

# KENTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held in Kenton Victory Hall on Wednesday 8 March 2023 at 7.00pm

---

### Present

Councillor D Blount (Chair), H Bright and D Smith

### Also present

Suzanna Hughes (Clerk), Peter White (Village Tidyman) and one member of the public

The meeting was opened by Cllr Blount at 7.00pm.

### 230308.01 Apologies for Absence

- Cllr Thompson
- Cllr Savill
- District/County Cllr Connett

### 230308.02 Open Forum

No comments.

### 230308.03 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.

### 230308.04 Ratification of Minutes

Members received the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 8 February 2023. It was agreed unanimously that those minutes are signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record of the meeting.

### 230308.05 Reports

#### 5.1 Police Report

No report

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

Cllr Connett has responded to emails from a resident regarding the resurfacing of the A379.

#### 5.3 Village Tidyman's Report

Peter White sent a written report as follows:-

- The broken slab by the bus shelter has been repaired
- The loose oak lattice fence at the cemetery entrance has been fixed
- Low branches around the cemetery have been trimmed
- There appears to be quite a few cones outside houses to reserve parking spaces – is this legal?
- The resurfacing on the A379 (from the Chi to Southtown) appears to be going well (albeit noisy)
- Might the Parish Council consider using either the telephone box/food larder as a book swap facility? It was agreed to have a look to see if there was space to acc

#### 5.4 **Dementia Friendly Village**

CLlr Blount advised that reluctantly the decision has been taken to close the Reflections Café and wind it up as it is no longer viable due to a lack of clients. The Sensory Garden plot has been handed back to Kenton Village Allotments. The bench will be removed and resited in the churchyard. The Parish Council has been asked to accept the balance of funds (£1232.33) which will be ring-fenced and made available in the future for the support of those living with dementia and their carers and any need of the elderly in Kenton, Starcross and Mamhead. Members agreed to this request.

#### 5.5 **Action Report – update on outstanding matters**

##### 5.5.1 Wall adjacent to the almshouses

The Chairman advised that he has been in touch with the Express and Echo but they have not yet called him back by a reporter. A member of the public suggested that the Parish Council makes a Freedom of Information request to TDC asking for documentary evidence that the footpath and wall were not part of the transfer when the churchyard was closed in 1997. Members agreed that the clerk should make this request, as suggested.

##### 5.5.2 Allotments lease

KVA is still exploring its options with the National Allotments Society. These options are to be put to KVA members and they will therefore have a better idea of the preferred option in the next few weeks.

#### 230308.06 **Finance and Governance**

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

#### 230308.07 **Planning**

##### 7.1 **New planning applications/appeals**

###### 7.1.1 23/00060/REM – Shambles, Fore Street, Kenton

Reserved Matters application (approval sought for access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale) pursuant to outline permission 19/01543/OUT for three dwellings, including details required by conditions 5 (Construction Management Plan) and 9 (Surface Water Drainage)

It was agreed that members would look at the application in more detail and agree a response outside the meeting.

##### 7.2 **Decisions**

None

##### 7.3 Teignbridge Local Plan 2020-2040 Consultation

It was agreed that members would look at the Plan in more detail and inform the clerk if there were any comments.

#### 230308.08 **Car Park**

##### 8.1 Car park wall repairs and maintenance

CLlr Smith advised that he was waiting for a contractor to send a formal quote including the items which he had specified last month. He has also requested that sand is delivered and stored in the car park. Members had no objections to this.

##### 8.2 Trees

A meeting with Stuart Bradford has been arranged on 17<sup>th</sup> March seeking his advice

on reducing the trees. It was agreed that the Chairman and Peter White would meet with him. The clerk advised that Conservation Area approval would also need to be sought.

### 8.3 'Abandoned' vehicles in the car park

Members discussed the two 'abandoned' vehicles in the car park which are contravening the rules of the car park. It was noted that one of the vehicles was SORN. After a discussion, it was agreed to place notices on each of the vehicles asking that they are immediately removed from the car park.

## 230308.09 Triangle

- 9.1 A request was received for a music event on a Sunday early evening in the Summer. The initial reaction of members was positive as such an event can help to bring a community together. However, after a lengthy discussion, members concluded that they would be unable to approve the event. The main reason was that it would set a precedent for other commercially-led events on the Triangle. Consideration was also given to neighbouring properties.
- 9.2 It was reported that a reversing lorry has caused some minor damage to the war memorial railings and to a tree opposite the Rodean. It was agreed that the tree needs to be pruned/trimmed back. The Chairman would mention this to Stuart Bradford at their meeting.

## 230308.10 Playing Field and Hard Court

- 10.1 Members received plans from the Trust's Chief Operating Officer showing how the Trust intends to restrict access to the rear of the hard court by installing a gate. Members had no objections to the installation of a gate. However, they still considered it essential that the Trust repairs the existing damage to ensure that the area is completely safe.
- 10.2 Cllr Bright circulated a summary of the ROSPA report, highlighting the moderate and high level risk issues and possible proposals. Cllr Smith advised that a group of parents have been approached asking for their suggestions for the park including drafting a funding bid to assist with any future financing of new equipment. They should be in a position to report any findings at the next meeting. In the meantime, Cllr Smith will try and find someone to take down the activity trail and swings.

## 230308.11 Climate Mitigation

- 11.1 The Chairman advised that the Council has received the lease in relation to the EV chargers which he has gone through with David Appleton. Some issues have been raised including:
- Parking enforcement – will there be an overstay penalty?
  - As the car park is in a Conservation Area, care must be taken where the telecommunications connections and supplies to the equipment run from. S
  - Signage will have to take into account the Conservation Area.
  - Reference operational hours, it was to be pointed out that there are no restrictions to the operational hours of the car park: it is open 24 hours a day.
  - Gross revenue – there is a discrepancy about the rates. It has been asked that these are clarified.

Unrelated to the lease itself, it was agreed to confirm with Deletti whether the charger will have both CCS and CHAdeMO adapters. Confirmation was also sought about the charge per kw assuming that the 50kw charger is required to take contactless cards. These questions have gone back to Deletti.

11.2 No update on the wildflower areas as Cllr Savill was not present at the meeting.

**230308.12 Highways and Footpaths**

Paul Harmsworth has asked whether the Parish Council would be willing to insure those Community Speedwatch volunteers who will be moving the VAS signs. After brief discussion, members agreed with the view of Starcross Parish Council that DCC should be the authority who take on the responsibility and insurance of matters relating to highways safety.

**230308.13 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

**230308.14 Correspondence**

Members received and noted correspondence from a resident concerning The Dolphin Inn.

**230308.15 Date of Next Meeting**

15.1 The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on 12 April 2023 at 7pm.

15.2 The next Parish Council meeting will be held on 12 April 2023 at 7.30pm

.....  
**Chairman**

**Item 6.1****Expenditure**

| <b>Payment type</b> | <b>Payee</b> | <b>Details</b>  | <b>Amount</b> |
|---------------------|--------------|---|---------------|
| Standing Order      | Salaries     | February  | £789.52       |
| Online              | S Hughes     | Mileage (Jan - March)   | £48.60        |
| Online              | P White      | Grass seed, replacement wheelbarrow wheel and strimmer repair | £60.26        |

**Income (5 February – 4 March 2023)**

| <b>Date received</b> | <b>Received from</b> | <b>Details</b> | <b>Amount</b> |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------|---------------|
| None                 |                      |                |               |

**Bank Balance at 4 March 2023**

|                        |            |
|------------------------|------------|
| <b>Current account</b> | £44,853.11 |
|------------------------|------------|