



Kewstoke Parish Council

“Here to protect the Rural Character and Environment of the Village and to promote Kewstoke as a pleasant place to live”

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Chairman Councillor J.MacDonald

Minutes of the of the Kewstoke Parish Council meeting held on Monday 4th December 2023, which commenced at 7.20pm.

Present:- Cllrs, T.Morris,(Vice Chairman),J.MacDonald,(Chairman),

K.Harper,R.Adams.T.Horry, G.Vearncombe, & R.Cunningham

In attendance

Parish Clerk

M.Hardwick

Unitary Members

Cllr Pilgrim

Public Participation

There was one member of the Public in attendance.

A representative of the Worle History Society addressed the meeting and indicated that she would be willing to take over the Kewstoke History group allowing it to continue , as one of the two members currently running the group has retired and the other Cllr Horry is considering also stepping down.

The plan would be to initially set up a Steering group incorporating some new local volunteers with a view to agree on a way forward particularly looking at the archives

and how they are managed going forward. Cllr Cunningham agreed to represent the Parish Council on this group. Cllr Horry agreed to also become a member this group and assist in the hand over process.

Cllr MacDonald indicated that the Parish Council would be prepared to support the new group possibly financially with regards to alternative storage of the archives, although more detail would be required before a decision could be made.

1. Opening of the meeting

The meeting opened at 7.20pm

2. Apologies for absence

N.Richards **Liaison Officer**

Cllr Williams Unitary Member

Cllr Jenkins

Cllr Whyte

3. Declaration of Interests

There were no declarations of Interest

4. Adoption of the minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 6th November 2023

Proposed Cllr Morris

Seconded Cllr Harper

The Chairman called for a show of hands by the Councillors in attendance at the meeting on 6th November to indicate their support for the adoption. This was indicated unanimously.

Agreed Unanimously

5. Police Beat Report

Some outline details of the latest beat report were referenced by Cllr MacDonald.

It was agreed not to publish the report although a copy is available from the Clerk.

6. O/S Actions/Updates from previous meeting.

Work at Kewstoke Primary School

The Clerk reported that no new update had been received despite being previously requested from North Somerset Council.

Cllr MacDonald requested Cllr Pilgrim follow up with NSC the lack of communication to the School Governors regarding the works in what appeared to be a news blackout. – [Ongoing](#)

Annual Playground Report

Cllr Morris reported that there was still some work to be completed although the recent inclement weather had delayed any work.

Action: - [Cllr Morris & Cllr Vearncombe ongoing \(2 O/s Items\)](#)

Chestnut Fencing

The clerk referred to an email received from the Asset Performance Manager at the Environment Agency which suggested that there had been a misunderstanding and that Chestnut Fencing could continue to be used on the Dunes providing the Council maintains any new fencing erected by the Parish Council.

Cllr Vearncombe

Cllr Vearncombe also asked if a letter be sent to the owner of land adjacent to Kewstoke Road where it appeared further trees were in danger of falling.

Action: - [Cllr Vearncombe & the Clerk Ongoing](#)

Cllr MacDonald

Cllr MacDonald referred to a number of traffic cones that had appeared on Lower Norton Lane. It was agreed to investigate their origins before possibly reporting to NSC.

[It was agreed that the 3 cones that currently remain should be removed by the Parish Council as it was not clear who had placed them there.](#)

Action: - Cllr Harper

7. Unitary Members Report

Cllr Pilgrim reported that she had followed up an enquiry by the Parish Council regarding fencing at Norton Court Farm with NSC Enforcement Department. The Clerk confirmed that an online meeting had now taken place with NSC Delivery and Enforcement Manager covering this and other enforcement issues.

Cllr Pilgrim confirmed that enforcement matters relating to the reported perceived dangerous driving of tractors around the Village were with the Police and not North Somerset Council.

It was agreed that this matter was left in abeyance.

The Clerk was asked to add to a future agenda at a time activities were likely to recommence.

Cllr Pilgrim further confirmed that “shopper buses” operating from Anson Road had now been reinstated and will run 3 times per day.

The clerk raised the matter of lack of the updating of calls on NSC call logging system, and in particular two calls relating to dead animals on Sand Bay Beach and one for a replacement of a bus stop sign.

Cllr Pilgrim agreed to follow up.

