

KENN PARISH COUNCIL

Page 116

MINUTES of Kenn Parish Council meeting 6 July 2015 held in the Village Hall, Kenn St, Kenn
Meeting commenced at 19:30 and concluded at 20:50

PRESENT: Cllrs S Naish (Chairman), W Bessant, S Brain, C Quinn, H Staples. Clerk; Eleanor Wade
IN ATTENDANCE: North Somerset Cllrs Jill Iles, Judith Hadley & Liaison Officer Lorraine Bush

19:30 **Items raised during Public Participation**

6 residents attended

Residents asked about: (1) who to notify about public footpath stile repairs, (2) continued concern at the speed of traffic in the village, (3) concerns at footpaths which cross fields with cattle in them.

Cllr Iles gave updates on:

- **Static Caravan Sites** – North Somerset Council (NSC) is beginning to investigate addressing the many issues arising around the misuse of static caravan parks across the district. Caravans are being sold for permanent housing (without Council Tax liability but benefiting from services provided eg rubbish collections) instead of their original planning designation as holiday homes.
- **Housing Development** – discussions being raised at North Somerset Council by the owners of the land set aside for proposed business use (St Modwens) possibly being changed to use for housing.

The Neighbourhood Police Officers had sent their apologies but provided a written report. Nothing specific for Kenn, they advised that 6 crimes occurred across the beat area (which includes Yatton, Kenn & Claverham) since May 2015 and gave details of the three of note as follows:

- **Van seen fly tipping at Broadstone Lane.** A witness managed to get the vehicle registration. This was passed on to NSC for Trading Standards to investigate.
- **Drugs Warrant** carried out in Kingston Seymour. Expected to find Cannabis growing but only found a small amount of Amphetamines. Cautioned for possession.
- **Burglary reported** at an isolated property in Claverham. Turned out that although there was a mess nothing had been taken. The homeowners found the culprit on their return – a squirrel!

19:45 FORMAL BUSINESS

15/100 Apologies for absence Cllrs J-P Humberstone (business), R Treble (prior commitment)

15/101 Declarations of interest None

15/102 Minutes of the Council meeting held on the 18 May 2015 and the Special Council meeting held on the 5 June 2015

Resolved: The minutes were approved as correct.

15/103 Chairman's Communications (min 15/59) the Chairman report on the following:

Enforcement Query – the Chairman provided the information that a local business had been visited by Enforcement Officers. However, the reason for the visit seemed trivial (a planter located by a sign) when compared to some of the still outstanding serious planning breaches and issues which have not been progressed or resolved within the parish.

Agreed Cllr Iles offered to check with NSC Streets & Open Spaces into the reason for this

15/104 Planning Committee members for 2015/2016 (min 15/87)

It had been agreed to consider this following the co-option to fill the vacancy after the 2015 Local Elections. This committee is ad hoc and only meets if a small application is received and requires consideration between ordinary meetings, in order to meet the planning authority's comment deadline. Membership; 3 councillors plus the Chairman.

Resolved: Cllrs S Brain, W Bessant, C Quinn, plus Council Chairman Cllr S Naish.

15/105 Free Plants (min 15/90)

The Chairman thanked Cllr Quinn and Mr Malton, who organised collecting and distributing the plants. Also thanked were the villagers who were looking after the planters.

Agreed; if NSC's contractors repeat the scheme next year, to put an article in the Kenn News & Views (N&V's) inviting people to have some of the free plants for planters located in their front gardens.

15/106 Verges and hedges (min 15/91)

Fisherman's Car Park – agreed it must be about the right time (after their annual river weed cutting programme) to follow this up with Environment Agency officer for the area.

15/106 verges and hedges (min 15/91) continued

Area on Kenn Road junction with Colehouse Lane (garage/orchard vicinity) – is overgrown.

Agreed; Cllr Treble usually checks this and takes appropriate action.

Kenn Pier – dead willows in this vicinity.

Agreed; Cllr Quinn will check this and report it to NSC as Village Tree Warden.

Kenn Street – Cupressus trees, local comments had been received about these and the Chairman asked the resident who owned the trees (in attendance) if he could check and trim them if he found them to be overhanging the highway.

Sweet Chestnut Blight – Cllr Quinn reported this is a notifiable disease, if found please report to Cllr Quinn or the Forestry Commission. **Agreed;** to put this in the next N&V's.

15/107 Village Grass Cutting (min 15/91)

At the last meeting feedback had been received that the new contractor was finding it difficult to cut the western verge of Kenn Road as the hedge was untrimmed and growing outwards. Various options had been agreed at the last meeting but it seemed the contractor had resolved this problem on her own.

Agreed; Cllr Staple will check with the contractor if any further assistance was needed.

15/108 Traffic speeds, noticeboard, parking on pavements (min 15/92)

Parking on pavements – The Chairman advised she had followed this up with PC Adam Clark and he had carried out some further checks along with an initial warning. He had also advised that if someone saw this happening to phone 101 immediately and report it.

Noticeboards – the new one had been put up but the old one still needed to be removed.

Speed of vehicles on Kenn Street – Residents were continuing to express their concern at the speed that vehicles were being driven through the village.

