

KEMBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Kemberton Parish Council held on Wednesday 12th May 2021 at 7.30pm Held at Kemberton Village Hall

In attendance: Cllrs Martyn Bidgood (Chairman), James Rennison (Vice-Chairman), Angela Blount, Giles Greenwood, Mark Lea, Phillip Jones, and Vanessa Voysey (Parish Clerk)

21.01 New Council formed

Councillors signed a Declaration of Office

21.02 Election of a Chairman

Cllr Martyn Bidgood, was proposed and seconded for the office of Chairman of the Council. It was resolved that Cllr Martyn Bidgood be elected as Chairman. All in favour.

Cllr Martyn Bidgood signed the Declaration of Office of Chairman.

21.03 Election of Vice-Chairman

Cllr James Rennison was proposed and seconded for the office of Vice-Chairman of the Council. It was resolved that Cllr James Rennison be elected as Vice-Chairman. All in favour.

Cllr James Rennison signed the Declaration of Office of Vice-Chairman.

21.04 Chairman welcome and announcements

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the Parish Council meeting.

21.05 Apologies

Apologies had been received prior to the meeting from Shropshire Councillor Richard Marshall, and from PCSO Jacqui Fletcher.

21.06 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

There were none at this time

21.07 Dispensation

There were none at this time

21.08 Public Participation Session

Matters raised by the public to members of the Council were covered by the agenda, and no members of the public were presented.

21.09 Minutes

Giles Greenwood's name was missed in error from the minutes. Subject to this amendment, it was proposed, seconded and resolved to accept the minutes of the meeting held on 10th March 2021 as a true record.

21.10 Matters Arising

There were none at this time

21.11 Members to Adopt

It was proposed, seconded and **resolved** to accept the following:

- a) Standing Orders
- b) Financial Regulations
- c) Assets Register

21.12 General Power of Competence

It was proposed, seconded, and resolved that the Parish Council is an eligible council to exercise the General Power of Competence in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 ss.1-8 as i) the Parish Clerk holds CiLCA and ii) as two-thirds of the Councillors were elected and not co-opted

21.13 Correspondence

Hope House Children's Hospice has written to the Parish Council requesting consideration for a grant. This was considered by the Parish Council. Normally grants are considered and awarded in September, however, there was recognition the Covid Pandemic had caused difficulties to many organisations, and it was argued that the money would be better awarded earlier in the year. It was also noted that having the General Power of Competence had removed the limit on what the Parish Council could award to charitable organisations under legal powers.

It was proposed, and seconded, to award the same grants as last year namely:

£100 to Hope House Children's Hospice
£100 to Kemberton Village Hall
£100 to St Andrew's Church

It was **resolved** to award the above grants, all in favour.

21.14 Planning Applications

The following were noted the consultation period having ended at the time of the meeting:

21/00824/TCA: Wisteria Cottage, Kemberton, pruning of maple tree in Kemberton Conservation Area

21/00968/TCA 13 Mill Lane, Kemberton, removal of holly tree and damson tree in Kemberton Conservation Area

21.15 Planning Decisions

20/04736/FUL Kemberton Cottage, Kemberton, alterations to cottage, Permission Granted

21/01294/LBC Kemberton Cottage, Kemberton, internal and external works, Permission Granted

21.16 Insurance

The Parish Council's renewal is due on 1st June.

It was proposed, seconded and **resolved** to accept the three year option with BHIB at a cost of £184.72 per annum

21.17 Finance

21.17.1 Payments

It was proposed, seconded and **resolved** to approve the payment of £13.50 travel expenses for the Parish Clerk for attending May's meeting.

It was proposed, seconded and **resolved** to approve the payment of the gross salary of £347.49 for the Parish Clerk for the first quarter of the financial year, on which £69.40 is due to HMRC.

It was proposed, seconded and **resolved** to increase the Parish Clerk's salary by 2% above the above amount (based on 12 hours a week at £8.91)

21.17.2 Internal Audit

It was proposed, seconded and **resolved** to receive and accept the Internal Audit for the financial year 2020-21.

