

## KEMBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting  
held in Kemberton Village Hall  
on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at 7.30pm.

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### 1. CHAIR WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Vice Chair Cllr James Rennison welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### 2. APOLOGIES

Cllr Martyn Bidgood (personal commitment)  
Cllr Phillip Jones (personal commitment)

The above apologies were received and accepted by the Council

### 3. DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

None at this time

### 4. DISPENSATION

None at this time

### 5. REPORT FROM SHROPSHIRE COUNCILLOR

Finance: It is approaching the time of the year to set the budget. Cllr Michael Wood outlined the pressures upon Shropshire Council: the budget is overspent and the headline items are Adult Social Care and Children Care. Both are statutory functions and pressures are worse than they have been in the past. There are over 400 children in care and the numbers are rising rather than falling. Children are brought in from schools, police, and family. There are six children whose care costs £10,000 a week. Adult Social Care is affected by the aging population and the attraction of Shropshire to retirees; the numbers of adults over 65 are rising faster than anywhere else in the country. There is a year on year deficit in the Adult Social Care budget, approaching the same levels as the Children's budget. By 2021 Shropshire Council will be at the fringe of where external auditors question its expendability, reserves can only be used so far. Other rural councils also have problems. There is a desperate need for a fair funding formula.

Cllr Mark Lea asked if there were any signs of a fairer system. Cllr Wood said that this would be for the new Government to address.

Cllr Mary Wright noted the amount of building going on in the county and asked if this would be a benefit to Shropshire Council in Council Tax. Cllr Wood said that this would help eventually.

Flooding: Gully clearing is a flooding issue. 600 gullies are being cleared a day. It costs £5,000 a day for a gully clearer.

Highways: Highways are under constant pressure. All Shropshire Councillors have the same concerns.

Cllr Mark Lea raised the methods of repairing roads in the village, which he said was not producing a good quality of work. He asked if it was cost-effective to send out one man with a machine.

Cllr Michael Wood responded that job-quality has been raised in Council at Shirehall. Shropshire Council is in a contract with Kier; the fall in its share prices will have been seen by those present. Cllr Wood also said in his opinion Local Government work is not a money maker for contractors and that here is a question about who would do the work if not Keir. Cllr Wood also said that there is an element of fire-fighting at the moment.

Housing: Ultimately it is the housing inspectorate who will decide on housing developments such as Tong and Stanmore. Where Section 106 money should be spent has been a matter of some discussion at Council.

Renew: Disappointment was expressed by Parish Councillors about the lack of enforcement at Grindle Farm. Cllr James Rennison said that there seems to have been a passive reaction by Shropshire Council and little action. He said that an F.O.I had been put on correspondence about the issue and that this was now overdue a response. Recent advertising from Renew was questioned as it referenced the Grindle Farm address.

Cllr Michael Wood said that the agreement made would allow for displaying items at the Grindle Farm site but that deliveries would have to be made from the Cowgreaves site. He said that Ryton and Grindle had come to an agreement over Renew about the removal of stock from the site and the matter should now be over. There should be no more lorries coming through the village. On the matter of enforcement, Cllr Wood said that there were two enforcement officers in the county, one in the north and one in the south. They are clogged up with actions. As regards the Freedom of Information Request, he asked that the Parish Clerk emailed him about this so he could follow it up. Cllr Mark Lea also questioned if Renew had been paying business rates, Cllr Michael Wood said that it had paid business Rates.

Cllr Mark Lea questioned the drain on the Council's budget dealing with this matter that could have been spent dealing with problems elsewhere. Councillors present were of the view that the situation had dragged on for a long time and had been reputation-damaging.

Cllr James Rennison, in the Chair, thanked Cllr Wood for attending the meeting and answering questions from the Parish Council.

## 6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

There were no questions from the public

## 7. MINUTES

It was proposed by Cllr Angela Blount, and seconded by Cllr Mary Wright, that the minutes of 11<sup>th</sup> September be approved and signed, **all in favour**.

## 8. MATTERS ARISING

None at this time

## 9. HIGHWAYS

Local residents had raised the condition of Field Lane with Councillors. The partial repair of the lane did not reach to the end and to all residences. It was requested that the Parish Clerk should take up this issue with the Highway Department and make a complaint.

Progress on the proposed installation of an illuminated road sign for the junction is being held up by Shropshire Council. There has been no news about it.

Cllr Michael Wood requested that the Parish Clerk write directly to him so he could take the matter up.

## 10. RENEW

Cllr Michael Wood had discussed this matter with Parish Councillors in his overview earlier in the meeting. There was brief discussion on the value of pressing any further on this matter given that Shropshire Council seemed highly unlikely to take any further action.

It was proposed by Cllr James Rennison, and seconded by Cllr Angela Blount, that this item be dropped in future meetings and the matter not be pursued, **all in favour**.

## 11. CORRESPONDENCE

SSAFA: VE Day Celebrations

SALC: Winter Maintenance

SALC: Social Media Policy

The above correspondence was noted. The Parish Council does not have social media accounts so the policy was not relevant at the current time, and there are no immediate plans to hold any accounts other than the official website.

Cllr Mark Lea suggested that Councillors check on salt reserves in the grit bins in the village with a view to contacting Shropshire Council if necessary.

## 12. PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

Received after publication of the Agenda

Reference 19/04876/TCA

Aurora, Mill Lane

Reduction to crown overhanging boundary and shape canopy of cherry, reduction in height and shape to lower crown of damson, within Kemberton Conservation Area

No comment to file

## 13. PLANNING APPLICATION DECISIONS

Reference: 19/03659/FUL (validated: 20/08/2019)

Address: Midway House , 19 Grooms Lane, Kemberton, Shifnal, TF11 9LS

Proposal: Erection of single storey rear extension and boundary wall

Decision: Grant Permission

Reference: 19/03649/AMP (validated: 17/09/2019)

Address: Affordable Dwelling to the South of Field House, Kemberton, Shifnal, TF11 9LR

Proposal: Non-material amendment to planning application 19/00630/FUL – reduction in finished floor level of ancillary building, alteration to window and door sizes

Decision: Grant Permission

The above planning permissions were noted

#### 14. PARKING IN SHIFNAL

Shifnal Town Clerk has been in touch with the parish clerk and has said that a committee has been informed with the remit of detailing the problem points and bringing forward proposals to deal with it.

#### 15. FINANCE

1. To approve and sign the following:

a) Cheque payments

<i>Cheque Number</i>	<i>Payee</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Amount</i>
494	Mark Lea (Defib Store)	Replacement battery	£189.60
495	V.Voysey	Clerk Salary + Expenses	£208.95

Cllr Mark Lea advised Councillors in advance of the meeting that the battery on the Defib needed replacing urgently.

It was proposed by Cllr Angela Blount and seconded by Cllr Mary Wright that both payments be approved by the Council, **all in favour**.

b) Note income – bank interest = 13p

Noted

c) To sign

- i) Reconciliation and Bank Statements for the month of September 2019
- ii) Receipts and Payments including income and expenditure spreadsheets

**All in favour**

#### 16. AOB

Cllr James Rennison, Vice-Chair, in the Chair, noted the passing of Martin Wellsbury. On behalf of the Chair and the Parish Council, he noted with thanks the service Martin Wellsbury had given as Clerk.

Cllr Mary Wright wished to note the impression made upon her by the poppies and Silent Soldier displays on Remembrance Sunday.

#### 17. NEXT MEETING

**Wednesday January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020, at 7.30pm, Kemberton Village Hall**

