

Parish Council Meetings

Meetings are held on Friday evenings, roughly every 6 weeks, in Kemble Village Hall starting at 7.30pm.

The dates for the rest of 2010 are:

- 21 May 2010 (Parish Council AGM)
- 9 July 2010
- 3 September 2010
- 15 October 2010
- 26 November 2010

Everyone is welcome to come along to any of these meetings. You can raise issues or ask for advice or ask questions at the start of the meeting if you want to.

Kemble & Ewen Clean Up

Get out in the fresh air! Volunteers wanted to remove rubbish from the verges and hedges around Kemble and Ewen.

Please contact June Lawlor (tel: 770538) or Tom Barrow (tel: 770674) if you can help.

Highways and traffic group

New members needed to help improve road safety in Ewen and Kemble. Please contact Sara Lawlor 770646



Kemble and Ewen Parish Council

Annual Report 2009-10

You are warmly invited to the
Annual Parish Meeting - Friday 7 May
7.00pm Kemble Village Hall

*A summary of the Parish Council's activities over the last year.
Delivered to every household in Kemble, Kemble Wick & Ewen.*

Kemble & Ewen Parish Councillors

Roger Pettit: Chairman	01285-770133
David Ball: Vice Chairman	07973-500854
George Collins	01285-770698
Withiel Cole	01285-771261
Sara Lawlor	01285-770646
Sohrab Sorabjee	01285-770515
Gabi Somerville	07900-907685
Clerk	01285-770816

How to contact us

www.pccouncil.kemble.co.uk

- kpcclerk@kemble.co.uk
- Come to a meeting
- Phone a councillor
- Write to us c/o:
5 West Hay Grove,
Kemble, GL7 6BE

Agenda: Parish Meeting: 7 May 2010, 7.00pm

- To accept apologies for absence
- To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Friday 2 May 2009*
- To report on any matters arising from the minutes
- Speakers
 - County Councillor: Shaun Parsons
 - District Councillor: John Birch
 - Kemble and Ewen Parish Council: Chairman Roger Pettit
 - Finance - a summary of the past 12 months
 - Youth Club - Sally Turner
- To discuss potential village projects for 2010
- Any other business

* A copy of last year's minutes can be seen on our website: www.pccouncil.kemble.co.uk

Chairman's Address

Another busy year with satisfying progress achieved on many important areas.

Contained within these pages is a summary of the year's activities. Road safety improvements are always a priority and the village gates together with Parkers Bridge refurbishment and the new pedestrian bridge are particular highlights this year. Thanks to support from a number of new volunteer co-ordinators, the Neighbourhood Watch scheme has been successfully re-energised and the Community Gardens continues to progress and shine as an example to others.

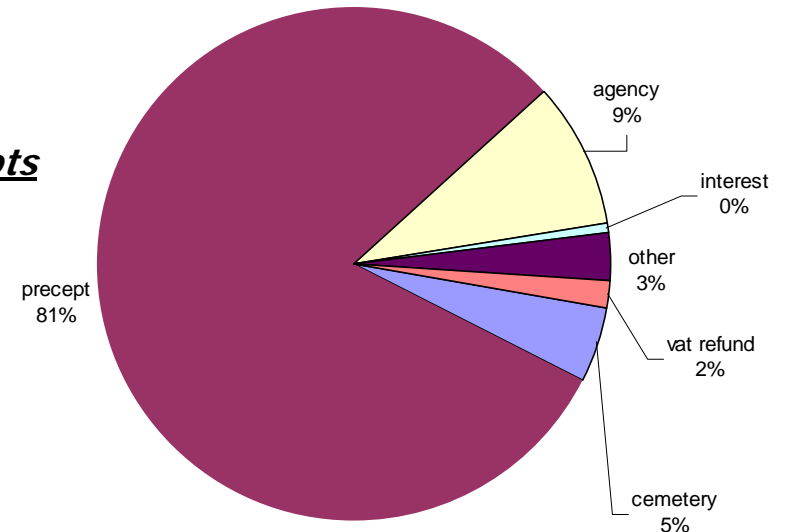
Particularly pleasing is the return of Kemble Youth Club, still embryonic but already several events run and a credit to the team in achieving one of our long held ambitions.

I hope you will join us for our Annual Meeting and let us know your thoughts and aspirations. I believe we can be proud of our community and by working together can ensure that our villages continue to be excellent places to live. Could make a fitting end to election week!

