

# KENTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held in Kenton Victory Hall on Wednesday 19 May 2021 at 7.00pm

---

### Present

Cllr Thompson (Chairman), D Appleton, D Blount & H Bright

### Also present

Suzanna Hughes (Clerk), Peter White (Village Tidyman) and two members of the public.

**The meeting was opened by the Chairman at 7.00pm.**

#### **210519.01 Election of Chairman**

It was proposed by Cllr Blount, seconded by Cllr Appleton and agreed by all those present and voting that Cllr Thompson is re-elected as Chairman.

#### **210519.02 Election of Vice Chairman**

It was proposed by Cllr Thompson, seconded by Cllr Bright and agreed by all those present and voting that Cllr Blount is elected as Vice Chairman.

#### **210519.03 Declarations of Acceptance of Office**

The Chairman and Vice Chairman signed their declarations of acceptance of office.

#### **210519.04 Apologies for Absence**

4.1 Members received and noted the resignation of Cllr Dare.

4.2 Apologies were received from:

- County/District Cllr Connett

#### **210519.05 Open Forum**

A resident asked whether there was any update regarding the wall adjacent to the church path near the almshouses leading from Church Street to Torrington Place (Parson's Walk). They were advised that Charlie Courtenay has suggested a meeting with the Parish Council and the Diocese together with the Maintenance Fund to try and get a resolution as no one wishes to lose the path or for there to be an injury. It was agreed that such a meeting should be arranged.

The Captain of the Bellringers, Mike Adams, explained that an anonymous complaint had been made to Teignbridge District Council about the noise level from the clock chimes during the night and that there may be a requirement for the church to take action to silence the chimes during the night.

The Chairman brought forward item 13 and members considered the request from the church for funding support to purchase a night silencer at a cost of £1655 + VAT. Members were disappointed that this issue has arisen and strongly objected to the imposition of a noise abatement order. It was agreed to support the church's actions to prevent the silencing and to suggest to the church that it should raise awareness of the issue throughout the parish to generate additional support from residents.

## **210519.06 Declarations of Interest & Requests for Dispensations**

Members were reminded of their responsibility to continually update their Notice of Registerable Interests and invited to state whether they have any interest in the items to be discussed during this meeting in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct.

There were no declarations of interest or requests for dispensation.

## **210519.07 Ratification of Minutes**

Members received the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 21 April 2021. It was agreed unanimously that those minutes are signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record of the meeting.

## **210519.08 Roles and Responsibilities**

### **8.1 Dementia Friendly Group**

It was agreed that Cllr Blount would continue to act as the Council's representative on the Dementia Friendly Group to assist with the information flow between the council and the organisation.

### **8.2 Emergency Planning**

It was agreed that all Councillors would be responsible for Emergency Planning and that the plan should be reviewed in the coming months.

### **8.3 TALC**

It was agreed to rotate attendance between members should an item of interest arise.

### **8.4 Community Forum**

It was agreed that Cllr Appleton will continue as the Council's representative on the Community Forum until his resignation in July. He will ask the Headteacher, Amanda Somerwill, to advise the council, through the clerk, of any meetings after this date so that the Parish Council has the opportunity to attend.

### **8.5 Defibrillators**

It was agreed that Cllr Blount would be the continue as the guardian of the defibrillators, carrying out the weekly checks and reporting to the Ambulance Service.

### **8.6 Climate Emergency**

It was agreed that all members would be responsible for Climate Emergency.

## **210519.09 Review of Policies and Governance Documents**

### **9.1 Standing Orders**

Members reviewed the Standing Orders and agreed no changes.

### **9.2 Financial Regulations**

Members reviewed the Financial Regulations and agreed no changes.

### **9.3 General and Financial Risk Assessment**

Members reviewed the General and Financial Risk Assessment and agreed no changes. It was to be noted that the Chairman and Vice Chairman both had access to internet banking to verify online payments which had been approved by the Council and made by the clerk.

#### 9.4 Fixed Assets Register

Members reviewed the Fixed Assets Register and agreed no changes.

#### 9.5 Statement of Internal Control

Members reviewed the Statement of Internal Control and agreed no changes.

#### 9.6 Investment Strategy

Members reviewed the Investment Strategy and agreed no changes.

#### 9.7 Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy

Members reviewed the Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy and agreed no changes.

### 210519.10 Reports

#### 10.1 Police Report (April)

##### **Kenton (1 crime)**

- Theft from a motor vehicle x 1

##### **Other matters**

Please report any suspicious persons/activities and record vehicle registration details if used. Please contact the police on 999 if the incident is happening there and then, or by 101 (emailing is quicker) if it is historic.

PACT meetings will resume soon, subject to Government lockdown guidance. Hopefully, we can get together in June 2021.

