

KENTON PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council
held at Victory Hall, Kenton on
Wednesday 13 September 2017 at 7.00pm

Present

Cllrs C Thompson (Chairman), D Appleton, D Blount, S Cowell, H Hutchings (from item 2), S Maguire-Walker and J Randall

Also present

Suzanna Hughes (Clerk), Peter White and five members of the public

The meeting was opened by the Chairman at 7.00pm.

170913.01 Apologies for Absence

- District/County Cllr Connett
- PC Rob Harvey & PCSO Adrian Ovreiu

170913.02 Co-option of Councillor

Members received two applications for the position of Parish Councillor. A brief written resume from each candidate had been supplied to councillors prior to the meeting.

It was agreed to vote by paper ballot after which it was announced that Hazel Hutchings had been elected by absolute majority. The Chairman congratulated Mrs Hutchings who proceeded to sign her Declaration of Acceptance of Office, which was witnessed by the clerk, and immediately joined the meeting.

170913.03 Open Forum

A parishioner reported that a drain outside Kenton View is full of soil and grass is growing out of it. It was agreed that the clerk would contact DCC and ask them to clear it. It was also suggested that the fish and chip van finds a more suitable place to park as it is currently parking on a junction and on double yellow lines which is dangerous. It was agreed that the clerk would contact them and suggest that they park in the car park.

A parishioner commented that the bus shelters in South Town do not do the parish any credit and asked whether the Parish Council could provide new ones like in the centre of Kenton. The Chairman advised that these cost around £7,500 each and therefore funding was an issue particularly as the Parish Council faced more pressing financial commitments such as Brook Path and cemetery lych gate repairs.

Parishioners commented on the recent Lockdown Festival at Powderham and the impact it had had on them. Noise was a huge problem with music playing beyond 1.00am. One parishioner informed members that four of her dogs needed calming tablets because of the noise and vibration. Glass bottles, drugs paraphernalia and condoms were found strewn around the village which is unacceptable and not doing the village any good. It was also reported that many taxi firms refused to carry passengers because they were too muddy. People were therefore wondering around the streets and walking to Exeter in the early hours.

Parishioners were informed that TDC is hosting a multi-agency review meeting of Lockdown Festival on 4 October and all comments and observations should be sent to the Licensing department for their consideration.

170913.04 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. Unforeseen requests for a Dispensation to be considered at this point only if there was no way a Councillor would have been aware of such before the meeting.

There were no declarations of interest or requests for dispensation.

170913.05 Ratification of Minutes

Members present received the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 12 July 2017. It was agreed unanimously that those minutes are signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record of the meeting.

170913.06 Police Report

No report received.

170913.07 District/County Councillor's Report

Cllr Connett was unable to attend the meeting but sent a written report which was noted by members, in particular:

Teignbridge District Council kindly cleared the brook of sanitary/continence products when reported to them a few weeks ago, but they explained to me that they do not normally clear items from watercourses.

Following the Lockdown Festival, a number of comments were received about noise levels and other issues I have forwarded comments to Licensing at Teignbridge Council and have been advised there is a review meeting on October 4 to look at what went well/what can be improved. I would recommend that if residents or the Parish Council wish to comment, they make them as soon as possible and before the end of September.

170913.08 Village Tidyman Report

Peter White made the following observations:

- The drains in car park now cleared by myself and Lewis Withecombe (as reported in July)
- Willow tree, which was cut down near Peartree Close last year by TDC, is sprouting near new replacement tree trunk and roots need to be chipped as done on other trees previously cut down. It was agreed that the clerk would contact TDC.
- Weeds around rails in children play area need to be sprayed as encroaching onto special surface
- Weeds in tennis court need same as above

170913.09 Delegate Reports

9.1 Dementia Friendly Village:

Cllr Blount reported that the Reflections Café met last Saturday. The chair yoga continues to be a success. October's theme is the 1940s and they will be using BBC archives to show films and will also have a quiz. They are looking at ways to extend the membership. The school is keen to get involved and the group is also making progress with the sensory garden at the allotments. It is hoped to run a pub quiz at The Dolphin to raise funds to pay for plants and seating.

9.2 Friends of the Field/Community Forum:

No report.

9.3 Local Listings Project:

Cllr Randall reported that she and Ann Bond had visited the Devon Heritage Centre but found no information about the South Town cottages.

170913.10 Finance and Governance

10.1 Invoices for payment - it was agreed unanimously that the payments, as listed in the supporting documents (attached), be approved and cheques signed

10.2 Members received and considered an application for a grant from the pre-school which is looking to secure funds to help with the capital cost of building a new pre-school in the village. After discussion, it was agreed that the Council's grant budget (£500) was too small to help this project at

this stage though the Council would be happy to receive an application, once the project is up and running, towards equipment for the pre-school.