Cllr Phil Jones noted that he had sent a report on the condition of the noticeboard to the Internal Auditor. He noted to the Council that over the coming year there would be benefit from re-varnishing. There was agreement from Parish Councillors present that arranging this on a volunteer basis would be considered as an option.

The Chairman said that the Internal Auditor should be thanked for his efforts on behalf of the Parish Council and the Parish.

21.17.3 End of Year

It was proposed, seconded and **resolved** to approve and sign

- i. The reconciliation and bank statements for the month ending March 2021
- ii. Receipts and payments including income and expenditure spreadsheets for the month ending March 2021
- iii. The Certificate of Exemption
- iv. The Annual Governance Form
- v. The Annual Return for 2020-21
- vi. The Exercise of Public Rights – to commence on 14th June 2021 and to end on 23rd July 2021

21.18 Highways

21.18.1 Kemberton Junction

The Chairman questioned if there had been any response to views expressed by Councillors and members of the public regarding proposals for traffic safety measures at Kemberton Junction. No response had been offered from Shropshire Council as yet to his knowledge.

Cllr James Rennison said that in his experience, other county highways departments were also difficult to get hold of so expectations might need adjustment.

It was agreed that the Parish Clerk should write to Shropshire Council Highways and ask for a response regarding the junction.

21.18.2 Condition of Roads

There was some discussion on the condition of the roads and comments made to Councillors by members of the public. This included a member of the public requesting that a more robust approach was taken, and concern at the poor state of roads in and out of the village.

Parish Councillors noted that the repair of roads in Beckbury by the junction is one of the best repairs seen in the area and that by comparison Mill Lane repairs were fair inferior. The criteria for road repairs was questioned and it was noted that there had been media attention in Beckbury about the state of the roads.

It was agreed that the Parish Clerk should invite the newly elected Shropshire Councillor and the Highways Engineer for the area to attend a meeting to discuss the state of the roads.

21.18.3 Any other Highways Matters

There were none at this time

21.19 Environment

21.19.1 Footpaths

Shropshire Council had contacted the Parish Clerk in March to advise that there is a temporary diversion on the footpath by Kemberton Mill because of Covid that will only apply with Covid legislation in place. There is a possibility that this diversion will become more permanent but this has not been actioned as yet.

Cllr Angela Blount re-iterated concerns about water discharging onto the pavement from a cellar in a property in the village. Local residents had expressed concerns about the dangerous surface when the water iced over in cold weather and being on a blind corner there was a safety issue when walking on the road to avoid it. It was agreed that the Parish Clerk check the regulations with Building Control about discharge of water onto the highway.

21.19.2 Flytipping

TF11 Wombles have come into the area clearing up the effects of flytipping.

The Parish Council agreed that the Chairman should thank the TF11 Wombles on behalf of the people of Kemberton and the Parish Council for their efforts.

21.19.3 Any other environmental matters

The Charirman thanked Parish Councillors for their efforts in trying to resolve the issue of works undertaken in Hall Meadows in light of public concerns. It was noted that the Shropshire Council Tree Officer had visited the site and had not considered that the matter needed further investigation.

It was requested that the Parish Clerk find out if it can be confirmed if the footpath running diagonally along the west side of the boundary that has been cut off is an official footpath or not.

21.20 Any other Parish Matters

21.20.1 Neighbourhood Watch

The local co-ordinator of Neighbourhood Watch noted that the police attended the last Parish Council meeting and has raised the issue of lack of contact between the local police and the local Neighbourhood Watches. The Chairman had received written communication expressing concern about it. It was suggested that the Parish Clerk should pass this comment onto the Safer Neighbourhood Team.

21.20.2 Another other matters raised by the public to Parish Councillors

There were none at this time

21.21 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 14th July 2021 at 7.30pm at Kemberton Village Hall.