

# Kemberton Parish Plan



Welcome to the Kemberton Parish Plan. This plan expresses the views of you, the people who live and work here in Kemberton. It sets out how you want your community to develop over the coming years and what you want to conserve and protect. This plan sets out a framework for our future and the ways in which we can try to shape and influence that future.

## About the Parish

Kemberton is first mentioned in the Domesday Book (1086) under the name of CHENBRITONE. At this time there was no mention of the church. The first record of a Church at Kemberton was in 1230 when Gilbert was named as Chaplain here. The present Church built in 1882 is the sixth, or could be the seventh, on the same site. Finally the new Tower was completed in 1909. The Church is dedicated to St John the Baptist and the Nave to St Andrew. This is unusual having dual dedication.



In 1857 the land was given by W. H. Kenyon Slaney of the Hatton Estate to build the school. The school closed in 1964 when the pupils had declined to 16. It was then used as a Village Hall. In 1984 the freehold was purchased from the Kenyon Slaney family. With the aid of the Eric Lea Trust Fund it was later totally refurbished to its present standard.



During the English Civil War, Kemberton was mentioned when the King was fleeing from the Parliamentarians. In 1651, after the battle of Worcester, Charles II made his way north to Shropshire. After leaving the Pendrels at Boscobel he made his way past Evelith Mill where the miller chased him. He made his way on a muddy lane to a barn in Madeley where he stayed overnight. He was

hoping to cross the river the next morning but it was flooded and heavily guarded, forcing him to turn back. In Kemberton he passed through a wood (now known as King Charles Wood) on his way to Boscobel where he spent the night in the famous Oak tree.

The population and number of houses in Kemberton have not varied much since the 19<sup>th</sup> century. In this mid Victorian time Kemberton had many trades and was almost self-sufficient. They included shoemaker, Nail maker, Corn mill, Tailor, Shopkeeper, Butcher, Baker, Wheelwright, Public House and Blacksmith, not forgetting everything produced on local farms.

During the Second World War Kemberton had a satellite airfield where fighter planes were bought to be maintained and stored safely away from Cosford. At this time the 7 farms, nurseries and allotments were worked extensively to produce additional food – helping the country to be self-sufficient.

Today the only trade in the village is the licensee of the pub. There are now 4 working farms employing far less manual labour than years ago. Barns have been converted into dwellings and cottages carefully restored, providing houses for villagers who work from home or commute. There is also are two Bed and Breakfast businesses and the Kemberton Riding Stables.



## Amenities in our Parish

Kemberton village primary facilities are a modern well equipped village hall, a village pub, St Andrews church, Kemberton riding stables and bed and breakfast.



The village benefits from a local bus service.

The village hall hosts a number of regular events such as coffee and craft mornings, keep fit classes and W.I. meetings.

There are numerous high quality country walks with a wealth of public footpaths and bridleways that attract ramblers from far and wide.

The Conservation Area has a number of Grade 2 listed houses.