170913.11 Planning

11.1 New applications/appeals

11.1.1 17/01794/LBC – Penhayes Care Home, Kenton
Provision of second floor WC

Members had no objections to this application.

11.1.2 17/01796/LBC – Penhayes Care Home, Kenton
Construct new ground floor

Members had no objections to this application.

11.1.3 17/01799/LBC – Penhayes Care Home, Kenton
Installation of internal security glazing

Members had no objections to this application.

11.1.4 17/02154/CAN – 8 High Street, Kenton
Reduce height of silver birch, hazel and cherry trees by one third

Members had no objections to this application.

11.2 Decisions

11.2.1 17/1960/CAN – Middle Court Hall, Mamhead Road, Kenton
The felling of three conifer trees, one ash tree and the crown lifting of one conifer tree

Members noted that TDC does not object to this proposal.

170913.12 Neighbourhood Plan

The Chairman reported that a meeting was held on 4 August. It has been agreed that the group has progressed as far as it can and to make any further progress a consultant is needed. He advised that a sub-group consisting of himself (Chairman), Cllr Blount, Frank German and Sue Craythorne will direct this. An application for a grant has been made and an award of £4,200 has been agreed. A consultant, Caroline Ray, has been appointed and the group has met with her. A draft plan is expected by the end of October. There will still be further work to complete including the policies and sourcing photos and maps etc.

170913.13 Powderham Events

Members received correspondence from parishioners in connection with recent Powderham events and noted the concerns raised in the open forum. Having reviewed the impact Lockdown in particular had on the parish, members agreed that the Parish Council should write to TDC's Licensing department with its concerns and encouraged members of the public to do the same. The main issues were noise, with music being played beyond 1.30am, poor management of people leaving the event, litter and parking and transport problems. Members also believed that Powderham Estate had gone back on promises made about the management of the event and how it intended to minimise the impact on the parish. It did not, for example, provide additional toilets in Kenton car park as had been suggested following the previous event. Members also asked the clerk to write to the Estate asking for a public meeting to be arranged where it could be explained to parishioners what they think went wrong and how they intend to improve this next year.

170913.14 Defibrillators

14.1 Members were advised that it was likely that MAT Electrics would be installing the defibrillator outside Victory Hall during the half term week at the end of October when the pre-school will be closed.

14.2 Cllr Cowell reported that the inside of the telephone box has now been painted and the defibrillator can now be installed. It was agreed to ask MAT Electrics to do this as soon as possible.

170913.15 Brook Path

15.1 Members were advised that following a report of loose stones falling into the brook, on inspection by TDC and DCC officers, it was confirmed that there had been no findings of loose walling stone and that the large stones in the brook could have been mistaken for walling stones when in fact they were more than likely to have been left over from previous repairs to the bridge. Members agreed that the Parish Council should keep an eye on any movement of stones. Cllr Appleton advised that he had noticed that one of the limestone coping blocks had become dislodged and was collecting debris in the stream. It was therefore further agreed that inspection of the coping stones should be added to the village inspection schedule and repointing undertaken as required.

15.2 Members noted the recent disposal of items in the brook and noted the action that had been taken.

170913.16 Car Park

16.1 Members considered a request by TDC to site a new textiles bank in the Triangle car park. After discussion it was agreed that a textile bank was unnecessary as there is already a regular collection of textiles door to door. The bank is also quite small and it is likely that bags will be left next to it once it becomes full. Because there is already a problem of flytipping and people leaving bags of rubbish next to bins in the car park, it was agreed that an additional receptacle would exacerbate the problem.

16.2 In response to the Council's request for a replacement dog bin in the car park, members were advised that TDC no longer stocks that size bin and that the standard bins would be too large for that location. The only option would be to remove the bin and then place stickers on the litter bins stating that they can be used for dog waste as well (Dog waste does not specifically need to be placed into dog waste bins as it is just classified as general litter). Members commented that the general waste bins were already overflowing. It was therefore agreed to ask TDC to increase the number of collections each week.

16.3 Flytipping update – no new issues were reported but it was noted the problem still exists and needs to be monitored.

170913.17 Cemetery

17.1 Members received confirmation that £500 has been granted by the Rural Aid Committee towards the proposed improvements to the cemetery paths. It was agreed to write to the Rural Aid Committee to ask whether this grant could be used towards the cost of repairing the cemetery lych gates instead as this project was more pressing and the cost had increased significantly since the initial quotation.