Action: - Cllr Pilgrim

8. Other Issues

Signage Toilets & Crookes Lane Footpath

It was agreed that Cllr MacDonald would further progress obtaining signage relating to the fact that the Parish Council maintained both these facilities.

Action: - Cllr MacDonald.

Fence Crookes Lane Footpath

Cllr Morris reported that he and Cllr Adams had further inspected the fence and identified that at least 20 posts required reinforcement or replacement, albeit in their opinion they were not in a dangerous condition..

It was suggested that metal stakes were inserted and screwed to the posts initially to see if this resolved the issue.

Action: - Cllr Morris - Ongoing

Registering a Community Asset.

The clerk reported that following the submission of an application to register the New Inn as a Community Asset, North Somerset Council had asked for additional testimonies confirming the importance of the New Inn to the Village.

So far responses had been received from the Secretary of Sporting Weston Football club and Owls Crest Bed and Breakfast.

Cllr Cunningham to pursue additional testimonies.

Action:- Cllr Cunningham

Speed Watch Campaign

Cllr MacDonald updated the meeting with regards organising some onsite training for the Volunteers. It appeared the Police coordinator was waiting for some details of Hi Viz jacket sizes. Cllr MacDonald had written to all known volunteers to progress.

Newsletter

Cllr MacDonald asked if any of the Councillors had ideas for input into the newsletter to let him or Cllr Jenkins have the details a.s.a.p.

It was hoped to publish the Newsletter on various platforms before Christmas.

Grit Bins

Cllr Vearncombe agreed to check all the bins in and around the Village prior to the onset of winter.

Action: - Cllr Vearncombe

9.Clerks Report

Groundworks

The Clerk reported that it had been agreed with the Groundwork's contractor to cease with such works in and around the Village until early spring. This was likely to save the Council some £3K.

Streetlight Norton Court Farm.

The Clerk reported that a response had been received from the owner of Norton Court Farm in respect of a request for a contribution to the repair of the Streetlight adjacent to the property. Unfortunately they felt they were unable to make such a contribution.

The matter will now be referred to the Policy & Finance Meeting Scheduled for 13th December where next year's budget will be discussed.

10.Financial Update

Payments for November have been approved outside of this meeting to allow payment in the appropriate calendar month. See below.

Payments for Approval November 2023

Salaries & Reimbursements	£2,654.82
HM Revenue and Customs	£248.16
HM Revenue and Customs	£37.40
K.Harper reimbursements	£68.95
J.K.Gardening	£1,030.00
Sharples	£70.09
Weston Support Services	£64.98
Weston Town Council	£308.88
A&J MacDonald	£10.00
Village Hall	£360.00
A.Morris	£59.50
Total	£4,912.78

Additional Payments for November paid by DD

Water2Business £40.50

Water2 Business £86.50

SSE	£284.92
British Gas	£24.709

11. Councillors Report

Cllr Cunningham

Cllr Cunningham reported that she had received an invitation to all Parish Councillors to attend a Carol Service on 17th December at Kewstoke Chapel. It was agreed that Cllr Cunningham would represent the Parish Council at the service.

Cllr Harper

Cllr Harper reported that the result of clearing the mud from roads in and around Kewstoke by NSC, had caused issues of flooding where by the mud had been pushed to the side of the roads blocking gullies.

Cllr Harper also raised the issue of the Bus drivers being prevented from being able to stop opposite Sand Bay Holiday Park (Pontins) causing issues with passengers having to stay on the bus which prevented others waiting at the next stop (Bus Terminus Car Park) from boarding the bus. He asked for the matter to be raised with NSC.

Action: - Parish Clerk

Cllr MacDonald

Cllr MacDonald reported that he had provisionally arranged for a Xmas meal at the South Sands Hotel, with 3 courses for £28,

After some discussion it was agreed that he should confirm the booking for 12th January 2024 and that the Village Orderlies and Volunteers would be invited.

It was reiterated that the Councillors pay for their own meals.

Cllr MacDonald also raised the possibility of setting up a book swap facility in the Telephone Kiosk currently housing the defibrillator unit. Following some discussion it was agreed that this would be progressed noting some matters of detail needed to be agreed and resolved.

For information Cllr MacDonald reported that a resident had cut back the trees in a hedge adjacent to Anson Road. This appeared to be as a result of improving the residents view.

Meeting closed at 8.18 pm

12. Date of next meeting Monday 8th January 2024.

