



KETLEY PARISH COUNCIL

TELFORD, SHROPSHIRE

MINUTES of the Meeting of Ketley Parish Council held on Wednesday 10 March 2021 via Microsoft Teams Virtual Remote Platform at 7:00pm

Present:

Councillor Sam Millward Thomas (Chairman)	Councillor Eileen Callear
Councillor Hilda Rhodes	Councillor Amrik Jhawar
Councillor Maggie Evans	Councillor Dave Elliott
Councillor Joy Francis	Councillor Andrew Morris
Councillor Kuldip Sahota	

Locum Clerk: Chris Maclean

Council Team: Elisabeth Bamford

Community Centre Manager: Christian Smith

In attendance: One member of the public.

C20/172 WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

C20/173 PUBLIC SESSION

No issues raised.

C20/174 POLICE MATTERS

The Locum Clerk had distributed to Councillors a report from the Police as they had been unable to attend the meeting due to technology connection issues. The latest statistics provided in relation to Burglaries, Theft, Assault and Anti-Social Behaviour showed that in general crime figures continue to be low.

The use of off-road vehicles and mopeds across the parish remains an issue and whilst some success was noted the Police requested that further reporting of such incidents was encouraged.

Advice had been received from the Police that the recent communications from a Shropshire security firm in relation to public disorder should be treated with caution.

The details relating to the Victim Support Survey would be put out on social media.

C20/175 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None.

C20/176 DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY AND OTHER INTERESTS

None declared.

C20/177 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 10 FEBRUARY 2021
Cllr M Evans proposed, and Cllr D Elliott seconded that the minutes of the meeting held on 10 February 2021 be adopted and it was resolved that the Chairman sign these as a true record.

C20/178 COMMUNITY CENTRE

- (i) The Community Centre Manager advised that there had been fewer counselling service bookings in the recent period.
- (ii) The Centre is being covered by the Manager with the Centre Assistant covering parts of Wednesday and Thursday.
- (iii) Centre users have been contacted to confirm their return with activities for children commencing first and Tae Kwon Do undertaking their initial sessions in the car park. These would be followed by adult users and then group sessions.
- (iv) Interviews for the Centre Assistant are scheduled to be conducted on 29 March with a planned start date in April.
- (v) Servicing of the boilers is scheduled for the following Monday. Servicing of the alarms had been undertaken but further work is required to address issues with the alarm in the adjoining building.
- (vi) Breakfast parcel handouts for the previous week totalled 21 with 13 scheduled for this week. Collection hours of the parcels has been extended. Breakfast parcels to be given out at Easter half term will include confectionery and craft activities.
- (vii) Confectionery bags for pupils in Meadows Primary School will be provided prior to Easter break with this event supported and sponsored by the Councillor Pride Fund.
- (viii) Proposals for the holiday cover provision for children of 5 to 16 years of age had been considered and discussions are ongoing with Telford & Wrekin Council in terms of viability and costs of delivery.

C20/179 EVENTS

- (i) The Centre Manager advised Councillors that a very large easter egg has been donated by Morrisons and would be raffled out on the back of an easter egg hunt. No donations of small easter eggs had been received but would be sourced by the Centre Manager.
- (ii) The Centre Manager advised Councillors that preparations continue for the summer fete on 7 August. Lessons learnt from a training course on community events safety would be factored into the event.
- (iii) Arrangements are being made for a Halloween party in October. Search ongoing for a disc jockey for the event although one had been booked for the Christmas party scheduled for 18 December.
- (iv) The Christmas Meal events for senior parishioners are still scheduled for 20 through to 22 December 2021.
- (v) The Centre Manager updated Councillors on the progress of arranging Christmas lights. It was suggested that lights be put up from The Horseshoes Inn to the Community Centre buildings, avoiding the traffic light crossing. Date for the Christmas lights switch on still to be considered.

Councillors expressed their thanks to the Centre Manager for his contributions and he left the meeting at 7:25 pm

C20/180 GARDEN OF REST

- (i) The Locum Clerk advised Councillors that there had been a couple of funerals last week and one is scheduled for this week.

- (ii) The Garden of Rest is being well maintained with efforts currently ongoing to top up plots where this is required.
- (iii) The Locum Clerk updated Councillors on the request by a family to install a tree within the Garden of Rest. Some concerns over the impact of this have been raised and are being considered.

C20/181 FINANCE

Councillors noted the details of the current bank balances.

C20/182 FINANCE - ORDERS FOR PAYMENT

Orders for payment were reviewed.

Cllr M Evans proposed and Cllr J Francis seconded and it was resolved that these payments be made.

C20/183 INTERNAL AUDIT

The Locum Clerk advised Councillors that work is ongoing to update on developments and will be presented at a future meeting.