Joining the Speedwatch Team had been followed up. Possible Kenn volunteers had attended a recent meeting about this in Yatton. However, it was felt that trying to get mph repeater signs would be the first option to see if this improves the situation.

Agreed; to contact the NSC Officer suggested by Cllr Iles.

15/109 Local Broadband (min 15/94)

Letters and report provided by the Local MP and British Telecom letter had been circulated and were read out at the meeting. Information was also provided on a newspaper report about Sky's challenge that British Telecom's progress was not meeting the required standard in terms of their speed of installation.

The 'North Somerset Life' magazine had printed a small article after Cllr Brain had contacted them.

The Kenn Broadband Committee were endeavoring to prepare another report and hoped the Parish Council would give their support for this. The Chairman requested a copy of the report is provided when it is finished, so the Parish Council could determine if they were able to give it their support.

At the NSC's Parish Forum in September the Broadband Officer (shared with BANES) had been invited to attend. Cllr Brain and the Clerk indicated they would attend this

15/110 Village Agent (min 15/95)

Emma Edwards from Community Connect had replied to the Parish Council's invitation to attend a meeting. Emma would like to come along on the 7 September.

Agreed; to put an article in the N&V's letting people know, should they wish to attend.

15/111 Big Lunch (min 15/59)

The organisers had sent an email of thanks for the Amazon vouchers that Kenn Parish Council had donated to the Big Lunch event. They had been given as prizes for the 'Best Scarecrow' and 'Name The Country' competitions and were much appreciated. Although the event was about community and sharing they had been able to raise £1047 for two charities; St. Peter's Hospice and Habitat for Humanity Nepal Appeal. Noted with pleasure

15/112 Members' Register of Interests

NSC had written, following the local elections, with a reminder that since the Localism Act 2011 each Parish Council's Register of Members Interests should appear on the parish council website, but must also appear on NSC's web site. This can be done by sending the documents to NSC or providing a link to the Parish Council's web site.

Agreed; to provide NSC with a link to the Kenn Parish Council web site.

15/113 NSC’s Standards Committee Nomination

NSC has re-established the Standards Sub Committee to respond to any allegations made to the Monitoring Officer that a district or town/parish councillor has breached the Code of Conduct. To deal with an allegation against a parish/town councillor, at least one parish/town councillor is co-opted onto the Sub Committee to assist Members of the Sub Committee with their deliberations. Therefore every parish/town council is being asked to nominate one of its members to be a co-opted on to the Standards Sub Committee.

Resolved: Cllr C Quinn’s name is put forward for Kenn Parish Council.

15/114 Various Communications were noted

Hinkley Point – They had provided notification of a link to their web site to obtain, the examining authority’s procedural decision, examination timetable variation, the report on the Implications for European Sites and request for further information.

Healthwatch Annual Report – which sets out how they have delivered their statutory duties, highlights key pieces of work around involvement, impact and influence on local health and social care services.

Procurement Community Health Services – Consultation Feedback Report received.

Planning Items

15/115 Planning Application

15/P/1412/CUPA, Moorside Farm, Kennmoor Rd, BS21 6UB. Prior approval for the change of use from an agricultural building & land to a single dwelling within use class C3.

Resolved: There are no objections in principle to the site being developed appropriately. The Parish Council does have objections due to concerns that aspects of the application’s supporting information appears to be inadequate. In particular with regard to flood risk; while acknowledging in their application report that a flood risk exists, the applicant’s statements to address it relies on: (1) it not being required particularly as this is redevelopment of an existing building and (2) advanced warnings which will enable the occupants to self-evacuate or retreat to the safe haven of the first floor.

The Parish Council are further concerned that if it is found that flood risk does need addressing that any methods used to do so may require altering the existing structure. This in turn may be unacceptable, for example, if the height of the roof has to be increased to accommodate any such work.

While appreciating this is a ‘Prior Approval’ for Change of Use the Parish Council requests that either: more information is requested/provided by the applicant, of which the Parish Council is notified to enable them to comment further or this application is refused and a new application is submitted to which the Parish Council will be able to comment fully.

15/116 NSC Delegated Reports & Planning Decisions on recent applications were noted.

15/117 NSC Planning Enforcement – report on issues relating to the parish of Kenn were noted. Colehouse Farm – Cllr Iles reported this had been resolved.

15/118 Metro West’s Consultation on the Portishead Branch Line

Details had been provided of their consultation launch on the re-opening the Portishead branch line as part of MetroWest Phase 1, also information about which elements of the project are being consulting on, the timescales involved, and how to take part.

Resolved: No comments to the above consultation.

Review of Kenn Parish Council Documents & Statutory Requirements/Regulations

15/119 (1) Handling Complaints (2) Freedom of Information Publication Scheme

Both of the above new documents had been distributed in advance of the meeting to allow Members time to read them. They were based on model documents.

Resolved: To adopt both of the above documents.

Accounts & Finance Items

15/120 Accounts for Payment Members considered the details in the Clerk’s Report.

Resolved: To approve the accounts for payment as detailed.

APPROVED AS A TRUE RECORD

Signed by the Chairman

Date.....