

# KENTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting 12th April 2023

**Present:** 4 Parish Councillors (Cllrs C Thompson, D Blount, H Bright, K Savill) and 10 members of the public

**Clerk:** Suzanna Hughes

**The meeting was chaired by Cllr David Blount (Parish Council Chairman).**

### **APM230412.01 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

- Cllr Smith

### **APM230412.02 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

The Chairman outlined projects which the Council has been involved in over the past year. Firstly, he thanked Peter White and Lewis Widdicombe for their hard work in the cemetery which is looking wonderful. He was also pleased to see that the Post Office is now installed in the Powderham Shop.

There are various ongoing projects which the Parish Council is involved in: Community Speedwatch, the allotments lease, the car park wall and the issues with the Dolphin Inn. Whilst not the responsibility of the Parish Council, it is keen to solve the problem with Parsons Walk and the condition of the wall.

Future plans:

A lot of the equipment is old and tired and requires replacement. There are ongoing problems with the retaining wall on Brook Path – these seem to be cosmetic only. Electric charging points are to be installed in the car park. Kenton is in the second tranche of installations. Climate Change is also an issue the Council is aware of.

He gave thanks to fellow Councillors for their help during the last year, especially Cllr Thompson who is sadly retiring at the end of this term. He has been a Councillor for over 11 years, 5 of them as Chairman. He was also instrumental in the compilation of the Neighbourhood Plan. He also thanked District Cllr Connett who is retiring from TDC at the end of this term for all the help he has given to the Council and the parish over the years. The parish has also lost its vicar and the Reflections Café has folded due to a lack of members. Ragamuffins has also closed.

### **APM230412.03 OPEN FORUM AND QUESTIONS**

Peter White thanked all the Parish Councillors for everything they have done in the parish as volunteers.

A question was asked about the location of the damaged section Brook Path wall. The Chairman confirmed that it was a section near the bridge to Pear Tree Close. Work can't be undertaken until Spring/Summer due to the water levels.

Confirmation was sought whether the playpark was still supported by the Parish Council. The Chairman confirmed that it was the intention of the Council to replace the equipment. It is understood that a group of parents are looking at grants and replacement equipment etc.

Allotments – the Council were made aware of changes within the Allotments Association which may impact the way the allotments are managed in the future.

A member of the public asked how the Parish Council intended to ‘recruit’ younger people on to the Parish Council. The Chairman advised that the Parish Council was doing what it could to encourage new members but it was acknowledged that there was a real issue with lack of time because of work and family commitments.

The same parishioner commented on the resurfacing of the A379. The Chairman advised that he should direct his comments and concerns to DCC as the Highways authority.

**APM230412.04**

**CLOSE**

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 7.28pm.

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Cllr D Blount  
Chairman