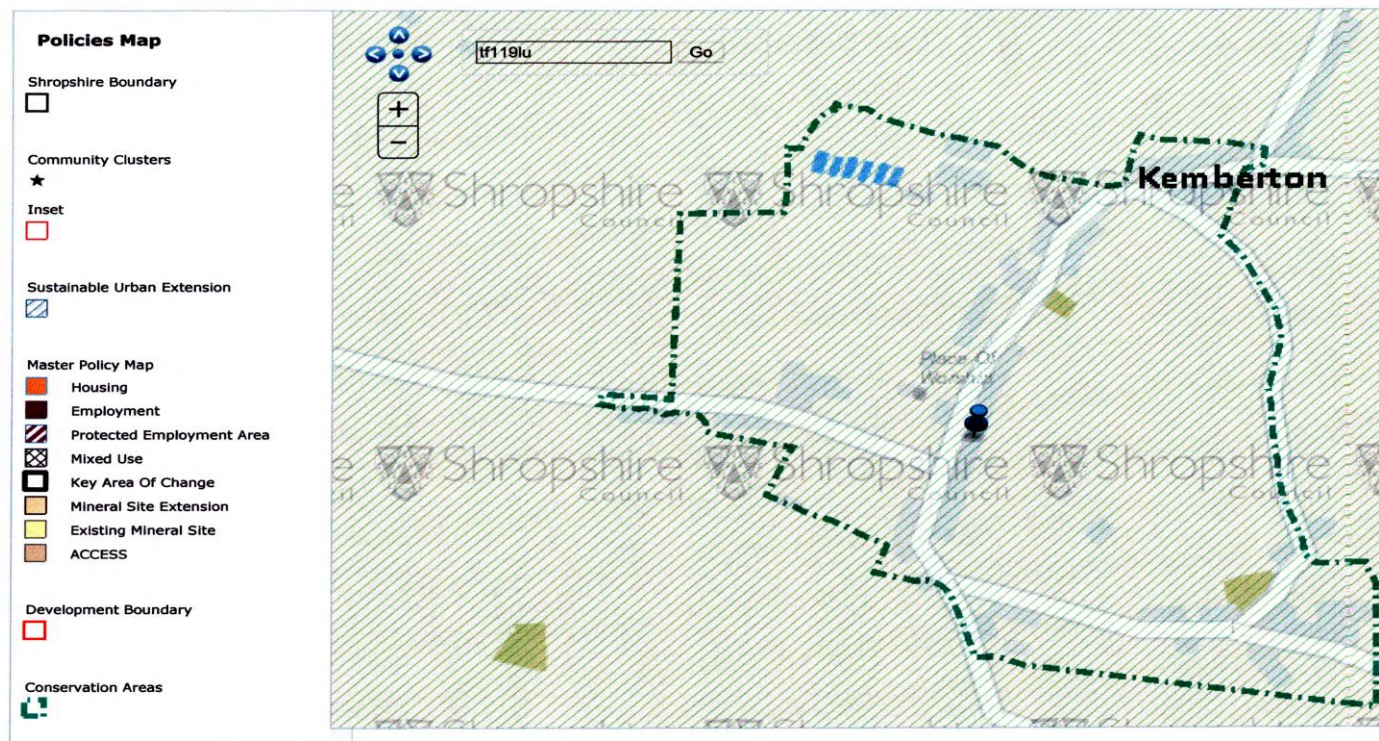
An award winning residential integrated theatre company that performs locally and nationally. Small scale productions are also staged periodically within the village itself.

A number of agricultural farms including an organic farm that provides educational access for school visits.



## Kemberton Conservation Area

The majority of the homes on Kemberton Parish are located within the conservation area. The boundary to the conservation area is shown on the map. The conservation area was designated to help preserve the village's historical importance and character. The findings of the Parish Plan survey also identified that residents considered the conservation of the village was the main priority and any changes within the village should be sympathetic and carefully considered in order to enhance and not detract to the character and appearance.



## Summary of Findings

The questionnaire asked households what they most wanted to preserve or protect about Kemberton, and what they would most like to see changed.

### What do we want to preserve

There was a common theme throughout the responses to confirm that residents considered that it was important to preserve the rural character and appearance of the village and the conservation area. High on the importance wishes were the following points:-

- **Protect the peace and quiet**
- **Character and period houses**
- **A sense of community**
- **Church and Village hall events**
- **Reduction in heavy goods vehicles**
- **Maintenance of the public rights of way**
- **No large scale developments**
- **Development should be small individual homes or conversion of existing buildings**
- **Better recycling facilities (improved already)**

The residents expressed a united view on what they wished the village to be protected from and be avoided.

- **Rented and social housing**
- **Street lighting**
- **Wind turbines, small or large**
- **Edge of settlement development**
- **New build developments**

## Questionnaire Findings

Out of the 107 households there was a return of 51 of the questionnaires

The questions that were asked were pre-agreed at the Parish Council meeting.

From the results it was considered that where no clear decision had been voiced by the responses, these items would not be included in the plan.

The questionnaire responses were categorised into 'Strongly agree/Agree/Neutral/Disagree/Strongly disagree'. It was agreed that Neutral responses would be discounted in order to obtain a clear preference. The results are therefore listed accordingly.

RESULTS KEY : **GREEN = FOR**      **RED = OPPOSED**



**Family life in Kemberton would be improved by:**

Regular events for all citizens	29 For	Nil Against	<b>Majority 100%</b>
Regular events for senior citizens	19 For	Nil Against	<b>Majority 100%</b>

**Our quality of life would be improved by the following transport and road measures:**

Reduce Road speed	46 For	1 Against	<b>Majority 98%</b>
Improve condition of roads	47 For	1 Against	<b>Majority 98%</b>
Street Lighting	6 For	31 Against	<b>Majority 84%</b>
Better public transport	18 For	1 Against	<b>Majority 95%</b>

**The Overall appearance of the Parish would be improved by:**

Reduction in fly tipping	42 For	3 Against	<b>Majority 93%</b>
More regular hedge trimming	29 For	7 Against	<b>Majority 80%</b>
Reduction in HGV through Village	43 For	1 Against	<b>Majority 98%</b>
Reduction in road signage	16 For	9 Against	<b>Majority 64%</b>

