

Keinton Mandeville Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of the above named Parish Council, held on
Tuesday 5 October 2010, at the village hall at 7.30pm.

Present Brendan O'Hara, Michael Richardson, Chris Lane, Sarah Cooke, Beverley Goodall, Kathy Low, Helen Beal, Mary D'Arcy

In attendance – Jimmy Zouche (County Councillor) John Calvert (District Councillor) Sue Graham (clerk.) 67 members of the public.

Brief Summary of public session

Points as follows were raised by members of the public with regard to item 4 – Planning Application number 10/03199/CPO

- Heavy lorries will create wear and tear, damage to road and utilities under the road – who will pay for them – applicant / council taxpayers?
- Quarry in village will affect property prices
- Who will police the movement of lorries and the number of lorries, even with conditions it would be difficult to enforce. (The County Councillor noted that there is a department at the County Council that will investigate if conditions are abused. Similarly, if the extraction exceeds the limit (tonnes) per annum then the County Council will investigate.)
- If this application is approved it will conflict with the vision and some objectives within the village plan with regard to traffic, heavy vehicles, maintenance of woodland, and the commitment to respecting the wishes of the residents of the village. Referendum requested
- Large number of protected species at the proposed site– there are legal implications associated with this
- Traffic needs to be controlled during school hours
- The public right of way that crosses the access to the proposed site needs to be protected
- This is a blue lias village and quarrying is our heritage which should be continued. This proposal is a small concern with two lorry movements per week and should not cause a great fuss.
- The application, if approved, would make a mockery of the SCC Minerals plan which notes that the existing quarries and current supply of blue lias can meet the demand.
- We have an unobtrusive quarry in the village already, not appropriate to have another on high heritage land on an exposed site.
- Impact on houses on Coombe Hill needs to be considered, especially in relation to vehicles accessing the quarry. Important that what is applied for and agreed is monitored.
- Concern over lorries passing houses where there is no pavement
- Concern over dust particles, length of time that these may remain in the atmosphere may exacerbate respiratory problems, will an environmental impact assessment take place?
- Can the existing quarry not cope with demand for blue lias?
- Concern over the size of the excavator and the potential noise from this.
- Lorries and other vehicles have been passing cottages in the village for over 200 years and they are still standing.
- The volume of traffic that will be created from this proposal is meaningless compared to the volume of traffic that passes through the village every day. Despite apparent grave concerns about movement and speed of traffic, only 2 residents volunteered to help with the community speedwatch scheme.
- SCC should encourage re-use of blue lias
- The parish council consistently promotes the use of blue lias, if we do not have the source of the stone then we cannot continue the character of the village.

Other matters raised during public session

- Kathy Low urged members of the public to consider standing for Parish Councillor / District Councillor at next May's elections.
- Dog fouling is a persistent problem – reports of concerning incidents on the Green, Irving Road and on Babcary lane / Cottons Lane. Request from a member of the public for a dog bin at the Cottons Lane end of the village. It was noted that this request had been previously raised with the dog warden who had refused.
- Dog warden will be shortly invited to village and urged to issue fixed penalty notices to offenders.
- Concern that SSDC had sent inappropriate warning letters about signs displayed to advertise Somerset Art Week.
- Jimmy Zouche outlined procedures for speaking at the planning committee at County Hall.
- The road at the High Street / Barton Road junction is subsiding.

Council Meeting

1. Apologies

Belinda Simson

2. Declarations

None

3. Minutes of last meetings: 7 September 2010

To approve and sign the minutes as a true and correct record of the meeting held.

The minutes were agreed and signed as a true and correct record of the meeting held. 1st CL 2nd BG unanimous.

4. Planning.

Consider the following application and receive related letters from members of the public, and observations from SSDC

- Application number 10/03199/CPO Extraction of Blue Lias and walling stone, land forming part of Westfield Farm, Keinton Mandeville

A summary noting the number and content of letters received from members of the public was read out.

