

Keinton Mandeville Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of the above named Parish Council, held on
Tuesday 2 November 2010, at the village hall at 7.30pm.

Present Brendan O'Hara, Belinda Simson, Chris Lane, Beverley Goodall, Kathy Low, Helen Beal, Mary D'Arcy.

In attendance – Jimmy Zouche (County Councillor) John Calvert (District Councillor) Sue Graham (clerk) 6 members of the public.

Brief Summary of public session

- Janet Pearce attended the meeting and noted that herself and Alan had attended the SCC Chairman's reception for 'Services to the Community Awards.' She noted that they were honoured to have attended the reception and to have won an award. She thanked the Parish Council for nominating herself and Alan for this award. The chair congratulated and thanked Janet and Alan for all their work in the community.
- A two-storey extension on a house in Manor Place had been queried and reported to a Councillor.
- Request for bus shelter Chistles Lane / Queen Street for school bus children. It was noted that this had been raised before and that there was no suitable location available for a shelter.
- Bonfires – request for consideration of neighbours.
- Some concern had been expressed by members of the public about the reception that Councillors had received at a recent meeting about the planning application for a quarry. It was also noted that a councillor's wife had been challenged regarding his observations expressed during that meeting. Generally agreed that this was unacceptable.
- Declaration of interests – a recent newspaper article on this subject which may be of interest will be circulated.
- Tree down on the Green, Irving Road.
- The County Councillor spoke, noting drastic cuts at SCC. He noted that statutory services must remain and that the vulnerable will remain protected, but other areas will face draconian cuts. It is not yet clear exactly what the figures will be.
- The District Councillor noted cuts over 3 years in the range of £7-8m from a £20m budget. It was suggested that the local community should think about the services it might be able to provide for itself.

Parish Council meeting

1. Apologies

Michael Richardson, Sarah Cooke

2. Declarations

Helen Beal and Kathy Low ref. planning application **10/04152/LBC** Alteration to fenestration on the west elevation of the south range at ground floor. Three Old Castles Inn, Castle Street, Keinton Mandeville

3. Minutes of last meeting: 5 October 2010

- The minutes were amended to more accurately reflect comments made by Kathy Low during the meeting. The amendments were agreed and the minutes were signed as a true and correct record of the meeting held– 1st BG 2nd MD unanimous

The chair asked for the Council's approval to move item 12 to be considered at this point on the agenda.
Agreed.

12. Youth

- Youth Activities – update

Consider youth worker plan and presentation from Lewis Diffey, youth worker.

Lewis Diffey spoke to the council about his plans for work with the youth in the village, including the following

- Current Youth Council, run by Sarah Cooke (single-handedly) is admirable, excellent work but Sarah needs regular support from volunteers. Benefits of having reserve of volunteers outlined.
- He will be looking to encourage wider community participation
- There are training opportunities for community members
- He will be looking to involve the third sector / charities to support the work
- Existing youth groups in the community and schools will be consulted.
- Possibility of older young people / parents to deliver activities, especially in relation to the youth sports club.
- Possibility of 'volunteering fayre' run by the healthy lifestyles team and community development officer at SSDC.
- Aim to develop something sustainable over the next year.
- There are funding opportunities and L Diffey can help to identify these.

L Diffey was thanked for coming to speak to the council. He noted that he would be reporting back on progress at least quarterly.

The Chair asked for the Council's approval to move item 13. to be considered at this point on the agenda.
Agreed.

13. Village Hall field

Update following meeting with representatives of the village hall committee. Agree whether to take responsibility for development of the field.

The Chair invited Charles Flemming, vice chair of the village hall committee to update the PC on the recent meeting. The following points were noted in the subsequent discussion.

- The village hall committee had decided that the VAT burden would be too great and wondered if the PC would be prepared to front the project.
- In order for this to happen it may be necessary to organise for the title of the land to be transferred to the Charity Commission so that the PC is not tenant and landlord for the same land. (Clerk to take advice about whether this would permanently hand over the title to the Charity Commission)
- The village hall committee have had a preliminary valuation of the land and the total cost to the PC for a lease would be £1100 for all of the land (including the skatepark and happy tracks and incorporating a *starting* rent of £800 for the field)
- A tarmac path around the outside of the field together with a multi-use games area is proposed by the Olympic Field Committee. Initial estimates are that the work could cost up to £100k. The Olympic field committee has information on possible funding. It was suggested that a detailed plan from the Olympic Field Committee would be required
- Members of the PC raised the possibility of having the land at a peppercorn rent and questioned the current value of the rent from the land. It was noted that because of its status as a charity, and the associated rules, the village hall committee was bound to ask market value for the land.
- Advice from the association of local councils was considered regarding VAT, leasing the land and operating the project.
- Concern was expressed about the financial commitment involved and its non-negotiable status.
- PC would need to make sure it has the legal, financial and management capacity to take this forward.

It was agreed that it could not be progressed further without more detailed advice from the association of local councils.

4. Planning.

Consider the following applications

- **10/04152/LBC** Alteration to fenestration on the west elevation of the south range at ground floor. Three Old Castles Inn, Castle Street, Keinton Mandeville.

HB and KL declared an interest and did not take part in the discussion or vote.

