

KENTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held in Kenton Victory Hall on Wednesday 13 September 2023 at 7.30pm

Present

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

Also present

Suzanna Hughes (Clerk), County Cllr Connett, District Cllr Taylor, Peter White (Village Tidyman) and 5 members of the public

The meeting was opened by Cllr Blount at 7.30pm. At the start of the meeting, he advised that all future meetings would start at 7.30pm (previously 7.00pm).

230913.01 Apologies for Absence

None

230913.02 Open Forum

Some observations were made about the VAS sign. It appears to be slowing some vehicles down whilst others seem to speed up to trigger the 'sad face'. It was noted that the sign has a counter to record those vehicles travelling over the speed limit thus providing useful statistics.

A resident commented that the section of Brook Path near the hairdressers is getting overgrown. Members were aware of this but responsibility is not clear.

The hedge on the corner of East Town Lane and Orchard Way has been trimmed but is still overhanging the footpath. The Chairman advised that residents do intend to cut it back further. Cllr Connett advised that DCC is also intending to write to those residents.

A resident commented that there is a dislodged slab on Penhayes steps. Cllr Connett advised that this is the responsibility of DCC and he would report it.

A resident commented on the hedge on Witcombe Lane at the rear of properties on Lumley Close which is narrowing Witcombe Lane from Warboro Hill to Sunnybank. Cllr Connett advised that DCC do not consider it to be a safety matter. However, the Parish Council agreed to write to properties on Lumley Close asking them to ensure that their section of hedge is cut back as tightly as possible so as to minimise the narrowing of Witcombe Lane.

230913.03 Declarations of Interest

None were declared and no requests for dispensation were received.

230913.04 Ratification of Minutes

Members received the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 12 July 2023. It was agreed unanimously that those minutes are signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record of the meeting.

230913.05 Reports

5.1 Police Report and Community Speedwatch

It was noted that PC Orchard has changed his role and is no longer the Neighbourhood

Beat Manager for this parish. Whilst the position is being filled, any issues are to be directed to PCSO Saul Bunce.

The Chairman reported that there have been further incidents of anti-social behaviour including the taking and breaking of eggs from a property in Ford Farm. Members were advised that a referral has been made to the multi-agency safeguarding hub at DCC. Cllr Connett also offered to follow this up with the Director of Children's Services.

5.2 County Councillor's Report

Cllr Connett advised that he has written to parish clerks inviting parishes to submit their proposals for local non-contentious waiting restrictions to be included in the 2023/4 Local Waiting Restriction Programme. The clerk advised that this will be discussed at item 12.1.

5.3 District Councillor's Report

Cllr Taylor thanked the Chair for inviting him to present the prizes at the Village Show. He advised that he has had no response to further enquiries he has made about the wall adjacent to the almshouses. He will continue to follow this up. He informed members that as a result of the number of responses to the Local Plan consultation exercise (over 7000), TDC is planning to publish an addendum. TDC now has its own programme for building council houses and written to parishes asking them to complete a survey about community need for council housing.

5.4 Village Tidyman's Report

Peter White reported as follows:

- The yellow double lines have been extended back from the A379 Slittercombe Lane outside the Victory Hall
- When drivers go past The Rodean and try to turn left around the memorial to go into the car park they need to do a three point turn which is not easy if a car is parked outside the old antique shop. Can the existing double lines be extended towards the Rodean by some 5/6m saving the granite bollards being repeatedly hit? This will be discussed at item 12.1.
- Two Triangle chain oak posts have been replaced.

5.5 Action Report – update on outstanding matters

5.5.1 Wall adjacent to the almshouses

No further update.

5.5.2 Allotments lease

Members noted that the lease has now been completed.

5.5.3 Brook Path Wall

A report and quote is still awaited from a contractor about repairs to the pointing etc. Clerk to chase.

230913.06 Finance and Governance

6.1 Payments

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

230913.07 Planning

7.1 New planning applications/appeals

7.1.1 23/01471/TPO - 9 & 11 Staffick Close, Kenton

T001 - Lime: Mature Lime tree on the boundary between 11 and 9 Staffick Close. Reduction in height by approximately 4m (existing height 18m – finished height

14m). Reduction of southern crown (over highways) by approximately 2.5m (existing southern crown 8m – finished width 5.5m). Removal of epicormic growth.

Members agreed not to comment.

- 7.1.2 23/01466/LBC - Church Cottage, High Street, Kenton
Addition of a picture rail, cornice and ceiling rose in the lounge and dining room and removal of two internal walls and cobbled floor covered with DPC and concrete screed in the kitchen (retrospective)

Members had no objections to this application.

- 7.1.3 23/01604/FUL - 7 Castle Gate, Kenton
Retrospective change of use of annex to a mixed annex and holiday use

Members had no objections to this application.

