

KENTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held on Zoom on Wednesday 13 January 2021 at 7.00pm

Present

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

Also present

Suzanna Hughes (Clerk), County/District Councillor Connett and Sue Craythorne (Parish Paths Co-ordinator)

The meeting was opened by the Chairman at 7.00pm.

210113.01 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from:

- PC Orchard
- Peter White

210113.02 Open Forum

A resident asked whether the Council would consider opening up the hard-court during lockdown. There was a discussion amongst members regarding the interpretation of the government's rules after which it was agreed that despite some possible ambiguity, the hard court would remain closed as the Parish Council would not be able to police usage and compliance with government restrictions.

210113.03 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.

All members declared an interest in item 210113.6.2 as council tax payers in the parish and were granted a dispensation to enable them to discuss this item.

210113.04 Ratification of Minutes

Members received the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 11 November 2021. It was agreed unanimously that those minutes are signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record of the meeting.

210113.05 Reports

5.1 Police Report

Three crimes were recorded in Kenton from 1 – 31 December 2020:

- Criminal damage x 2
- Theft x 1

PC Orchard also reported that the Community Speed Watch Team has worked proactively in and around the parish prior to Christmas and continues to perform/deliver some excellent work. This is a voluntary role and one that is greatly appreciated. A huge thanks to ALL involved. Due to the current national lockdown all Community Speed Watch will cease until further notice.

PACT meetings have also been cancelled due to the current lockdown restrictions. It is proposed that they reconvene in March 2021.

5.2 District/County Councillor's Report

Cllr Connett advised that Highways are planning a larger patching job of the section of road outside Victory Hall. He also continues to lobby TDC and Teign Housing about refuse collection and the continued and excessive dumping of waste at Park View.

5.3 Village Tidyman's Report

Members received the following written report:

- The allotment team have made good progress with removing the hedge between the cemetery and allotments and also I am progressing well removing some of the hedgerow in the cemetery to create additional spaces. The existing chain link fencing will need replacing but the concrete posts will not.

The Chairman advised that the Kenton Village Allotments are obtaining 200 young trees for the border. As stated above, they have already taken a lot of the scrub out. As a consequence, the cemetery is now wide open to the allotments and a resident has commented that the cemetery has lost its privacy. A temporary solution is therefore required whilst the young, newly planted trees grow up. It was agreed that the Chairman and Cllr Appleton would meet with George Maycock (KVA) to discuss feasible solutions.

- Road repaired have been done outside of the Victory Hall
- Bollard in centre of road opposite Rodean has been damaged. Highways are aware of this.

5.4 Delegate Reports

5.4.1 Dementia Friendly Village

Cllr Blount advised the group were continuing to keep an eye on residents. He particularly thanked Pauline Wilmot for all that she had done.

5.4.2 Community Forum/Playing Field

Cllr Appleton reported that he had attended a community forum at the beginning of December. They received an update on how the school are coping with Covid. There was also a discussion about how the school can give support to parents during these difficult times and Cllr Appleton suggested that the parish council's noticeboard could be used to post notices advising parents to contact the school confidentially should they need additional support. The children have been raising money towards the second phase of the playing field works by cycling to 'Australia'. This has now been completed so KSPA can now start thinking about the toilet block. Cllr Appleton brought up the condition of the play equipment and whether it should be revived or replaced. KSPA is keen to be involved in this.

5.4.3 Climate Emergency

Cllr Appleton informed members that DCC has confirmed that Kenton Village Car Park is to be included in a bid for electric charge points. A very basic in principal approval document has been signed by the clerk to confirm, as the landowner, Kenton Parish Council's eligibility. There are no further details in terms of number of bays etc. Cllr Appleton suggested inviting the DCC officer managing the scheme to the next meeting of the Parish Council. This was agreed.

210113.06 Finance and Governance

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

6.2 Members received and considered the budget proposals for 2021/22. Members were advised that due to the uncertainty brought about by the pandemic, the tax base number has reduced across the district by up to 2% for 2021/22. This means that for the same council tax, the Parish Council will receive £18,646 in 2021/22 compared with £19,122 in 2020/21.

Members agreed that it had been a difficult year for many as a result of the pandemic and they were therefore reluctant to increase the precept this year. It was therefore agreed to demand a sum of £18,646 representing a 0% increase.

210113.07 Planning

7.1 New applications/appeals:

None

7.2 Decisions:

7.2.1 20/00640/FUL – Little Court, Mamhead Road, Kenton

Formation of detached outbuilding/garage with workshop and attic room storage

Members noted that TDC has refused to grant planning permission.