Councillors confirmed that they had read the letters

Comments were invited and the following observations were made

- Application not specific enough in many places – the average figures presented need to be more specific especially with regard to vehicle movements, hours of operation, the hours of operation noted within the booklet conflict with those on the application.
- Lorries should not be allowed to come through the village during school run times.
- Concern that this is listed by the County Council as a major development
- Water pollution / drainage issues in BSD should be considered
- The application conflicts with minerals local plan and several planning policy statements.
- Coombe Hill is unsuitable for heavy goods vehicles
- Queen Street crossroads is a danger spot, cannot accommodate any further traffic. Movement onto the crossroads and the double yellow line area outside the shop is chaotic especially at school run times and this needs to be considered.
- Question need for the quarry, it will disturb the peace and quiet of the High Street.
- Question ability to control route and movement of heavy lorries – suggested that there is legislation that allows lorries to travel back to base via the quickest route.
- Concern about scaremongering with regard to this application. Anonymous flyer that was delivered to peoples houses was scurrilous and contained untruths.
- Concern about transport and average movements noted within the application, also concern that vehicles may use alternative routes than those specified. Conditions must address this.
- Note that 63 members of the Keinton Mandeville electorate were present, but possibly only 35 households, not necessarily representative of the whole electorate (867 on electoral roll in 2009.)
- We are led to believe that this would be good quality blue lias, desirable because of the thickness of it.
- Assurances about noise and dust have been given within the application.
- Unconvincing environmental argument presented
- Keinton Mandeville is a former quarrying village and this would be a relatively small extraction, it would be hypocritical to deny blue lias extraction in the village.
- Many more people in the village live much closer to the existing quarry than people will live to the proposed quarry and it has minimal effects on their lives.
- Footpath and access to quarry is a concern

The Chair summed up the views of the councillors and what had been heard from the floor. Three options were available to the council –

Recommend refusal / recommend approval / recommend approval with conditions.

The chair made a proposal to **approve** application with conditions 1st BO'H 2nd MR vote – 5 for; 2 against

The chair proposed the following conditions to reflect the discussion and address the planning issues raised re this application

- Hours of work should be limited to 8am-6pm Mon-Fri; 8am-1pm Saturday, 12 hour working days as noted in the application should not be allowed
- Bunds- both bunds should be extended, the eastern, north-eastern and southern flanks should be raised to a height of 3m and the southern flank bund should be extended by about 50% westwards
- The level of extraction should be limited to 2,000 tonnes per annum
- Extra hedging should be planted on the southern flank
- Movement of lorries should be restricted to 2 in and 2 out per day

DRAFT COUNCILLORS NOTE AMENDMENTS IN WRITING TO CLERK

- Lorries should not arrive at the site before 9.15am to allow the school traffic to have dispersed, similarly lorries should not be allowed to enter or leave the site between 2.45pm and 3.15pm to allow for the afternoon school traffic to clear.
- Lorries should follow a prescribed route up Coombe Hill, left onto the B3153 (Castle St) turn right at Crosskeys Crossroads onto the A37, turn R off the A37 to Tout Lane, Charlton Adam, and the reverse
- The public right of way which crosses the proposed access to the Quarry should be fenced along both sides, west from the stile at Coombe Hill, and there should be a kissing gate on each side where the track crosses the path and warning signs alerting walkers to the presence of the Quarry (and vehicles) on each gate. The footpath itself should be fenced for short distance on the south side and for a considerable distance on the north side to guide walkers along the correct path.

1st BO'H 2nd CL vote – for –5; abstentions 2.

4a. Determination of Planning.

- No notices had been received.

5. Finance and Payments (RFO – Clerk)

- a) Payments. The following payments were agreed 1st CL 2nd BG unanimous
- Clerk's salary S. Graham September 2010. £230.18
 - Clerk's extra hours September 2010 £57.54
 - Paul Williams maintenance September 2010 £80.00
 - Newsletter printing £22.93
 - Keinton Mandeville village hall, grant agreed at September meeting £1000.00
- b) Receipts
- Bank interest £2.19

c) Review of Accounts, including quarterly budget review.

The accounts were reviewed

Expenditure for September was £1102.18, income was £2.19. The bank balance is £15,717.26 The bank statements are also showing a total of £15,717.26. The quarterly budget statement, account book and bank statements were passed around for councillors to check.

d) Grant requests. Consider the following grant requests

- Castle Cary Rugby Union Football club

It had been agreed at a previous meeting that requests from organisations outside the village would be considered towards the end of the financial year. Clerk to write to the rugby club informing them of this and asking for details about the number of children in the village that use the club.

e) Receive thank you letter from Keinton Mandeville PCC.