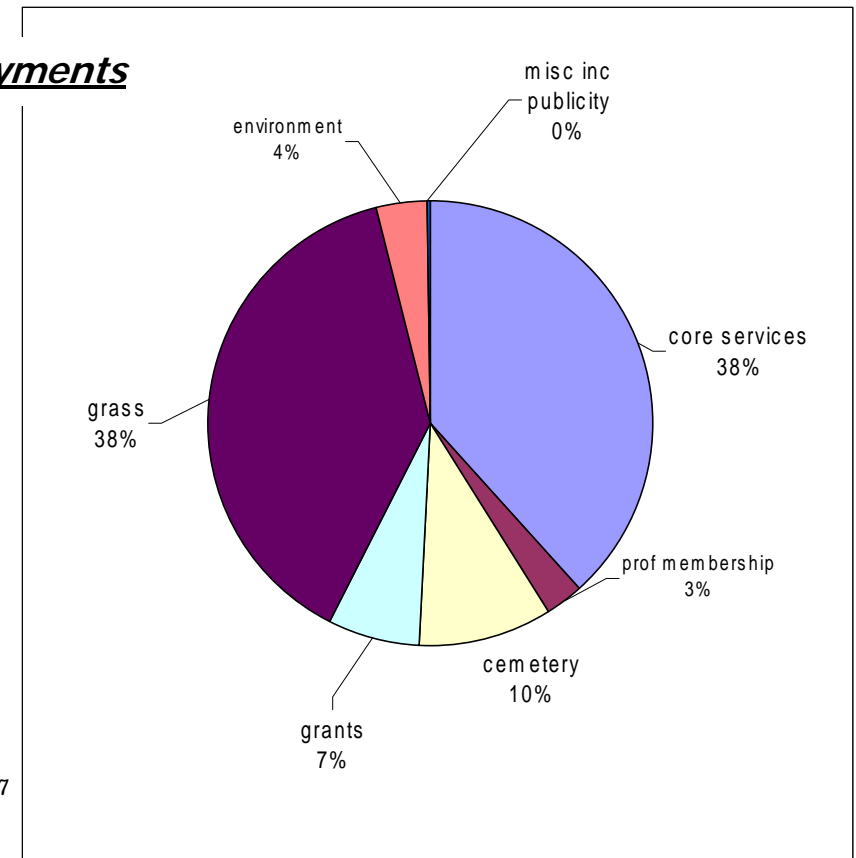
Look forward to seeing you on 7th May.

Roger Pettit, Chairman, Kemble & Ewen Parish Council, April 2010

Receipts



Payments



Financial Summary

Any resident may look at the Parish Council's unaudited accounts by asking the Clerk. A copy of the audited accounts will be available from the Parish Clerk following the completion of the external audit in July 2010.

Payments (year ending 31 March 2010)	
Core services #	£5600
Grass cutting (excl	£5635
Cemetery upkeep	£1446
Grants to local groups	£950
Professional memberships	£378
Environment	£538
Misc	£32
Section 137	£0
TOTAL	£14,580

'Core services' includes: insurance, wages, training, stationery, inspections, professional accounting/audit fees, village hall rent

* 'Other' includes: bank interest, vat refund and allotment rent

Receipts (year ending 31 March 2010)	
Precept	£18,000
Agency	£2073
Cemetery	£1020
Other*	£1149
TOTAL	£22,240.54

In a continuing commitment to provide good value for money, we have saved money by re-tendering the parish insurance, grass cutting contract and web hosting this year; and the cemetery fees have been revised.

We have to keep £4k in-hand for 'contingencies'; we are waiting for the village gates invoice. Any balance left over from this year will be saved for projects in 2010-11.

Feedback from residents so far shows that a footpath to the station is your preferred project for this year, rather than a sports hut or larger cemetery.

Summary of the year's activities 2009-2010

The parish councillors represent the electorate of Kemble and Ewen across a wide range of topics and issues. All the councillors are unpaid volunteers. Discussions in council meetings are lively and occasionally controversial! Each councillor has an area of 'special interest', such as local policing, the play area, churchyard, planning etc.

Residents are welcome to contact councillors about local issues – details of how to reach us are on the back page.

Finance

The council's main source of income is the local council tax, known as 'the precept'. The Precept was £18,000 in the year ending 31 March 2010, and it will stay the same this coming year (2010-2011). This year we also received a welcome back-payment from Gloucestershire County Council for maintaining our section of the Thames Path and parts of the verges. We have been warned that the budgets of the CDC and GCC will be severely affected in 2010-11.

