already in a poor state. Agreed LN will take a look and consider if Council might contribute to repairs.
 - f. ES said the WI are doing something this coming Monday about transportation, and he proposes taking along the Top Farm plans to get any feedback.
 - g. MB reported that the Village Hall is due to get its broadband installation next week, and it will be launched at a forthcoming Bingo session. There will be two networks – one for guests and another for the Committee.
 - h. MB informed the meeting that the Kemble website had peaked at 9,725 hits last September and over 3,000 this month. He is proposing to offer 3 x 2 hour sessions for training on internet likely to be of interest mainly to senior residents exploring the web for the first time.
 - i. SS advised that there is damage to a wall near Lidwell Spring, which the Estate should rectify.
 - j. RP reported that there was interest in providing changing facilities for football teams, in container type structures. Grants are available and this was supported in principle, though water supply and charges may need investigation.

The meeting ended at 10.35pm

Next meeting, Friday 17 April.