7.2.2 20/01848/LBC – Kenton Primary School, Mamhead Road, Kenton

Structural repair to southern gable wall

Members noted that TDC has granted Listed Building Consent.

7.2.3 20/02092/HOU – Little Tree Cottage, South Town

Single storey side extension

Members noted that this application has been withdrawn

210113.08 Village Maintenance

Members received a quote from Neil Bygrave for maintenance of the car park and the Rodean bed in 2021. It was agreed to accept the quotation of £1430 (an annual increase of £25).

210113.09 Harmony Meadow

9.1 Members received a request from a resident to grow lavender in Harmony Meadows for the purpose of producing eco-friendly products with a view to all the profits going towards the church ceiling fund. After discussion, it was agreed that Harmony Meadow is not the best location for this and that the resident should explore more suitable sites such as the allotments.

9.2 Members received an email from Sue Davis together with a map identifying all of the memorial trees at Harmony Meadow which need to be retained for as long as possible. She also advised that she will put a name identification plaque against each tree for those who do not have one. The email also provided some history about Harmony Meadows and advised that further items may be uncovered in the future when the ground is finally turned over for the extension of the cemetery.

210113.10 Oxton Name Plate

Members received correspondence from a resident in Oxton regarding the positioning of the new name plate in Oxton which was funded by a small grant from Kenton Parish Council. The resident advised that he had not been consulted about the plans for the sign and was now unhappy with where it had been sited, adjacent to his land. After discussion, it was agreed that the Parish Council could not comment on how Oxton Neighbourhood Residents Association had consulted with other residents about the sign as this was not a condition of the grant. It was

also agreed that the Parish Council should not involve itself in disagreements between Oxton residents and that if there is a desire in the community to move the sign, Oxton residents would need to come to an agreement about this and should raise the necessary funds themselves. However, it was agreed that a copy of the receipt for the sign should be obtained as part of the due diligence process.

210113.11 Allotments Lease
No further update.

210113.12 Playing Field/Hard Court

12.1 Members noted that Richard Grave's hourly rate for inspecting the play equipment will be increasing from £12 to £15 per hour.

12.2 The Chairman advised that he had no further information regarding the repairs to the rocking horse and would follow this up after the meeting.

210113.13 Highways & Footpaths

Sue Craythorne reported that she has completed the annual survey of the footpaths for DCC and they have all passed. She did report, however, that there was a problem with the gate at the end of Brook Path, the post to which it was attached and a possible issue with the stability of the adjacent wall. Having looked at the wall, Sue reported that she and the Chairman considered that some repointing might be sufficient but the post is rotten. A resident has removed the ironmongery on the gate allowing the gate to swing freely and to reduce pressure on the post and wall.

After discussion, it was agreed that the Parish Council needs to establish who is responsible for the wall. In the meantime, it was agreed that the clerk asks the resident to reinstate the ironmongery so that the gate can be closed securely to prevent children and/or animals running into the main road. It was also agreed that when the P3 finance forms are returned to DCC, a sum of £500 is requested for the repairs to the gate.

210113.14 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]

Members received a request from Pizza a Legna asking whether it can trade from its wood-fired pizza van from Kenton Village car park on alternate Fridays from 15th January. This was agreed on a 3 month trial basis.

210113.15 Correspondence

15.1 Members noted correspondence into which the Parish Council had been copied from a resident to Airband querying the positioning of poles in the village.

15.2 Members noted that the village shop and post office will be closing at the end of the month. Members formally recognised Anne Hatcher's contribution to the parish and it was agreed that the Chairman would write a letter of thanks on behalf of the Parish Council.

210113.16 Meeting Dates 2021

Members received and approved the meeting dates for 2021.

210113.17 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on 10 February 2021 at 7.00pm on Zoom.

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Chairman

13 January 2021

Item 6:

Expenditure

Cheque no	Payee	Details	Amount
Standing Orders	Salaries	December & January	£1437.40
Online	Clifford Estate Co Ltd	Christmas Tree	£90
Online	Vision ICT	Website hosting and support	£240
Online	Imperative Training	New door for defibrillator cabinet	£144
Online	N Bygrave	Village maintenance	£205
Online	HMRC	PAYE	£215.60
Online	P White	Fuel, paint, charge to dispose of rubble at the tip	£35.86

Income (7 November 2020 – 7 January 2021)

Date received	Received from	Details	Amount
Nov/Dec	Various	Cemetery fees	£2075

Bank Balance at 7 January 2020

Current account	£48,012.78
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