The plans were considered and observations invited. There were no objections. Recommend approval 1st CL 2nd BG unanimous

- **10/04049/S73** Application to remove condition 3 of planning approval 10/01916/FUL in relation to fixing closed the windows on the east elevation, Oriana, Church Street, Keinton Mandeville.

The plans were considered and observations were invited. The Council considered the proximity of the neighbouring property and whether there would be a noise issue. Overall recommendation **approval** as the condition appeared to be an unnecessary requirement. 1st CL 2nd BG unanimous

4a. Determination of Planning.

- No notices received.

5. Finance and Payments (RFO – Clerk)

a) Payments. The following payments were agreed 1st KL 2nd BG unanimous

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| ▪ Clerk's salary S. Graham September 2010. | £230.18 |
| ▪ Clerk's extra hours October 2010 (3 extra hours) | £27.88 |
| ▪ Clerk's expenses | £22.75 |
| ▪ Grit Bin, Wybone Ltd | £279.35 |
| ▪ SSDC playground inspection and risk assessment | £81.08 |

b) Receipts.

£nil

c) Review of Accounts

The accounts were reviewed.

Expenditure for October was £1405.65, income was £nil. The bank balance is £14,311.61 The bank statements are showing a total of £14,406.61. The difference of £95 is accounted for by two uncashed cheques - £15 room hire for youth council; £80 maintenance. The budget statement, account book and bank statements were passed around for councillors to check.

d) Grant requests. Consider the following grant requests

- South Somerset CAB. It was noted that grant requests from outside the village would be considered at the January meeting.
- e) Receive thank you letter from Keinton Mandeville Village Hall Committee.
A thank you letter ref. the grant payment was read out
- f) Other finance matters
- Consider donation to RBL poppy appeal. It was agreed that a donation of £100 should be made to the RBL poppy appeal. 1st KL 2nd HB unanimous
- Receive precept paperwork from SSDC and discuss precept for 2011-12. The clerk noted that there was a budget training session planned by SALC and that it may be appropriate for her to attend ahead of this year's precept considerations. Kathy Low also wished to attend, this was agreed. It was noted that the precept must be agreed by the January meeting at the latest.

6. Highways

Update / Items to report

- Carry forward all items from last month which have not yet been addressed
- Streetlight by notice board at school vandalised

7. Parish Paths

Update

Nothing to report

8. Happy Tracks / Skate park

- Update
- Receive inspection report
- Receive SSDC risk assessment and inspection report

The reports were received, there are a number of minor items that need to be addressed, clerk to ask for P Williams to assess in the first instance.

9. Neighbourhood watch

Receive monthly report

- Nothing to report from the neighbourhood watch co-ordinator.
- It was noted that eggs have been thrown at a house in Irving Road. The police have been informed

10. Maintenance

Agree requirements. The following were agreed

- Installation of grit bin
- Play area inspection snags
- Notice board
- Remove dead conifer

11. Suggestion box

Contents for discussion

- Need to thank farmers who let people walk through their fields
- Could a dog bin be installed on the eastern side of the village (noted that this has been looked at previously and has not been approved by the dog warden)
- Would it be possible to have a map of the village in the notice board
- Book swap / library run within the village – clerk to write to village hall to ask the possibility of doing it at village hall.

14. Village defibrillator

- Update

More volunteers have been sought and many found. Clerk to progress this with arrhythmic trust

15. Funeral Bier

- Update

A letter has been sent to the PCC for their consideration

16. Correspondence

Discussion

- SSDC Local development framework – consultation. This document was placed with the circulation paperwork for Councillors to consider.
- Area East Forum – invitation to attend. Brendan O'Hara agreed to attend this meeting.
- From P Burr, SSDC Arts Development officer re Henry Irving Plaque. A request for a blue plaque on the house which is birthplace of Sir Henry Irving was considered. The Parish Council supported this in principle. It was agreed that the residents of the house need to be consulted and that an indication of the likely cost was necessary. B Goodall to approach residents. Clerk to enquire re cost.

- From SALC re budget training. It was agreed that the clerk and Kathy Low would attend this training. Clerk to query legalities of Parish Councils 'filling the gap' with regard to the shortfall in County and District Council funding.

Circulation.

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

- From SSVCA - Newsletter
- From Avon and Somerset Police Authority – newsletter
- Census – Councillor Handbook

17. Design Statement

- Update

Nothing to report

18. Litter pick

Arrangements confirmed. Clerk to complete risk assessment.

19. Christmas Tree Service

- Make arrangements to buy and put up tree.

BO'H agreed to make arrangements for the tree to be bought and delivered.

20. Remembrance service

- Consider Parish Council representation at service(s)

BO'H and Belinda Simson volunteered to attend the service and lay the PC wreath on 11 November.

21. Parish magazine

The following items were agreed for inclusion in the November edition

- Book swap idea
- Thank you to farmers for letting walk in fields
- Bonfires- consideration

22. Future agenda items

- RBL Poppy appeal donation
- Precept
- Census (Jan)
- Rugby Club and CAB grant requests (Jan)
- Broadband

23. Any other reports

There were no other reports.

Members of the public and the press will be asked to leave the meeting for the next item because of the confidential nature of the business

24. Clerks Appraisal

Chair to complete

24. Date of the next meeting

7th December

(Belinda Simson noted apologies for the December meeting)

The meeting closed at 1015