

## KEMBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Meeting of Kemberton Parish Council held on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at 7.30pm at Kemberton Village Hall

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*In attendance: Cllrs Martyn Bidgood (Chairman), Angela Blount, Phil Jones, Mary Wright, Mark Lea, Giles Greenwood. Also in attendance: Shropshire Council Richard Marshall, Vanessa Voysey (Parish Clerk) and five members of the public.*

#### **21.95 Chairman's Welcome and Announcements**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting, and thanked the members of the public present for their attendance

It was **agreed** that the item on the proposal for a Solar Farm should be moved up the Agenda for discussion and incorporated into the public participation session

#### **21.96 Apologies**

There were no apologies at this time

#### **21.97 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests**

No pecuniary interests were declared at this time

#### **21.98 Dispensation**

There were no requests for dispensation at this time

#### **21.99 Report from Shropshire Councillor**

Cllr Richard Marshall notified the Parish Clerk and Chairman prior to the meeting that instead of giving his usual report he would comment within Agenda items. He also noted his apology that he would have to leave before 9 o'clock as he had an online meeting to attend.

#### **21.100 Public Participation Session**

The Chairman, Cllr Martyn Bidgood reported that information on the proposed solar farm had been received in the post on 25<sup>th</sup> February by residents and that the Parish Council had not received prior notification. He had received comments from residents after the consultation event on 3<sup>rd</sup> March in the Village Hall and so far all have been against. He said that if the Parish Council registered an objection it would need evidence of objection from residents. He suggested setting up a Working Party to look at the issue and to frame responses to requests for Planning Permission.

Cllr James Rennison commented that the Parish Council is voted in every four years and has a mandate, if its members object to a plan that it is commenting on then there is a mandate for an objection to be registered with the planning authority. Residents will be able to register any views they have on plans

Shropshire Councillor Richard Marshall said that he would call in any requests for Planning Permission so that it would be determined by Committee. As ward member he would have 5 minutes to speak about it. He advised on the necessity of framing responses with the National Planning Policy Framework and Core Strategies including numbers relating to it. Classification of the land would be important, and evidence as to why it is not an extreme circumstance that requires use of Green Belt Land. He noted that the site suggested is on the border with Telford and Wrekin where there are SamDev designated areas for commercial purposes.

A member of the public noted that there are multiple sub-stations on Halesfield (which is where the energy would feed into). He said that it would be necessary to demonstrate that the loss to the village outweighs any benefit to Shropshire Council's Carbon Zero commitment.

Cllr James Rennison said that any objections needed an orchestrated plan of attack. If there are any contrary views, they can be put forward.

A member of the public said that the village would not succeed without engaging external help to structure a response. Being a Conservation Area would not feature, arguments would need to be about the Green Belt, the loss of agricultural land, and the visual impact, and would need to link in to policy and policy reference numbers.

Cllr James Rennison said that appointing a Consultant should be considered. There was some discussion on this point, including the possible costs, sources of funding, and the level of Parish Council reserves.

Cllr Mark Lea noted that he gets constant approaches about the use of his land for solar energy.

### **21.101 Proposed Solar Farm Development**

It was proposed, seconded, and **resolved** to set up a Working Party to look at framing a response to the proposed solar farm.

The members were agreed as: Cllrs Martyn Bidgood, James Rennison, Phil Jones, and two members of the public present who volunteered their services.

The Parish Clerk noted that working parties are advisory bodies and that any commitment to use Parish Council funds could not be delegated but would need to return to the Parish Council for agreement.

It was proposed, seconded, and **resolved** to subscribe as a CPRE Member, at the cost of £36 (paid by Direct Debit)

It was proposed, seconded, and **resolved**, to in principle subscribe to the Solar Campaign Alliance, the requested contribution being £20.

### **21.102 Minutes**

It was proposed, seconded, and **resolved** to approve the minutes dated 12<sup>th</sup> January 2022

### **21.103 Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising not otherwise covered in the Agenda.

### **21.104 Queen's Jubilee**

Cllr Giles Greenwood reported that the Village Hall has planned a Hog Roast for Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June.

There was some discussion on the Queen's Green Canopy and tree planting, including noting the current condition of the Millennium Oak.

The Parish Clerk reported that a request for permission to put in a village gateway had been filed with Shropshire Council following the last meeting. It was noted that this permission would cost £440 in addition to the cost of the signage. There was some discussion about financial priorities, with consideration of the celebration planned for the 4<sup>th</sup> June and the possible hiring of a consultant to advice on the solar panel development.

It was proposed, seconded, and **resolved** to suspend plans to put up a village gateway at this time.

### **21.105 Highways**

It was noted that a serious accident had taken place at Kemberton Junction on 3<sup>rd</sup> March. The Chairman reported that Shropshire Cllr Richard Marshall had contacted the Police Commissioner about speed checks on this section of road.