More roadside flowers	31 For	3 Against	<b>Majority 91%</b>
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**My feelings about our Parish' safety and security are:**

I would like to see a greater police Presence	22 For	6 Against	<b>Majority 78%</b>
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**I think Kemberton's community identity could be improved by:**

More annual organised events	19 For	3 Against	<b>Majority 86%</b>
More evening classes available	14 For	2 Against	<b>Majority 87%</b>
Better publicity about Church / Village Hall Events	18 For	8 Against	<b>Majority 69%</b>
Better / more utilization of Village Hall	20 For	Nil Against	<b>Majority 100%</b>

**As part of Shropshire's commitment to combat climate change we are being encouraged to consider the following proposals. How do you feel about:**

Wind Power (small wind turbine around 10m high)	15 For	31 Against	<b>Majority 67%</b>
Wind Power (large wind turbine around 50-200m high)	3 For	42 Against	<b>Majority 93%</b>

### Environmentally we would like to see:

Improved recycling provision	25 For	3 Against	<b>Majority 89%</b>
Better maintenance of rights of way	30 For	3 Against	<b>Majority 91%</b>

### Where should any new housing be developed:

Edge of settlements adjacent to existing built up areas	17 For	23 Against	<b>Majority 58%</b>
Infill between existing houses	28 For	15 Against	<b>Majority 65%</b>
Conversions should not be ruled out anywhere	34 For	5 Against	<b>Majority 87%</b>
New build should not be ruled out anywhere	13 For	32 Against	<b>Majority 71%</b>

### If you see a need for new housing, what types do you think is necessary:

Rented property	8 For	16 Against	<b>Majority 67%</b>
Starter homes	22 For	7 Against	<b>Majority 76%</b>
Sheltered accommodation	11 For	18 Against	<b>Majority 62%</b>
Family housing	21 For	5 Against	<b>Majority 81%</b>

## Our Policy on Housing and Development

There is a limited need for additional housing in Kemberton. The overall overwhelming consensus was that the village character needs to be preserved. Additional housing was not sustainable as the village had very limited amenities and infrastructure. Any form of development should be limited to an individual residential house (either starter or family homes), or a conversion of an existing building. These properties should also be private built homes and fall within the village existing curtilage. There is a lack of employment, very limited public transport, no public open space and no medical or educational facilities. The surrounding areas such as Shifnal Town and Telford and Wrekin have already been identified as areas of increased housing development and the associated improvement in the infrastructure and amenities such as school expansion. Social housing needs that can rely on support services such as local employment and transport links has already been identified and provision made in the Shifnal Town plan and the wider area of Telford and Wrekin.

The result of the questionnaire clearly stated the following:-

- New housing should be private sale and either starter homes or family homes.
- Conversion of Existing buildings was the preferred housing.
- Rented and sheltered housing should be avoided.

## Highways and Safety Policy

The majority of roads in Kemberton are narrow or single carriageway. Effectively there is only one route in and out of Kemberton

The main concern is the volume of traffic through the village especially by HGV type vehicles. A reduction in the HGV usage would be a target for villagers.



Road signage was also considered to be too numerous and the introduction of further signage should be carefully considered.

Reduction in the speed of traffic in the village would however be a target to achieve.

The condition of the roads were a concern but since the questionnaire was carried out there has been a significant amount of resurfacing carried out to the main thoroughfare however the minor lanes remain a concern.



Street lighting was clearly not wanted in the village.



## Environmental Climate change and Renewable energy Policy

The use of small scale and large scale wind turbines are not wanted or deemed necessary.



Recycling facilities were thought to be inadequate and any improvement would be encouraged. The issue is that with no public open space there would be limited scope to implement this if the proposal was to use a skip type solution. The only practical solution would be to improve the collection system already in place. This has been improved during the interim period of the questionnaire and the production of the plan.



Since the questionnaire there has been additional recycling introduced by the County Council with the provision of collection of cardboard packaging.

Public Right of Ways are considered very important to the village and the maintenance of the paths should be planned and monitored.



## Policy to be Adopted

The Parish Plan has been prepared to reflect the wishes of the residents of the Parish of Kemberton.

The Parish Plan for Kemberton should be considered during any external consultations and external decision processes that are relevant to the following areas:-

1. Public Transportation
2. Environmental
3. Safety and Security
4. Community
5. Housing and development
6. Conservation

The results listed earlier in the should influence any future decisions and the Parish Council will abide by the wishes of the residents views and will elect to make decisions in line with the results.

The Parish Council will adopt the Parish Plan as policy. The Parish Plan will be submitted to the County Council and publicised on the Kemberton Parish Council website and will become a public document.

Approved version – adopted at PC meeting dated 13/09/17