



Kemble & Ewen Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Kemble & Ewen Parish Council held on Friday 31st March 2006 at 7.30pm in Kemble Village Hall.

Present: Councillor R Pettit, Chairman
Councillor S. Sorabjee
Councillor L. Hetherington
Councillor G Collins
Councillor C Brann
Councillor David Ball, Vice Chairman
Councillor J Courts
Councillor G. Moreman
Councillor M Bainbridge

In attendance: John Birch, District Councillor
Member of the public
Isobel Yates, Clerk

1. Acceptance of apologies for absence. All councillors were present.

2. Receipt of Declarations of Interest. DB declared an interest in item 6: Community Centre.

3. Approval and Signing of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting. The Minutes of the meeting held on Friday 24th February 2006 were approved, and signed by the Chairman.

4. Report on matters arising from the minutes - items not on the agenda.

Jan06/2	DB to provide details of The Oaks barrier to GCC –C/F.
Feb06/1	CDC confirmed Ward Projects Fund suitable for spend on speed monitor.
Feb06/2	Done.
Feb06/4	GRCC confirmed appropriate to include Community Centre briefing document as part of the Parish Plan exercise.
Feb06/5	DB confirmed 3 areas added to the Gardenia contract for 2006. The meeting was not happy with the £20 increase per cut quoted for the work. DB to negotiate rate.
Feb06/6	SS spoken to Colin Rank about horses on Thames Path, which GCC confirmed are allowed where there is landowner's permission. The landowner did not see the need to take action beyond putting down cinders. It was agreed that if the area concerned became difficult to walk on again, SS to raise this with the Chairman.

5. Highways:

5.1. Wooden posts for Windmill Road. LH reported that CDC had given details of web sites supplying the posts & she would get some prices. It was agreed that the council would ask GCC to install.

5.2. Road narrowing at Parkers Bridge. LH confirmed GCC willing to paint white lines on the road. The meeting agreed to proceed with this option. LH also reported that work on the speed warning sign linked to the pedestrian crossing was due to start this week.

6. Report on the Community Centre proposals. Following discussion, it was agreed by the meeting that the council needed to clearly set out the reasons why the community centre proposal was the only one available for consideration by local residents. It was accepted that the grounds for this position must be restated clearly, to dispel any lingering sense of the council not having taken all factors & options into account. It was agreed that the forthcoming Parish Meeting offered one opportunity for doing this & that a full briefing document needed to be sent out as part of the Parish Plan exercise in due course.

7. Appointment of a Best Kept Village co-ordinator. MB suggested that as the competition judges were looking for evidence of active community projects, the parish had no new initiatives to offer at the moment. He recommended that it would be sensible not to enter this year. This was agreed by the meeting.

8. Appointment of the Parish Plan Working Group Chairman. The meeting was pleased to accept JC's offer to stand as Chairman of the group.

9. Approval of the Risk Management Review v3. It was proposed by CB & seconded by JC that the review be accepted. This was agreed unanimously by the meeting. An addendum was made that the brush cutter used for footpath maintenance was to be replaced.

10. Planning Committee's report. The report was noted.

11. KAP's Report. SS reported that PCSO Clive Wilkes needed a decision from the council on how to proceed with the youngsters responsible for removing turf & digging up the soil. SS confirmed that KAP had made a no digging rule. Following discussion, it was agreed that Clive should be asked to speak to the youngsters again & request they put the turf & soil back. He must also make it clear that if this was not done, or if this happened again, then action for criminal damage would be pursued.

SS reported that KAP was getting quotes for a grating rail for the skate ramp area & for extra matting at the entrance (this cost to be met by the council), as well as further quotes for the cycle track. It was agreed that RP should approach Redcliffe Homes about releasing at least half of the promised funds now, to help with these costs.

March06/1 RP to request funds from Redcliffe Homes.

12. PUBLIC RECESS.

13. FINANCE.

13.1. Timetable for the Annual Return. In order to meet the revised deadlines from the External Auditors, it was agreed by the meeting that councillors would have April 14th -21st to consider the Annual Accounts & raise any queries They would aim to accept them in principle by the 21st, with formal acceptance to follow at the next available meeting in May. It was agreed that the audit papers could then be passed to the Internal Auditor.