##### **Shellfish Gathering/Harvesting-River Teign and River Exe**

On Monday 12 April and Tuesday 13 April 2021 multi-agencies addressed the ongoing shellfish/harvesting concerns by attending the rivers Teign and Exe. Representatives from Environmental Health, Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority, members from your Local Neighbourhood Policing Team along with local Councillors met to discuss the ongoing concerns highlighted by local parish members and residents. Gavin Fearby of Environmental Health has provided a detailed leaflet/map to provide education moving forward. A more detailed report will be shared in due course, however if there are any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the Local Neighbourhood Team.

##### **Community Speed Watch**

Local volunteers have been active again within the Parish since the easing of lockdown restrictions. A comprehensive report has been attached, detailing the numerous site activities and results collated. Any volunteers would be welcome moving forward to assist the team. Details of how to become a volunteer can be found on posters displayed in the parish.

##### **Monthly Themes**

We are aware that across the county this month it has been busy with both residents and visitors enjoying the outdoors. This situation will obviously increase as we move out of lockdown. Natural England re-launched the 'Countryside Code' in an aim to highlight some of its key messages and would like to promote a 'protect, respect and enjoy' campaign. Please could we advertise this to the wider community and ensure our beautiful surroundings are protected.

##### **Equine Crime**

Equine-related activity attracts criminals due to the high value of animals, equipment and

transport. This has a financial and emotional impact on all concerned and can affect animals and owners long after an incident has taken place.

Reduce equine crime with simple crime prevention measures. Farmers, horse owners, rural businesses, and members of the public should be vigilant in the countryside reporting any suspicious activity to the police noting vehicle details and descriptions.

### **Poaching**

Again, this month we are looking to 'target' local poaching issues/rural wildlife crime in and around the area. If you see anything suspicious, please report as soon as possible. Any information would be greatly appreciated to assist with our plans moving forward.

#### **10.2 District/County Councillor's Report**

Cllr Connett was not present at the meeting.

#### **10.3 Village Tidyman's Report**

Peter White reported as follows:

- The street light in the Triangle car park under the silver birch is not working. He will try and find a company which will replace it.
- There is concern about the clogging up of the stream from the pumping station to the main stream. Silt is building up upstream.
- Young trees have arrived from the Woodlands Trust for the cemetery. More will be required for the top hedge for planting in the autumn.

#### **10.4 Delegate Reports**

##### **10.4.1 Dementia Friendly Village**

Cllr Blount reported that the first meeting since the AGM is being held on Friday.

##### **10.4.2 Community Forum/Playing Field**

Cllr Appleton informed members that at the latest meeting there was discussion about problems arising from parents dropping off at and picking up from the school. With regard to the field, the grass is growing well and will have its first cut soon. An opening event is being planned for 6 July to coincide with the school's sports day. Funds are now being raised for a toilet block.

##### **10.4.3 Climate Emergency**

No report.

#### **210519.11 Finance and Governance**

- 11.1 Members received the invoices for payment and it was agreed unanimously that the payments as listed are approved (attached).
- 11.2 Members adopted an emergency scheme of delegation to support the Council should meeting in public be considered inappropriate, unsafe or impossible. It was agreed that authority is delegated to the Clerk in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman to take any actions necessary to ensure council business continuity. The scheme of delegation will be reviewed no later than September 2021.

#### **210519.12 Planning**

##### **12.1 New applications/appeals:**

None

##### **12.2 Decisions**

None

**210519.13 Kenton Church Clock – Noise Abatement**

This item was discussed earlier in the meeting at item 5.

**210519.14 Playing Field/Hard Court**

Members received a quotation from Richard Grave for various work in the play area (quote 05052021). It was agreed to accept the quotation with the exception of two items which are the responsibility of the school. It was agreed to contact the headteacher to see if she wished those items to be carried out at the school's expense.

**210519.15 Highways & Footpaths**

It was noted that the Brook will need clearing in advance of the duck race. The Twinning Committee usually do this.

**210519.16 Members' items for information or general discussion, for inclusion on future agendas and/or items requiring urgent attention**

*[Members were reminded that they have not received the statutory notice of this business to be transacted and should therefore recognise that any decision made may be taken to be unlawful if challenged in the future]*

None

**210519.17 Correspondence**

17.1 Members noted correspondence received from a resident regarding a number of issues relating to the Parish Council and the response drafted and sent by the Chair.

**210519.18 Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on 16 June 2021 at 7.00pm in Victory Hall.

.....  
**Chairman**

**19 May 2021**

**Item 11:**

**Expenditure**

<b>Cheque no</b>	<b>Payee</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Standing Order	Salaries	April	£718.80
Online	R Grave	Play equipment inspection	£15
Online	Came & Company	Insurance renewal	£750.40
Online	Ball Colegrave	Kenton in Bloom plants	£367.78
Online	P White	Cemetery hedge fence posts & fuel	£84.17

**Income (18 April – 14 May 2021)**

<b>Date received</b>	<b>Received from</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Amount</b>
28 April 2021	Teignbridge District Council	1 <sup>st</sup> instalment of precept	£9076.83

**Bank Balance at 14 May 2021**

<b>Current account</b>	£53,344.43
------------------------	------------