

MINUTES OF THE KENTFORD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 22ND FEBRUARY AT ST MARY'S CHURCH, BURY ROAD, KENTFORD AT 7.30PM

Present: Cllr M Baker, Cllr H Morrison, Cllr R Dicker, Cllr M Nightingale, Cllr Z Smith

The Chairman welcomed newly co-opted Christopher Carter to the meeting. His Declaration of Acceptance of Office was duly signed and witnessed.

1. Public Forum was heard later in the meeting

2. Minutes/Matters Arising

Meddler Stud update: The developers have visited various residents and listened to their concerns; loss of public open space for eighteen affordable homes is not likely to be progressed as there is no local need; however, not a firm decision as has not yet come to planning; Malcolm has written a strong response to FHDC; current issues are access to the site; clarification to be sought on the width of the new access road as a one way system would be unacceptable; final decision is down to the County Council; work on the site has already been started; part of the wall has been demolished. Further update at the next meeting.

The minutes were therefore unanimously approved and signed by the Chairman.

3. Officers Report

No update to report.

4. Engagement with new areas of the Parish

Handover to be finalised in April 2018; keys of the Moulton Parish Council notice board have been handed over to Malcolm; it was suggested a vinyl strip saying Kentford Parish Council be used to change the name on the board (HM to action); development file to be passed to Malcolm (MB to email Lorraine); any outstanding issues to be left alone for the time being.

5. Other planning questions

Plans for the development of 30 homes including nine affordable houses on land at the rear of The Kentford were circulated for consideration. After discussion, the Parish Council agreed to object to the application. Further matters to be raised included the impact of removing the recycling and bottle banks (new location has been suggested as Anvil Way near to the vet's surgery), the reduction in size of the car park creating potential hazardous safety issues and problems for car park users; S106 for traffic calming? (MB to action), appropriate street lighting, available open space.

Other planning matters Kennett 500 homes: East Cambs have been told they should be consulting with the Parish Council; at a recent exhibition, it was stressed there would be no additional cars going through the village; plans include a roundabout at The Bell, hatching, a crossing and traffic lights. Response from the Parish Council: Concerns over excessive additional cars coming through Kentford.

6. Projects for 2018

The purpose of the agenda item is for ideas/financial backing for any projects that would like to be achieved in 2018. Ideas for the volunteer list included general decoration of the bus shelter, perhaps Community Pay Back to be involved with a competition for the best design (Will Wright to be contacted RD to action); signs to the entrances to the village; railings outside the church, notice board, signs by the Herringswell junction on Bury Road; church floodlighting upgrade, agreed in principle that the Parish Council will financially contribute towards the cost (HM to liaise with Phil Prigg for costings prior to a decision being made), ivy removal on church wall.

With no response from Suffolk County Council regarding the street lights in Herringswell Road being switched off at midnight, Henry Morrison agreed to email Will Wright for assistance in progressing this request and also ask for an additional street light at the junction of Bury Road/Herringswell Road.

Project Open Spaces: Packhorse Bridge scheme developing (sign yet to be received); bulbs are appearing; the set aside space behind the church (owned by Robert Boyce) will be tended by the developer; two new benches to be positioned.

To finalise planning conditions, a woodland walk to be established at Farriers Grange; bollards to be positioned at the Moulton Road end and along the grass verges; area where trees have been taken down will be replanted; a pathway through Jeddah Way to Moulton Road to be created; the pathway at the NUT car park has been reinstated (actioned by RD) with an opportunity for planting.

Village Fete 2108: dialogue needs to be had with Moulton as the village will be holding their own fete this year. The Kentford Pub have offered the use of their car park if the Parish Council want to progress the event in August. A meeting to be held later this month to discuss this option further.

7. New Village Hall

Henry and Maureen were thanked for delivering the village hall leaflets. Clubs in the area have expressed their interest in hiring the hall. Official opening in April. Security for the hall to be paid for out of monies left over from the build.

It was proposed by Roger and seconded by Malcolm, that Kentford Parish Council continue to contribute 5% of the precept to the running costs of the new village hall for the next financial year - all agreed.

8. Precept – financial planning for 2018/19

The precept for 2018/19 has been set as £8750. With five in favour and one against (RD) the resolution was carried.

9. Lighting – discussed in a previous agenda item.

10. Date of next meeting: Thursday April 19th 2018 at 7.30.

With n o further business the meeting ended at 8.35pm.