A thank you letter from KM PCC was read out.

6. Highways

Update / Items to report

- Barton Road / High Street, subsidence at junction
- Holes have been patched in Barton Road (not by highways but by landowner)
- Queen Street pothole marked for repair for some time.
- Finger posts and Babcary lane signs need re painting and fixing respectively
- Common lane Queen street bend, edges crumbling
- Barton road edges wearing away

7. Parish Paths

Update

- Stile in field behind church will be repaired
- Path to side of quarry crumbling – BO'H to speak to quarry owner
- Dog fouling appalling. Dog warden to be consulted

8. Happy Tracks / Skate park

Update

- Nothing to report
- Receive inspection report
- Weekly inspections ongoing, nothing to report.

9. Neighbourhood watch

Receive monthly report

Nothing to report

10. Maintenance

Agree requirements

- Treat noticeboard on side of shop

11. Suggestion box

Contents for discussion

- No suggestions

12. Youth

Youth Activities – update

- Hockey activities planned for 18th October
- S Cooke will be attending a training day
- Lewis Diffey (Youth Worker) will present his plan for KM at the next meeting.

13. Village Hall field

Update on development of the field

- C Fleming (Village Hall Committee) has contacted the Chairman and asked for a joint meeting between the PC, the Olympic field committee and the village hall committee to look at the option of the Parish Council taking responsibility for the development of the field. Suggested date and time for the meeting 19 October, Village Hall, 7pm.

14. Village defibrillator

Update following meeting with trainer and volunteers

Very positive feedback from the meeting was noted. It was agreed that more volunteers are required. Article to appear in Parish magazine asking for volunteers. Need to hold off buying defibrillator until then. Clerk to find out about working with the Charity 'Arrhythmic Alliance' with regard to this.

15. Funeral Bier

- Update. No further information at the moment.

16. Correspondence

Discussion

- From SCC re speed indicator device – consider renewal and funding. It was agreed that this was too expensive (£350 for each indicator)
 - From Community Council for Somerset, re completion of survey into Thatch. BO'H agreed to complete this survey.
 - From KM Playing field – re damage to fence bordering playing field. The letter from the playing field noting action taken to date was read out.
 - From B Underwood, re setting up database for villagers to receive information via email. Councillors' views were invited on this suggestion. The following observations were made
- ❖ The responsibilities of the parish council in notifying parishioners were considered and it was agreed that it currently fulfils its responsibilities.
 - ❖ Disadvantages of having a two-tier system.
 - ❖ The current means of communication is adequate (notices delivered via letterboxes where appropriate) with minutes and agendas available on the notice board and on the website.
 - ❖ Barton St David has an e mail circulation list and individuals have acted on behalf of KM Parish Council in the past (with the village plan.)

Advice from SALC was considered including the potential problems with using a third party to act on behalf of the council. Whilst the difficulties were not insurmountable, the general agreement was that this was a 'service' that was not desirable, required or practical. Chair and clerk to write to Mr Underwood.

- From B Miller re minerals core strategy consultation, invitation to comment. There were no comments other than those made in the planning response with regard to the proposed quarry.
- From SSDC Review of the arrangements for the Area East Committee – survey. This survey was completed.

Circulation

The following items were placed in the circulation file for councillors to read.

- Yeovil District Hospital - Annual Report
- Flourish Homes – Annual Review
- SW Ambulance Service Newspaper
- Area East bulletin
- From SSDC copy of response to consultation re precept capping and referendum
- From SSDC re pilot 'sort it' recycling service for kerbside collection of plastic and cardboard

17. Design Statement

Update

Nothing to report

18. Litter pick

Arrange

Saturday 6th November meet at 10am at the Quarry Inn

19. Christmas Tree Service

Arrange

17th December at 630pm outside the shop. To remain on the agenda.

20. Parish magazine

Items for inclusion in the November edition

The following items were agreed

- Dog fouling – warden visiting
- Website - no new material for a few weeks
- Litter pick
- Xmas tree service
- Defibrillator

21. Future agenda items

- Remembrance service, wreath, donation to RBL
- Clerk's appraisal
- Youth worker plan
- Precept

22. Any other reports

There were no other reports

23. Clerks Appraisal

It was agreed that this would be completed at the next meeting.

24. Date of the next meeting

2 November 2010

The meeting closed at 1045pm