- 7.1.4 23/01465/VAR – The Dairy, Oxton Barns, Kenton
Variation of condition 2 on planning permission 22/01269/HOU (single storey front extension) to reduce the number of rooflights, amend the lobby entrance and addition of a log burner

Members had no objections to this application.

- 7.1.5 23/00017/REF – Dolphin Inn, Fore Street, Kenton
Appeal against the refusal of 22/01006/FUL: Sub-division of part of the public house to form a new dwelling, demolition of two storey rear extension and erection of single storey rear extension, demolition of lean-to side extension to form new beer garden and bin store, installation of new door on front elevation, installation of new first floor window on front elevation and replacement gates to front

Members noted the appeal. No additional comments were made.

7.2 Decisions

- 7.2.1 23/01240/HOU – 14 Sunnybank, Kenton
Single storey rear extension and minor amendments to side

Members noted that TDC has granted conditional planning permission.

- 7.2.2 23/01072/CAN – Kenton Car Park
0152 - Beech. Reduce crown by 2m. 0151 - Small ash. Fell. 0150 - Laurel. Reduce all stems down to 2.5m. 0146 - Silver birch. Reduce in height by 2-3m. 0145 - Alder. Fell. 0140 - Birch. Fell. 0139 - Birch. Reduce crown by 3-4m to suitable growth points and remove low limb over car park

Members noted that TDC has granted conservation area notification approval.
[For the record, the application to reduce two ash trees (0142 and 0143) and the maple tree (0148) was withdrawn from the application at the tree officer's request as there was no justification for the proposed works.]

230913.08 Car Park and Triangle

8.1 Abandoned vehicles

The clerk advised that DVLA has been notified of two SORN'd vehicles which have been parked in the car park without the Parish Council's permission. No response has been received.

8.2 Damaged bollard and railings

Peter White reported that he has reinstated the granite bollard (although it has been knocked out again since). He has also sanded the railings ready for painting.

230913.09 Cemetery

Members reviewed the schedule of fees. It was agreed to increase all fees by 5% (to the nearest multiple of £5).

230913.10 Playing Field & Hard Court

Further to a request last meeting for confirmation about guarantees, Cllr Smith advised that any new steel equipment installed in the play area will have a 25 year guarantee and the timber equipment will have a 10 year guarantee. The contractor has also confirmed that the original quote will be honoured. On this basis, members agreed that Cllr Smith should request that the works go ahead.

230913.11 Climate Change Mitigation

The Chairman advised that David Appleton is liaising with DCC about the car park charging points and therefore the Council needs to take no further action at this point.

230913.12 Highways and Footpaths

12.1 To consider submissions for consideration in the 2023/24 Local Waiting Restriction Programme (primarily double yellow lines to restrict parking).

Proposal to extend the yellow lines outside the Almshouses by about 4-5 metres towards the Rodean (when cars are parked there it is almost impossible to negotiate the corner between Church Street and the car park. There is a danger of cars mounting the pavement or reversing into parked cars when carrying out this action).

It was agreed to put forward this proposal to Cllr Connett for inclusion in the next programme.

12.2 To receive correspondence from a resident relating to highways matters around Warboro Hill and Witcombe Lane and a request for action relating to the hedge along Witcombe Lane

This was dealt with in the open forum.

12.3 It was observed that a small section has been cut out of the gully at the bottom of Butts Hill but there is no way for the water to enter or escape the gully. It has not resolved the issue that was raised almost a year ago and water is still spilling out into the road.

12.4 Cllr Bright advised that Powderham Estate have still not cut back the hedge in South Town and it is covering the pavement. The clerk advised that she had written to Powderham's land agent but had received no response.

12.5 Members were reminded that DCC encourages all highways issues and defects to be reported on DCC's website:

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/report-a-problem>

230913.13 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

230913.14 Correspondence

14.1 Members received an invitation to attend meeting aimed at fostering a stronger and more collaborative relationship between Teignbridge District Council and parish councils: Thursday 12 October at 6pm in the Council Chamber, Forde House, Newton Abbot. Members were unable to attend but looked forward to hearing the outcome of the meeting.

230913.15 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 11 October 2023 at 7.30pm.

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Chairman

13 September 2023

Item 6:

Expenditure

Payment type	Payee	Details	Amount
Standing Order	Salaries	July & August	£1587.44
Online	Powderham Estate	Half year allotments rent	£650
Online	Wollens	Fees relating to Allotments lease	£2226.40
Online	PKF Littlejohn	External audit	£252
Online	TDC	Election charges	£278.70

Income (6 July – 8 September 2023)

Date received	Received from	Details	Amount
August	HMRC	VAT refund	£2527.25
September	Kenton Village Allotments	Half year allotments rent	£487.50

Bank Balance at 13 September 2023

Current account	£53,418.36
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