

**MINUTES OF THE KENTFORD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2019 AT ST MARY'S CHURCH, BURY ROAD, KENTFORD AT 7.00PM.**

Present: Cllr M Baker, Cllr C Carter, Cllr T Alexander, Cllr H Morrison, Cllr Roger Dicker and four members of the public.

**1. Apologies**

All present.

**2. Declaration of Interests**

None declared.

**3. Minutes / Matters Arising**

Points arising from the minutes:

The area around the Moulton Road bus shelter/bus stop has now been trimmed, window to be replaced once painting finished; overhanging bushes/trees near the Vets to be discussed in agenda item five; updated street lighting costs to be chased (CM/MB to action); engagement with the Village Hall Committee to be encouraged, no names as yet to join the committee; A11/A14 meeting well attended by neighbouring villages, next meeting Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> July at 7.00pm in the Church. The minutes were then unanimously approved as a true record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

**4. Officer report**

West Suffolk Council are in the process of setting up a Rural Task Force looking at rural community issues i.e. broadband/policing; Sunnica Solar Farm presentation and relevant concerns raised by villages close to the proposed site; planning application for 19 affordable/shared homes on the strip of land just past the village hall (exception site). Following discussion, it was unanimously agreed to strongly object to this application and a response sent to the Planning Authority (MB to action); deadline for Parish Council comments to be confirmed (CM to action). It was asked to be noted that bus services within Kentford were good but the need to extend the evening bus timetable was essential. Cllr Robin Miller to be contacted for his involvement (TA to action). This issue to be kept on future agendas.

**5. Public Forum**

Matters raised included the need for a bus stop opposite Lambert Grove – proposed the bus stop at The Bell be moved to this location. Cllr Robin Miller to be contacted (TA to action).

**6. Grass cutting contract**

With additional work required within the village, Scott has asked that his pay be increased from £100 to £150. The grass cutting contract to be refined and a report brought back to the next meeting (MB to action).

It was agreed in principle, a self-employed contractor be recruited to carry out small maintenance tasks within the village i.e. washing signage, clearing paths/cutting back overhanging foliage. A defined job description to be prepared. (MB to action). Simon Collins to be asked for a map showing areas that are covered by West Suffolk Council contractors (RD to action).

## **7. Kentford Fete**

All progressing well. A donation of £200 to pay for the three music groups and £50 to cover the cost of tombola prizes was requested. With monies left over from last year's Locality Budget Grant, it was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Cllr Chris Carter that the request be approved- all agreed. Posters to be displayed, road signs to be put up, raffle tickets to be sold. Again, all proceeds from the fete to be sent to the E.A.A.A. The next fete committee meeting to be held on the 11<sup>th</sup> July at 7.00pm at Hillcrest.

## **8. Management of new estates**

With planning conditions not being satisfied by Matthew Homes, Cllr Roger Dicker recommended the developer be taken to court. This action has the backing of Simon Collins. To determine whether enforcement proceedings could be instigated, a site meeting, if possible, to be arranged with the Planners/Simon Collins/Developer/Chris Carter and a lawyer from WSC (RD to action). Draft discussion document is on the Kentford website for issues relating to the new estates (TA to send link to CC).

## **9. Feedback from the A11/14 meeting**

For priority to be given to the project the cost has to be proven economically viable i.e. data has to be collected on fatalities/injuries/slow journeys. Overall a useful meeting but realistically the scheme is not likely to be actioned before 2030.

## **10. Roles & Recruitment**

Three additional councillors are required. It would be beneficial to recruit from the new estates. A leaflet and poster 'Your village needs you' to be created and circulated at the fete (HM to action). As a visible presence on the day, it was further suggested councillors wear name badges.

## **11. AOB**

None.

Date of next meeting agreed as Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2019 at 7.00pm.

With no further business the meeting closed at 8.07pm.