C20/184 STREETLIGHTS

- (i) The Locum Clerk advised Councillors that efforts continue to assess the potential for lighting at the Ketley Brook underpass and Wedgewood Crescent.
- (ii) A further quote has been received for the lighting solution at the Ketley Brook underpass. Proposals for consideration would be presented at a future meeting.
- (iii) A potential lighting solution at Wedgewood Crescent continues to be under consideration but several challenges remain. Quotes are awaited. It is currently unclear where responsibility for the solution lies.
- (iv) Councillors noted that Telford & Wrekin Council appear to have rebadged their columns with the prefix of "K" which creates potential for confusion as the Parish Council columns are marked with K.

C20/185 COMMUNITY ACTION TEAM

The Locum Clerk advised Councillors that further discussions are being scheduled to discuss the elements of the package on offer and the merits of "going it alone" on the Enforcement elements were being considered. Discussions on this element would include Cllr E Callear and Cllr S Millward Thomas.

C20/186 BOUNDARY SIGNS

The Locum Clerk advised Councillors that he had not been able to progress the sourcing of the boundary signs due to other pressing matters on the Council. Attempts would be made to restart the discussions with the supplier as soon as practical.

C20/187 PLANNING

- (i) Councillors considered the application TWC/2021/0176 for a single storey extension to the property at 20 Oaks Way, Ketley. Councillors agreed that no comment be offered.
- (ii) Councillors considered the application TWC/2021/0168 for the erection of a conservatory at the property at 17 Oak Trees Avenue, Ketley. Councillors agreed that no comment be offered.
- (iii) Councillors considered the application TWC/2021/0210 for an extension to the property at 52 Broadway, Ketley. Councillors agreed that no comment be offered.

- (iv) Councillors noted the objection raised in relation to the parking of a low loader truck outside the entrance to Recycling House, Rock Road, Ketley and which created hazards to other road users. This had been referred to the Enforcement team in Telford & Wrekin Council.
Councillors also expressed concern over the apparent state of the site and reports of increased vermin activity. This would also be followed up with the Enforcement team.

C20/188 CONSULTATIONS

Councillors noted the latest developments in the compilation of the data on buildings of notable interest within the parish. These would be finalised and reviewed by Cllr M Evans and Cllr D Elliott prior to submission to Telford & Wrekin Council.

C20/189 WEBSITE

The Locum Clerk advised Councillors that efforts to address the issues with the website continue and that resolution should soon be achieved.
Councillors considered alternative options to the current site.

C20/190 INFORMATION ITEMS

None raised.

C20/191 PARISH MATTERS

- (i) Councillors noted that the recent works by Western Power in the parish related to the replacement of a pole.
- (ii) Councillors noted that consideration is being given to repairs of the footpaths in the vicinity of Wedgewood Crescent.
- (iii) Cllr E Callear updated Councillors on the efforts to address a resident's concerns over car parking arrangements in part of Quarry Lane.
- (iv) Cllr A Jhawar noted with Councillors that the work to address the blocked drain in Holyhead Road would require excavation.
- (v) Cllr S Millward Thomas advised Councillors of concerns raised by a resident in relation to the installation of new mobile phone masts in the Parish, The resident had been referred to the planning portal maintained by Telford & Wrekin Council.
- (vi) Councillors considered the merits of the consultation by Telford & Wrekin Council for funding of climate change initiatives.
- (vii) Councillors shared concerns over the condition of the plot at the corner of Holyhead Road and Waterloo Road. These would be raised with idverde.
- (viii) Councillors agreed that a further initiative to promote the Community Garden be undertaken.

C20/192 AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

- (i) Boundary signs
- (ii) Climate Change Initiatives
- (iii) Corner flower bed at Holyhead Road/Waterloo Road
- (iv) Community Garden promotion
- (v) To advise Locum Clerk of items to be considered for inclusion on the agenda.

C20/193 PLANNED DATES OF FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

Resources Committee	Wednesday 24 March 2021 @ 7:00pm
Finance Committee	Wednesday 24 March 2021 @ 8:00pm
Full Council	Wednesday 14 April 2021 @ 7:00pm

(rescheduled for 21 April 2021)

The Chairman declared the public session of the meeting closed at 8:25 pm

Notification of Private Session under Schedule 12a, Local Government Act 1972, the following items are likely to disclose exempt information in relation to establishment and contractual matters and that pursuant to provisions of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 the public and press be excluded.

C20/194 STAFFING

- (i) The Locum Clerk updated Councillors on the current health status of the Facilities Officer. Councillors expressed their best wishes for a speedy recovery and return.
- (ii) Councillors noted that the advertisement for the position of Clerk will be advertised through SALC with applications requested by 31 March 2021. Interviews are planned for early April and recommendations on potential candidates presented to Council in April.

The Chairman declared the meeting formally closed at 8:31 pm.

Signed:

Chairman of Ketley Parish Council

Date: 21 April 2021