Planning

The Parish Council has responded to 18 planning applications this year, including continuing major works at Ewen Manor. Objections or comments were lodged with 5 applications. The Planning Committee has worked with

and consulted neighbours wherever possible, and more widely as the situation demanded. We have been assured that Ewen Manor is coming to the end of its construction works and the owners are working with Gloucester Highways to repair the damaged road verges.

Even though the Kemble Airport CLEUD was approved in July 2008, we only received the text of the judgement in April 2010. This is now published on the CDC website for residents to read. Kemble Airfield Estates recently proposed increasing the number of non-flying activities at the site. The councillors welcome residents' thoughts on this initiative, which is published on the kemble.co.uk website.

Highways

A lot has been achieved this year – which sounds simple but has taken a lot of effort. The flashing sign was repaired (hopefully properly this time) and an additional one is promised near Clayfurlong barns. The Windmill Road/A429 junction was improved to stop cars swinging out without looking; traffic tubes were laid down to monitor the volume of traffic through Ewen and the A429 (we are still waiting for the results). The councillors and traffic sub-group have also spent a lot of time investigating ways to reduce speeds and cut-through traffic down West

Summary of the year's activities 2009-2010

Lane/School Road/Ewen Road, and alternative methods of discouraging commuter parking on the street, rather than in the station car parks. We have also asked to Network Rail to anticipate a rise in commuters if the track dualling takes place, by planning more parking places.

There is still an issue with cars failing to stop at the pedestrian traffic lights on the A429.

Windmill Road

Landscaping Windmill Road has been in the parish plan for several years. A survey on suggestions and improvements has been done with Windmill Road residents, a few of which we hope to complete in 2010.

Parkers Bridge

The bridge has finally been repaired, strengthened and rails replaced. This has the added benefit of making the road slightly wider at this pinch point. Meanwhile councillor David Ball successfully negotiated the gift of a 'bridge kit' from Gloucestershire Council, and a team from Kemble Farms has built and installed the wooden footbridge next to the road bridge.

Cemetery

We undertook a review of burial fees this year (something that we do every 3 years) and brought them closer to the Church of England and Chesterton cemetery charges. We are also starting to consider the long-term future of the cemetery, as the amount of space left is decreasing rapidly. This is a sensitive topic and we will continue to consult residents. We hope to spend some money in 2010 repairing unsteady headstones, in instances where there are no traceable family to maintain the graves.

Village Gates

Our new village gates were successfully installed in March 2010. Their purpose is to show drivers, particularly those coming from Malmesbury, that they are entering a village and must slow down. Anecdotal evidence implies that this has been successful, but we hope the Highways department will install measuring devices to calculate real 'before and after' speeds. The gates have received a lot of positive comments from as far away as Northampton!

Summary of the year's activities 2009-2010

Community Gardens and allotments

The Parish Council continues to encourage the Community Gardens initiative in Old Manor Gardens. We are concerned that the CDC may want to reclaim or sell some of this land for housing in future. We are talking to the CDC to encourage them to extend the lease and recognise the value of this project to the village.

Policing and neighbourhood watch

Considerable progress has been made by the councillors and Peter Burns on re-establishing the neighbourhood watch scheme. A new network of neighbours has been set up which has already been used 'in action', and regular meetings are held with the local police and community support officers.

Youth Club

The parish council is actively supporting the work of the Kemble Youth Club team, which has successfully run several events. It has taken a long time and a lot of effort to establish this initiative - congratulations to everyone of all ages involved.

Ewen electrical substation

After eight years of cajoling and persevering, we hope that the substation will finally be completed this year - but no date has been set yet.

Community Fund

This year the fund awarded grants to the Thursday Club (£100); WI (£50); Music Festival (£150), Little Fishes (£200); Playgroup (£100) Dad's Army football club (£100). The Parish News also received £100 towards printing costs. A grant of £150 was given to the Kemble Youth Club earlier the year.

People

Unfortunately Glen Moreman resigned as a parish councillor in January, Sally Turner resigned recently as a councillor and Brian Robbins, playground orderly, resigned in February 2010. The post of 'village orderly' also remains unfilled, despite adverts in the village and Job Centre.

On behalf of every in the community, we thank them for their hard work and enthusiasm over the past year (and previous ones too!).

We were deeply saddened to hear of the death of John Gilliland, who was parish clerk for 15 years before he retired from this role.