



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 Kewstoke Parish Council meeting held on Monday 2nd June 2025, which commenced at 7 pm.

Present:- Cllrs, K.Harper, T.Morris, J.MacDonald (Chairman), R.Adams , G. Vearncombe, K.Jenkins & S.Baxter.

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In attendance

Parish Clerk

M.Hardwick

Unitary Members

Cllr L.Pilgrim **Unitary Member**

Public Participation

There were no members of the Public in attendance.

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.1.Opening of the meeting

The meeting opened at 7pm.

2. Apologies for absence

N.Richards **Liaison Officer**

Cllr M,Williams **Unitary Member**

Cllr Horry

Cllr Whyte

Cllr Clapp

Cllr Cunningham

3. Declaration of Interests

There were no declarations of Interest

4. Adoption of the minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 7th May 2025

Proposed Cllr Vearncombe

Seconded Cllr Morris

The Chairman called for a show of hands by the Councillors in attendance at the meeting on 7th May 2025 to indicate their support for the adoption. This was indicated unanimously.

Agreed Unanimously

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

Document Storage

It was agreed to set up a steering group to look at scanning and indexing documents relating to the Parish Council and the Local History Group.

Due to illness the Steering Group was unable to meet, this is to be rearranged.

Action: - Cllr Baxter, Cllr Horry, & Cllr Jenkins.

A report with a recommendation has been produced. This will become an agenda item for debate subject to a review of whether the current cupboard area can be made fireproof and the current supporting floor accessed for suitability.

Action; - Cllr Morris ongoing

Birnbeck Pier

The Mayor Cllr John Crockford-Hawley who is also a local Historian and Trustee of Birnbeck Pier and sits on the Birnbeck redevelopment committee has agreed to come and undertake a presentation. It was agreed to invite the Mayor to one of the next Parish Council meetings with a 30 min slot made available.

The Clerk had emailed Cllr Williams with some proposed dates requesting that this be arranged.

Action: - Cllr Williams ongoing. This was anticipated to be prior to the next Parish Council Meeting 7th April 2025. – Ongoing

It was agreed that Cllr Pilgrim would contact John Crockford-Hawley directly to arrange a presentation.

Action:- Cllr Pilgrim

Village Green

Cllr Morris confirmed he is to purchase a replacement gate post and arrange installation as agreed. .

.Action; - Cllr Morris & Cllr Harper

Occupancy of the Dunes

The Clerk confirmed that a Land Agent is being sought to discuss the preparation of an implementation plan to put forward to the RPA (Regional Payment Agency.)

Action: - Parish Clerk- ongoing

Finger Posts

Cllr Vearncombe confirmed that he and Cllr Morris planned to paint the finger posts after the Easter Weekend.

Action; - Cllr Morris & Cllr Vearncombe- ongoing

Fence adjacent to Footpath in Crookes lane

Cllr MacDonald reported that part of the fence adjacent to the footpath in Crookes Lane had been damaged by a horse in the adjacent field.

It was agreed that Cllr Harper would inspect the fence and if necessary request that the Clerk obtain a quote for repairs.

Action: - Cllr Harper & the Clerk

Action: - Parish Clerk- ongoing (A quote had been requested)

It was further agreed that Cllr MacDonald would speak with the owner of the field highlighting the damage and requesting action to prevent a reoccurrence.

Action:- Cllr MacDonald

Coin Machines at Kiosk

Cllr Harper also reported that the tenants of the Kiosk adjacent to the toilet block were being inundated with requests for help when the coin machines failed. It was suggested that a sign with a number to call in such situations, might alleviate this issue.

Action; - Parish Clerk

The Clerk reported that he had visited the tenants of the Kiosk and confirmed that they were happy with the current arrangements of resolving issues with the coin

machines and that no sign was needed. It was also suggested by the Clerk that due to this and the recent outlay by the tenants in repainting the Kiosk and the toilet Block then perhaps the proposed rent increase might be suspended.

This was proposed by Cllr Morris

Proposed Cllr Morris

Seconded Cllr Vearncombe

Agreed Unanimously

6. Police Beat Report

There was no beat report for May

7. Unitary Members Report

Cllr Pilgrim

Cllr Pilgrim referenced two related ongoing issues regarding the policing of anti-social behaviour in and around Kewstoke and the progress of a Public Place Protection Order requested by the Parish Council.

It would appear that due to financial constraints and subsequent staff reductions no Community Response Officers would now be able to cover Kewstoke. This is despite recently erected signs in the Car Park and along the dunes informing members of the Public to contact the Weston Town Council incident control centre to report anti-social behaviour.

It would appear that the Police had contacted NSC councils with concerns particularly with regards anti-social activity within the Car Park opposite South Sands Hotel.

The Public Place Protection Order had not been progressed for similar reasons, that of lack of funding and the unlikely ability to enforce such an order.

The Councillors expressed concern and particularly the fact that the Parish Council had not been made aware of this action.