17.2 Cllr Cowell presented some options for repairs to the lych gates. It was agreed that quotations should be sourced in time for the next meeting based on the suggestions presented. The clerk was in the process of obtaining a further quotation which would hopefully be received by October's meeting.

170913.18 Kenton Village Allotments

Members were advised that probate of the Estate is now complete which means that renewal of the allotments lease should now be able to progress. The clerk has emailed Iain Beaumont for an update but, to date, there had been no response and therefore nothing further to report.

170913.19 Village Inspection

Cllrs Randall and Maguire-Walker reported that they had carried out the village inspection. Various items were noted and actions were agreed. The report would be reviewed again next month.

- 170913.20 Elector Fund**
Members were advised that the Elector Fund was now open for applications. The closing date for the first round of applications is 29 September and the closing date for the second round is in early February. The available grant sum is based on £1.10 per elector in the parish [882 electors in Kenton]. Cllr Blount suggested an application is made towards the cost of creating the Dementia Friendly Village sensory garden. This was considered a good suggestion but further thought would be given and an application would be deferred until February.
- 170913.21 Playing Field/Hard Court**
21.1 Members received and noted the resignation of John Castle as Parish Playing Area Facilitator.
21.2 Members received the fortnightly inspection reports and noted the issues raised.
21.3 Cllr Appleton advised that he will confirm a date on which the work on the changing room will be carried out.
- 170913.22 Highways & Footpaths**
22.1 The clerk advised that the cost of purchasing a title plan from the Land Registry in order to establish the boundaries to properties on Staffick Close so that the responsibility for cutting the overgrown hedge on Kenton Hill could be determined, is £14.95 per property. It was agreed that as the hedge was obstructing the footpath which is part of the highway, the responsibility for establishing ownership should rest with DCC. It was therefore agreed to inform DCC of the problem.
22.2 Members received correspondence from Sue Craythorne (P3 co-ordinator for the parish) advising them of some overhanging branches along Brook Path. It was agreed that the Chairman would ask Sue to talk to the owner as she had suggested.
- 170913.23 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]

Cllr Randall asked members if there were any objections to Joan West's memorial bench being sited on the Parish Council garden behind the Rodean. Members supported the proposal should it be decided that this is the preferred location.
- 170913.24 Correspondence**
There were no items of correspondence which hadn't already been dealt with above.
- 170913.25 Date of Next Meeting**
The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on 11 October 2017 at 7.00pm in Victory Hall.

Part II

[Contains items which may be taken in the absence of the public and press on grounds that exempt information may be disclosed]

- 170913.26 Exclusion of the Press and Public**
Members resolved that the public and press are excluded from the meeting as the item under discussion contains information exempt under Local Government Act 1972 Section 100A Part 1 and Schedule 12 A & Public Bodies (Admissions to meetings) Act 1960 Section 2(1)
- 170913.27 Items in the Brook**
There was a brief discussion about the items thrown into the Brook (ref item 15.2 above). Members noted that this was being dealt with by the appropriate authorities.

170913.28 Review of Employee Job Descriptions

Members discussed employee job descriptions following the resignation of the Parish Playing Area Facilitator and the need to maintain the parish's assets and play equipment. It was agreed that members would review the job descriptions of the Parish Playing Area Facilitator and the Village Tidyman and discuss again at the next meeting.

The meeting was closed by the Chairman at 9.42pm.

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Chairman

13 September 2017**Item 9:****Expenditure**

Cheque no	Payee	Details	Amount
000382	Marsh Barton Security	Car park security patrols (July and August)	£75.60
000383	S Hughes	Mileage	£16.20
000384	DCC	Licence for youth shelter	£50
000385	Powderham Estate	Half yearly rental for Kenton Village Allotments	£500
000386	Grant Thornton	External audit fee	£240
000387	Peter White	Fuel (£21.53), jubilee clips (£12.40), strimmer service and new coil (£166.52)	£200.45
Standing Orders	Payroll	Salaries (1 August and 1 September)	£1,360.08
Direct Debit	1 & 1 Internet	Domain name renewal	£8.39

Income (13 July – 8 September 2017)

Date received	Received from	Details	Amount
13 July 2017	Cemetery	Interment and headstone	£200
13 July 2017	Quiz	Funds towards defibrillator raised from quiz at The Dolphin	£250
18 July 2017	1 & 1 Internet	Refund	£19.12
10 August 2017	Devon County Council	Grant from Cllr Connett's locality budget towards repairs in the cemetery	£1,000
14 August 2017	Kenton in Bloom	Reimbursement	£126

Bank Balances at 8 September 2017

Current account	Fixed term deposit Interest rate 1% Maturity date 24 Oct 2017	Total
£19,655.44	£10,000	£29,655.44