

KEMPSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Teresa Griffin, Winterwood, Whelford, Fairford, Glos. GL7 4EB

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To all Parish Councillors

Members are reminded that the council has a general duty to consider the following matters in the exercise of any of its functions: Equal opportunities (race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, religion and any disability), Crime and Disorder, Health and Safety, and Human Rights.

Minutes from the Parish Council Meeting of Tuesday 16th March 2021

Meeting held remotely using video and telephone software.

Present:

Tony Williams (Chair)	Christine Nugent	Stephen Andrews (CDC)	John O'Connell
Mark Strange	Teresa Griffin (Clerk)	Steve Trotter (CDC)	Keith Lewis
Karen Saunders	Ray Theodoulou (GCC)	Dom Morris	

- Apologies:** Phil Nickson
- Minutes:** Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 16th February 2021 were approved. The Chairman to sign hard copy when delivered.
- Disclosure of member's interests:** None
- Dispensation requests:** None
- Matters Arising:** None.
- Questions from members of the public:** Tony Williams invited John and Keith, as Parish Councillor applicants to ask any questions –
 - John O'Connell advised that he was fascinated by the diversity of topics and issues being discussed.
 - Keith Lewis reported he is particularly interested in the community and the services/facilities for the elderly, and how the Council integrates and assists these people, particularly those living alone. Tony Williams advised that a group was set up to assist these people during the pandemic. The Clerk advised that we also try to include in the monthly Parish Newsletter as much information as possible on groups/organisations that can offer help and assistance. Stephen Andrews offered to put Keith in touch with groups in Fairford and Lechlade that are looking to address these issues.
- County Councillor's Report:** Ray Theodoulou reported –
 - There is a County Council meeting tomorrow at which a large number of questions will be raised by both the public and councillors. The motions and papers include –
 - Equalities and request to adopt Rooney Rule
 - Apology from Lead for Schools on the misguided actions of previous councils in respect of special schools closures
 - Covid
 - Social Care Funding
 - The Local Transport Plan and concern from Lechlade that they do not appear in it.
 - Budgetary Matters – It is looking like there will be a surplus this year, and as with all councils, this is due to receiving Government support.
 - Tony Williams advised that we still have no dates for when the damaged highway outside the Parsonage will be repaired and the drains unblocked. The resident at Broadway House is also asking when his drainage problem will be resolved as we are approaching the end of the financial year within which it was scheduled. Ray advised that the works at Broadway House will be carried forward and he will get in touch with Highways re the Parsonage. Dom Morris confirmed that Highways are planning to undertake the works within 28 days. The Clerk advised that since we lost Richard Gray as our Local Highways Manager, it has been much more difficult to get anything done and a lack of contact/correspondence.
- District Councillors Report:** - Stephen Andrews reported –
 - Election May 2021
 - Formal position is that work continues to assume an election in May.
 - There is a push to advertise Postal Voting.
 - "Normal" electioneering activity such as canvassing/leafleting has been permitted by the Government from 8th March. Any such activity will be expected to conform to social distancing and infection control measures (e.g. Hands – Face – Space).
 - Budget Approval
 - Full Council approved the proposed budget and the rise in Council Tax (£5 per Band D) at its meeting on the 24th February.

- Budget and associated financial forecast includes provision for substantial loan provision against as yet undefined programmes that will be brought forward and justified in due course.
- Leisure Strategy. Approved by Cabinet on the 1st March – but not yet clear what that will mean practically for Fairford, Lechlade and the surrounding communities. It has been brought to the attention of the Community Wellbeing Group.
- COVID-19 Lockdown
 - I am interested in any issues with local support to the vulnerable.
 - Need to encourage adherence to the staged relaxation of provisions in order to prevent any resurgence.
 - Pressure on NHS easing – but not yet “out of the woods”.
- Community Project Fund now ‘Crowdfund Cotswold’ held its launch event on 22nd February. Training events on the use of the new platform are now available for organisations seeking funding by this route.
- There is a Council meeting tomorrow and included is the review of the Ubico contract and contract rules for the Council, the request for a change of name for Kemble Parish, expenditure for homeless prevention, support to SLM, affordable housing scheme and Code of Conduct.
- Planning
 - A relatively new process of ensuring items are only brought to the Planning Committee for Planning Reasons has caused some controversy in Quenington where a case recommended by the Ward Councillor to be brought forward to the Planning Committee was not, but was approved by the Screening Panel.
 - Comprehensive review of planning, including planning enforcement due to start.
- Coln Park Applications – Due to Lechlade having a Neighbourhood Plan they are likely to receive CIL money for the new builds. There will also be money going to Cotswold and my aim is for some of the money to be spent on wider things.
The new SSSI designation will affect Coln Park as the majority of it is included. Currently it will effect 2 applications they have which are considered new builds.
- Coln House – Fairford Town Council has objected to the current application for 17 houses on the grounds that it was a community facility, and should remain so. This is supported by the Rugby Club.
- RAF Fairford – Construction of new Multi-Purpose Hangar (2024)
- Lake 104 – a meeting regarding footpaths is firming up.
- PROW’s - I have asked the PROW Officer if there is a way for routes which historically crossed the airfield be recorded so should it ever close they could be restored if possible.