Cllr Pilgrim is also to progress a site visit to address the parking issues along Crookes Lane.

Action: - Cllr Pilgrim

Cllr Pilgrim also made reference to the fact that it appears the final draft of the Local Plan is to be agreed on 18/6 following a consultation process.

The Chairman requested that the Clerk contact our Liaison Officer within North Somerset Council to clarify timescales.

Action: - Parish Clerk.

It was also suggested by Cllr Pilgrim that as the current Parish Councils Liaison Officer with NSC had been recently promoted it would worth considering a replacement Officer who perhaps had more time to attend Parish Council Meetings.

Action: - Cllr Pilgrim

Cllr Pilgrim reported that there were a number of up and coming planned road closures in Kewstoke, Cllr Macdonald outlined the details

Site1 Lower Norton Lane 9th June 8.00-1700.

Site 2 Upper Kewstoke Road 10th-13th June 8.00-1700.

Site 3 Sand Road 10th-12th June 8.00-1700.

Cllr Pilgrim offered her apologies as she was unable to attend the next Parish Council meeting.

8.Other Issues

Coach signage

The Clerk confirmed that he had contacted the Lead Engineer (Neighbourhood Traffic) at North Somerset Council regarding the issue, raised previously by Cllr Vearncombe, of Coaches ignoring the restrictions on Kewstoke Road and using this route to access the Village.

It was requested that the volumes and times of the occurrences were recorded and forwarded onto the Police for enforcement action and also North Somerset Council to see if additional signage is warranted. It was agreed that Cllr Vearncombe would monitor and provide photographic evidence.

Action: - Cllr Vearncombe.

Defibrillator

The Clerk confirmed that a new back up battery and Pads had been purchased for the defibrillator which is to be sited in the Royal Oak stores (Pink Shop).

Once in place the unit would be registered on the national database,

Action: - Cllr Clapp

Staffing Matters

The Meeting was closed at 7.40pm

The Clerk, in the absence of the Chairman of the Staffing Committee, gave an update on a recent staffing meeting.

The meeting was reopened at 7.45pm

9.Clerks Report

Memorial Bench

The Clerk reported that a memorial bench purchased recently was delivered in the incorrect colour. The Supplier has now replaced the slats in the correct colour and made good. A plaque has been installed.

Social Media Committee

It was agreed to set up a meeting of this Committee, and in particular look at providing back up to the current administrator, in particular during periods of illness.

Action: - Cllr Jenkins

Cutting Sea Bank

The clerk confirmed that the "Sea Bank" had been cut and that generally feedback was positive,

Cllr MacDonald referred to a message received regarding a tree on the "Sea Bank" that had appeared to have been felled and required removal.

Action: - Cllr Harper & Cllr Adams

VAS Battery replacement at Church

The Clerk reported that the Vicar of St Pauls Church had requested that the Church Wall was to be no longer used to replace the battery in the Vehicle Activated Sign. This would now require a ladder and additional resource to meet Health and Safety concerns.

It was agreed that either Cllr Harper or Cllr Morris would be able to assist.

Action:- Parish Clerk

9.Financial Update

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

Payments for Approval May 2025

Salaries and reimbursements	£2,679.97
HM Revenue and Customs	£614.41
J.K.Gardening	£929.25
Weston Town Council	£308.88
Glasdon	£1,478.89
K.Harper reimbursement	£114.99
GB Sports & Leisure	£2,860.80
N.Whyte	£9.98
A&J MacDonald	£10.00
Appleford Plumbing	£99.65
S.W. Hygene	£378.14
T.Baker	£90.00
Total	£9,484.96

Additional Payments for May paid by DD

Water2Business £13.00

Water2 Business	£95.00
British Gas	£31.58
SSE	£425.94
Service Charge	£6.00

10. Councillors Report

Cllr Jenkins

Cllr Jenkins confirmed that this year's Scarecrow Trail will be held over the weekend 13th/14th September 2025.

Cllr Morris

Cllr Morris reaffirmed that he had purchased posts and materials for repairing the gate on the Village Green. This work is to commence shortly.

Action:- Cllr Morris & Cllr Harper

Cllr Vearncombe

Cllr Vearncombe referred to two apparently related issues, one concerning the number of vans parking outside a property, in Kewstoke Road, suggesting multiple occupancy, and secondly the apparent resulting damage to the road surface.

It was agreed to raise the matter at the next meeting with North Somerset Enforcement Department and report the road damage to North Somerset Highways Department.

Action: - Parish Clerk & Cllr Adams

Cllr Baxter

Cllr Baxter made reference to the Kewstoke Annual Fair to be held on June 14th

Cllr Harper

Cllr Harper reported that a number of shingles had blown away from the roof of the "Shelter" on the sea front and had been successfully replaced by Cllr Harper and his team of volunteers.

Cllr Harper also reported that the weeds on the steps leading to the Sea Front Parth had been removed.

Meeting closed at 8.07pm

11. Date of next meeting Monday 7th July 2025.

