

# KENTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held in Kenton Victory Hall on Wednesday 9 February 2022 at 7.00pm

---

### Present

Cllr Thompson (Chairman), D Blount, H Bright, K Savill and D Smith

### Also present

Suzanna Hughes (Clerk), PCSO Bunce, Paul Harmsworth (West Exe Community Speedwatch Co-ordinator) and Peter White (Village Tidyman)

The meeting was opened by the Chairman at 7.00pm.

#### 220209.01 Apologies for Absence

- County/District Cllr Connett

#### 220209.02 Open Forum

There were no comments.

#### 220209.03 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.

#### 220209.04 Ratification of Minutes

Members received the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 10 January 2022.

Cllr Bright advised that she was not present at the meeting.

The minutes were corrected to reflect this after which it was agreed unanimously that the minutes are signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record of the meeting.

#### 220209.05 Reports

##### 5.1 Police Report

PC Orchard provided a crime report for the period 1 – 31 January 2022 for Starcross and Kenton. 5 crimes were reported and 10 incidents recorded.

Members also received the monthly newsletter/gazette, the community speedwatch report and an article relating to illegal off-road driving.

Paul Harmsworth, West Exe Community Speedwatch Co-ordinator, summarised the work of the Community Speedwatch team which has been working in Kenton for about 7 years. They use a radar gun to record the number of vehicles passing and the number which are exceeding the speed limit + 10% + 2mph. This morning, 309 vehicles passed them and 24 of those were exceeding 35mph in a 30mph area (A379 at Orchard Close). The police issues a letter asking motorists to be more careful; the third letter received is delivered by one of the new team members and their registration will be added to the national database.

He brought members up to date with the Vision Zero South West campaign - an initiative of the Police and Crime Commissioners Office to make roads safer. The aim is to achieve 'nil

death by accident' by 2026. They have purchased another new speed van and they now have a 'no excuses team' who visit the worst offenders. A staff member will also be helping the speedwatch team with a TruCam – a camera which takes a photo of a vehicle and if it is exceeding the speed limit, the offender will receive a fixed penalty notice.

Paul advised that he has applied on behalf of the Community Speedwatch Team and received a grant for £7,200 for two Vehicle Activated Speed signs (VAS signs) - one for Kenton and one for Starcross. They have to be moved around every month; DCC will contribute the funds required to install the posts on which they are attached. DCC is also purchasing and installing three fixed signs (between Powderham to north of St Marys Cottages). Paul advised that more volunteers are needed and he will be publishing an article in the parish newsletter appealing for new members of the team. His goal is to decrease the number of speeding vehicles by 25% this year. Paul requested that, as the Community Speedwatch Team has no bank account, the Parish Council purchases one of the signs on behalf of the Community Speedwatch team using the grant which has been secured. The cost of the sign is £3095.17 + VAT. If the sign is purchased by the Parish Council, it will be able to reclaim the VAT and ring-fence it for additional future speedwatch purchases (e.g. maintenance of sign, new battery, step ladder to change battery and move sign around, hi-vis jackets etc). This was agreed.

Cllr Blount informed PCSO Bunce that he may have a potential solution to the difficulties in arranging PACT meetings. He suggested that the Reflections Café may be a suitable forum; it is held in the church and runs every third Saturday of the month. PCSO Bunce welcomed the suggestion and asked Cllr Blount to send the dates to PC Orchard.

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

Cllr Connett was unable to attend the meeting.

## **5.3 Village Tidyman's Report**

Peter White reported as follows:

- There was an 11,000 volt cable blow out in Butts Hill last week. This has now been sorted and a road trench repaired. The lower part of Butts Hill has been marked out awaiting resurfacing.
- He is still looking into the latch on the gate on Brook Path
- The rotten planks on the cemetery shed are in the process of being replaced.

## **5.4 Delegate Reports**

### **5.4.1 Dementia Friendly Village**

Cllr Blount advised that it has been decided that it is not yet safe enough to run the Reflections Café this month. It is hoped that this will resume in March.

## **5.5 Action report – update on outstanding matters:**

### **5.5.1 Kenton Village Allotments**

The clerk advised that nothing had yet been received from the solicitors. It was agreed to give them a deadline of 28 February.

### **5.5.2 EV Charging Points**

Cllr Blount advised that David Appleton has been chasing an update with DCC and has been advised that they are now close to tendering.

## **220209.06 Finance and Governance**

- 6.1 Members received the invoices for payment and it was agreed unanimously that the payments as listed are approved (attached).

**220209.07 Planning**

**7.1 New applications/appeals:**

None

**7.2 Decisions**

None

**220209.08 Defibrillator**

Cllr Blount informed members that the cabinet at the Victory Hall has been problematic for some time as the lock is not functioning as it should. After discussion, and with the advice of Paul Williams from the Ronnie Richards Memorial Charity, it was agreed to purchase a new, unlocked cabinet at a cost of £458.10. Once the cabinet has been delivered, the Council will arrange for MAT Electrics to install it.

**220209.09 Annual Parish Meeting**

After discussion, it was agreed to think about format and date and agree details next month.

**220209.10 Playing Field/Hard Court**

Cllr Smith advised that he has sent three requests for quotations for the repairs outlined in the annual report and awaits responses.

The clerk advised that Richard Grave is unable at the moment to carry out the inspections. Cllr Smith offered to carry out regular visual checks of the equipment in the meantime to ensure it was safe.

**220209.11 Highways & Footpaths**

Members noted that annual footpath survey which was carried out by Sue Craythorne. She is claiming £500 for general maintenance. It was also suggested that a sum is included to replace the latch on the gate at the far end of Brook Path.

Chris Britton has advised that he has replaced three shrubs in the bed at South Town.

The manhole cover at South Town (opposite Stile Cottage) is loose again and is 'clonking' when vehicles pass over it.

**220209.12 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

**220209.13 Correspondence**

Members received a letter from the Post Office advising that following the closure of the Post Office last year, they have had some local interest, however, due to the effects of coronavirus on retail businesses, this remains a challenging environment in which to operate and they are not currently able to progress any options to restore a Post Office service locally. Members agreed that this seemed to contradict an agreement which had been reached to move the service to the Powderham Farm Shop. Correspondence between Cllr Connett and Powderham Farm Shop was also noted. After further discussion, it was agreed that the Chair would write to Cllr Connett to try and formulate a plan.

**220209.14 Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on 9 March 2022 at 7.00pm in Victory Hall.

.....

**Chairman**

**9 February 2022**

**Item 6:**

**Expenditure**

<b>Payment type</b>	<b>Payee</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Standing Order	Salaries	January	£724.40
Online	P White	Wood for cemetery shed, tree support stakes and brush for cemetery	£70.80
Online	Jubilee funds (reimbursement to P White)	Torches for Jubilee event	£320

**Income (8 January – 9 February 2022)**

<b>Date received</b>	<b>Received from</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Amount</b>
31 January 2022	Cemetery fees	Cemetery fees	£75

**Bank Balance at 9 February 2022**

<b>Current account</b>	£47,786.47
------------------------	------------

**(includes sum being held on behalf of the community for Queen's Jubilee - £1,200)**