Cllr Giles Greenwood reported that he had been contacted by residents about the poor state of Field Lane. The Chairman, Martyn Bidgood, said that he had been contacted about Grindle Road by residents who avoid using it because of its poor condition

Mill Lane towards Evelith was also noted as been in a poor state or repair.

It was agreed that the Parish Clerk should report all the above to Shropshire Council.

### **21.106 Correspondence**

The following were noted:

- a) **Road Closure** – Mill Lane, 18<sup>th</sup> April 2022, 9.30 to 15.30, Severn Trent Water, Remedial works to rectify Utility defect within carriageway.
- b) **Road Closure** – Sutton Maddock Island to Norton, 18<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> July, 9.30 to 16.00, Multevo for Shropshire Council, carriageway repairs
- c) **Kemberton Junction** – the Data and Traffic Regulator at Shropshire Council's Highway Department has notified the Parish Council that new regulations came into force on 15<sup>th</sup> February
- d) **Solar Farm**–Berrys UK has written to the Parish Council to notify it of a consultation event on a proposed solar farm development

### **21.107 Planning Applications Received:**

21/05780/CPL (Validated 4/2/2022)

Glendene, Grooms Lane, Kemberton, TF11 9LS

Application for a Lawful Development Certificate for the proposed erection of detached garage to rear and single storey rear extension

Agreed: no comment

### **21.108 Planning Application Decisions:**

The following items were noted:

22/00322/AMP (Validated: 22/1/2022)

Westhorpe Mill Lane Kemberton Shifnal TF11 9LH

Amendments to planning permission 21/00933/FUL - addition of solar panels to south facing roof of extension

Decision: Grant Permission

21/05945/FUL (validated: 22/12/2021)

2 Agricultural Cottages, Talley House, Mill Lane, Kemberton, TF11 9LN

Erection of a part two storey/part first floor extension; front extension to lounge; alterations to existing front entrance and layout alterations and improvements

Decision: Grant Permission

### **21.109 Another Planning Matters:**

Cllr Phil Jones noted that he had raised an empty affordable home that he thought had never been lived in at a previous meeting. The Parish Clerk said that there was nothing to report on this at this time but that she would see what information she could find out about it.

### **21.110 Finance**

#### **21.110.1 Payments**

It was proposed, seconded, and **resolved** to approve the following

	Payee	Description	Amount	Power
BACS	Clerk	Travel Expenses (March)	£13.50	LGA 1972 s.112 (2)
BACS	Clerk	Salary (Quarter 4)	£283.64	LGA 1972 s.112 (2)
BACS	HMRC	Salary (Quarter 4)	£70.80	LGA 1972 s.112 (2)
BACS	Clerk	Admin Expenses (printer)	£13.98	LGA 1972 s.111
BACS	Village Hall	Room Hire	£120	LGA 1972 s.111

## **21.110.2 Income**

The following was noted:

Bank interest - 1p for month of January

## **21.110.3 Bank Reconciliation**

It was proposed, seconded, and **resolved** to receive and approve the bank reconciliation for month end of January 2022

## **21.110.4 Spend to Date**

It was proposed, seconded, and **resolved** to receive and approve the spend to date for month end of January 2022

## **21.110.5 Salary**

It was proposed, seconded, and resolved, to pay for the Parish Clerk a 5% increase on the current salary for the year 2022-2023, or £1500, which ever is the higher.

## **21.111 Environment**

### **21.111.1 Fly-tipping**

It was noted that only one incident of fly-tipping had been reported in recent weeks.

### **21.111.2 Footpaths**

There were no updates on footpaths at this time

### **21.111.3 Any other environmental issue**

Cllr Angela Blount noted that discharge of water onto the footpaths from a residential cellar was an issue again. It was questioned how this could be sorted, and that the Parish Council had written to the owner about it on a previous occasion.

## **21.112 Meetings for the year 2022-2023**

It was agreed that the provisional dates for the next year of office are

11<sup>th</sup> May  
13<sup>th</sup> July  
14<sup>th</sup> September

9<sup>th</sup> November  
11<sup>th</sup> January  
8<sup>th</sup> March

## **21.112 Other Parish Matters**

### **21.112.1 Neighbourhood Watch**

The Chairman, Martyn Bidgood, noted that some people had been left off the mailing list. Cllr Giles Greenwood said he would contact the co-ordinator about it.

#### **21.112.2      Any other Parish Matters**

Cllr Phil Jones noted that the village noticeboard is in good working order, however, the re-painting work previously discussed was still outstanding.

#### **21.113.**

The **Next Meeting** will be Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at Kemberton Village Hall, 7.30pm

The Annual Village Meeting will take place at 7pm also on 11<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at Kemberton Village Hall.