13.2 Amendments to the minutes. The following amendments were approved by the meeting:

13.2.1 *January 13th 2006 - to add at 10.2 'the following accounts were paid since the last meeting - £60 cheque 784 (Kemble School Central Networks Fund): £190.53 cheque 785 (I Yates reimbursed from same fund) & £55 cheque 694 (GAPTC training)'*

13.2.2 *September 2nd 2005 – amend 11.2.12 payment LGA 1972 s.137 to read 's.142'.*

13.3 Clerk's pay increase. The NALC pay increase at 1st April 2005 was approved by the meeting.

13.4 Financial Report. The financial report was noted.

13.5 Payment of accounts. The following payment of accounts was agreed unanimously by the meeting:

13.5.1	I Yates 5 hrs/wk @ £8.509/hr x 5 wks	£212.73	cheq 709 LGA 1972 s112
	+ adjustment from April 04 to April 05 NALC rates	£64.95	LGA 1972 s112
	(7 weeks adj. at £0.242/hr: April 1 st – 20 May 05 SCP 19 incr. from £8.209/hr to £8.451/hr & 45 weeks adj. at £0.251/hr: May 21 st – 31 March 06 SCP 20 incr. from £8.509/hr to £8.760/hr)		
	+ hall heating Feb 24 th meeting	£5.00	LGA 1972 s111
	+ phone calls 20 April 2005 -24 Feb 2006	£8.77	LGA 1972 s111
13.5.2	J Telling 4 hrs/wk @ £5.05/hr x 5 wks	£101.00	cheq 710 LGA 1972 s112
13.5.3	B Robbins 1hr/wk @£6.50/hr x 5 wks	£32.50	cheq 711 LGA 1972 s112
13.5.4	Gardenia Landscapes 2 cuts July 2005	£540.50	cheq 712 HA 1980 s96
	(copy invoice – original not received).		

Subscription renewals:

13.5.5	ABA	£82.00	cheq 713 LGA 1972 s143
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13.5.6	GAPTC	£146.25	cheq 714 LGA 1972 s143
13.5.7	SLCC	£69.00	cheq 715 LGA 1972 s143
13.5.8	LCR	£14.00	cheq 716 LGA 1972 s143
13.5.9	Kemble Parish Council: transfer of funds to Abbey	£3,000.00	cheq 717 LGA 1972 s151
13.5.10	Stroud Sign Centre: play area sign	£26.84	cheq 718 LG(MP)A 1976 s19
13.5.11	Laura Hetherington: tokens for poster competition	£12.00	cheq 719 LG & RA 1997 s30
13.5.12	J Murphy & Sons:GCC £800 grant + PC contribution	£1,600	cheq 720 LGA 1894 s8

The following cheques have been paid since the last meeting:

Cheque 707 £90 to Gloucestershire Record Office for Record Agent (re Poole & Partridge Fund).

Cheque 708 £30 to HM Land Registry to register Kemble Cemetery.

14.Report on the interactive web site. GC reported that the site was now set up, & users would be allocated passwords to access it. A user guide was being produced & then the council would be in a position to contact the parish councils who had expressed interest & invite them to start using it. It was also agreed that all local councils should be offered the chance to use it.

15. Confirm start date for footpath & stile maintenance work. It was agreed that Brian Robbins be asked to start work in May, or earlier if he judged it necessary. It was agreed that a new brush cutter should be bought.

March06/2 IY to speak to Brian & purchase new brush cutter.

16. Agree speakers for the Parish Meeting. It was agreed that Playgroup & the Parish Plan Working Group be invited to speak, as well as School Governors & the District & County Councillors.

17. AOB.

17.1 **March06/3 IY to report fly tipping to GCC.** It was agreed a reward should be offered by the council for information leading to a conviction.

17.2 MB raised the poor site safety on Clayfurlong Grove building site & the absorption of the County Council's verge into the site.

March06/4 IY to raise with CDC & GCC.

17.3 GC & CB raised concerns about the white posts in Church Road.

March06/5 IY to speak to resident & ask GCC to install curb.

17.4 GC reported that he had spoken to Everett Austin about repairing the war memorial posts & that Everett had agreed to talk to Pat Ayres before work was started.

17.5 JC told the meeting she had been on the Nuts & Bolts course & would circulate the papers.

SIGNED

DATED

The meeting closed at 10.15pm.

The next PC meeting will be on Friday 19th May 2006 in the Village Hall (Annual Meeting of the Council).
The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Friday 5th May in the Village Hall.

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE MEETING HELD ON 31/3/06:

ITEM	ACTION	BY
Jan06/2	Provide details of The Oaks barrier to GCC	DB
Feb06/5	Negotiate revised contract terms with Gardenia Landscapes.	DB
Mar06/1	Request funds from Redcliffe Homes	RP
Mar06/2	Speak to Brian Robbins about starting footpaths work/ new brush cutter	IY
Mar06/3	Report fly tipping to GCC.	IY
Mar06/4	Raise concerns about site safety & grass verge at Clayfurlong building site.	IY
Mar06/5	Speak to Orchard End resident & GCC about white posts.	IY

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Notes on discussion held with John Birch, District Councillor, on 31st March 2006.

- 1 JB to look into & report back on the costs of meeting the shortfall in the District Council's pension scheme from the Council Tax.
- 2 JB agreed to speak to Planning Enforcement about the opening up of a new access at 87 Ewen, in response to concerns raised by a local resident & contrary to the planning permission granted.