Steve Trotter reported –

- A meeting was held earlier today regarding a potential multi-user path between Lechlade and Fairford. It was first looked at 10 years ago and a report was issued in 2013. With grants currently available and the interest in sustainable transport it was decided to try and pick it up again. Sustrans will be asked to update the report, undertake a feasibility study and talk to Lakes by Yoo and see if we can do a circular track.

9. **Kempsford Parish Council**

- **Community Emergency Plan Review** – The Plan has been updated in terms of contacts. It was agreed that the inventory of equipment needs to be checked. Dom Morris recommended exercising the plan as Fairford Town Council found itself in trouble during the flooding over Christmas.
- **Updates from meetings attended** –
 - Tony Williams advised that he and Karen Saunders had met with Bruce Arkell to discuss the footpaths in and around the quarry, and following this he has circulated a suggested route to councillors for consideration before going back to Bruce. It was agreed to put forward the suggestion.
The bridge across the Dudgrove Brook being used by the quarry for inert tipping has resulted in it becoming a mud bath. The Clerk was asked to email the Planning Officer about it.
 - At the Manor Farm Quarry liaison meeting, concern was raised about the current volume of water. There are 3 pumps currently in operation. Tony Williams is meeting with Jenny Collyer from RAF Fairford on Thursday to walk the footpaths around the quarry.
 - Mark Strange reported on the recent Village Hall meeting. Nothing much is going on except the Post Office. The committee has been successful in their second application for a Government grant of £8,000. They are working on getting the curtains up, which was funded by CDC. A new Fish & Chip van has begun visiting the Village Hall car park on a Monday.
 - A meeting with Marston Meysey and Castle Eaton Parishes is being held tomorrow to discuss the Blackburr Farm Quarry proposals. Tony Williams advised that he has written to Geoffrey Clifton Brown.
 - A response has been received from Thames Water regarding the problems at the pumping station. They are investigating this further but it would appear that on this occasion part of the problem was caused

by residents flushing incorrect items down toilets. Something will be included in the next Parish Newsletter advising residents to only flush acceptable items.

• **Residents reports to Councillors –**

- A complaint was received regarding a new home office being constructed at Holly Bush Cottage and whether planning permission is required. Stephen Andrews is looking in to this.
- A Whelford resident raised safety concerns about some trees. This has been forwarded to the landowner for confirmation of if it is their responsibility or Gloucestershire Highways.

10. **Planning & Licensing –**

Ref	Location	Proposal	Decision
21/00872/TCO NR	Wharfside, 2 Coronation Cottages, High St. Kempsford	Works to trees in conservation area	No comment
21/00436/FUL	Plot W.17 Coln Park	Full application for erection of one unit of holiday accommodation	Re-routing of ditch noted. No comment.
20/04457/FUL	Plot 7.07 (7 Newfound Reach, Coln Park	Full application for erection of a unit of holiday accommodation (amendment of unit design)	No comment.
	Blackburr Farm	Proposed mineral extraction – virtual exhibition	Initial thoughts were discussed. Draft comments to be circulated via email prior to submission on 21/3
	Kempsford & Whelford	Street Trading Consent (Ice Cream Seller)	No comment

11. **Finance**

1. The following bills were approved to be paid:-

002144	CDC (Newsletter printing)	£95.26
002145	GAPTC (membership renewal)	£316.52
002146	Viking (stamps & Stationery)	£82.44 inc. VAT
002147	VOID	
002148	HM Revenue & Customs (PAYE)	£82.80
002149	T Griffin (wages & use of home)	£558.75

Receipts since last meeting:

Bank Interest	£ .38
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2. The Finance Report having been circulated to councillors prior to the meeting was agreed and approved. It is anticipated that we will be under budget at the year end, partly as there has been no progress with the transfer of the Hazel View facilities.

3. Christine Nugent reported that she had inspected the accounts, bank statements, documents and spreadsheets and confirmed all in good order.

12. **Clerks Report –** Nothing to report.

13. **Correspondence –**

All correspondence received via email has been circulated.

14. **Co-option of Councillor –** Tony Williams provided further information to the applicants on how the Council works in terms of meetings and how the responsibilities are distributed between councillors.

Members of the public and District/County Councillors left the meeting

Councillors discussed applicants, and agreed to co-opt John O’Connell as a Parish Councillor.

15. **Date of next meeting –** 20th April 2021, to be held remotely.

Meeting ended at 9.37pm

Copies:- Mrs Nugent, Mr Stokes, Mrs Saunders, Mr Williams, Mr Nickson, Mr Strange, CD.Cllrs, C.Cllrs.