

KENN PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES of the Kenn Parish Council meeting, Monday, 21 July 2014 held in the Village Hall, Kenn St, Kenn. Meeting commenced at 19:30 and concluded at 20.55

PRESENT Cllrs S Naish (Chairman), K Hatcher, W Bessant, S Brain, J-P Humberstone, C Quinn, R Treble Clerk; Eleanor Wade

19:30 Items raised during Public Participation

Cllrs Jill Illes & Tony Moulin also NS Liaison Officer Lorraine Bush had given their apologies.

1. Village Hall representative reported the enquiries in agenda item 11 had been resolved.
2. Resident reported missing road traffic signs and locations for possible improved signage.
3. Resident also reported that the grass verges in Kenn Street need trimming

19:35 FORMAL BUSINESS

14/70 Apologies for absence none

14/71 Declarations of interest Cllr Treble declared interests in mins 14/82 & 14/83 below

14/72 Declarations of acceptance of office Chairman & Vice Chairman follow the meeting

14/73 Minutes of the Council meeting held on the 2 June 2014

Resolved: The minutes were approved as correct.

Items Arising from those Minutes

14/74 Free Summer plants & planters (min14/53)

Cllr Quinn was thanked for collecting the plants, organising the positioning of the planters, planting them with free summer flowers, also distributing plants around the village. Residents who had offered to keep the planters watered were also thanked.

14/75 Verges and hedges (min 14/54)

Cllr Treble reported North Somerset Council (NSC) had been advised that Kenn Street and Colehouse Lane needed trimming. Cllr Naish reported NSC need to be asked to trimming the verges in the area of the garage/business park on Kenn Road.

14/76 Traffic speeds through village, signs, noticeboard (min 14/55) The Clerk reported:

- Notice board – the new donated noticeboard was still in the process of being made. **Noted** and await installation details when available.
- Missing Boundary Signs – The Kenn boundary sign had been replaced, **noted** with pleasure. Cllr Treble would report again the missing 'give way' sign at Manmoor Lane.

14/77 Church bridge update (min 14/56)

Members received details of a reply from a NSC officer which, in summary, advised:

1. NSC have no further recorded information since 27 Feb 14, therefore were unable to reliably update on the status of the footbridge from that time.
2. At that time the Drainage Team (now disbanded), conferred with the Public Rights of Way team who indicated they would object to any works because they think the foundation of the structure is of sufficient interest to retain as is. They also pointed out the size of the pipe beyond the structure, indicating that improvements to the structure would not improve flow from the ditch.
3. Unfortunately the view in 2 avoids the points that the; (1) existing conduit beneath the footbridge can block with detritus, (2) is difficult to maintain and (3) the structure itself is unsound, with the handrail positively dangerous to route users. The proposed size increase of the pipe works may appear excessive, it would be far less likely to block (its purpose) and require less work to finish off the footbridge surface. The 2m length of guardrail proposed upstream would have retained detritus there, where it can be seen to build up, be less detrimental to flow if suddenly excessive, and can be easily removed by hand. A brick detail could have been quite easily created to give it 'character' at both ends.
4. In essence, there are things that can be done, but NSC decided the drainage wasn't a priority. Funds restrict any attention to the handrail even though it has been remarked on a number of times – the one that still resembles such a feature was wholly rotten

14/77 (4) Church bridge update continued

the last time it was viewed. The footpath concrete is cracked, and the foundation safety unknown. The bridge is a hazard to pedestrians, it offers no support to the elderly at a critical point where persons could fall into the ditch, and has trip hazards that can catch out the unwary.

5. The officer considered it would need to be escalated to the very highest level to establish ownership and responsibility. If NSC is responsible for the footpath, it is likely to be responsible for the structure too. Also hoped the comments would assist the Parish in pressing the issue further to a satisfactory conclusion. Apologies he was unable to rectify the defects first raised by Rob Treble after the floods of 2012.

Members discussed the reply and recalled efforts to resolve this. An enquiry was made as to the current usage of the bridge/path. The observation was made that the area is overgrown, also due to the condition of the path and rail it would be dangerous to encourage the public to use it.

Agreed: (1) try to obtain clarification from NSC on the path/bridge's status and who is responsible for it, (2) also keep the Churchwardens advised of any progress.

14/78 Village tidy-up and litter rota (min 14/57)

A letter was read out asking if the Parish Council would consider taking over this rota. Two people per month would be needed to keep the area clear of litter. Cllr Bessant agreed to organise the litter rota for a trial period. **Noted** with thanks.

14/79 Dog bin emptying (min 14/63)

Members recalled it currently costs £8 a time to empty the bin, this level of charge had been maintained for the current financial year, however, NSC were advising increases for the future years. Over and above the emptying charge, there would be the cost of purchasing a new bin, installing it and the ongoing maintenance.

Agreed: Not to increase the number of bins around the village, but to put an article in N&V reminding residents of the various options for the disposal of dog waste.

14/80 Defibrillator at Village Hall (min 14/67)

All the queries in the letter had been resolved prior to the meeting. **Noted**

Planning Items**14/81 Neighbourhood Plan** (min 14/65)

At the previous meeting Members had considered Backwell Parish Council's proposals contained in their draft "Backwell Future" Neighbourhood Plan but had felt they did not wish to comment on that particular consultation. However, it had raised the possibility of discussing the benefits of a Neighbourhood Plan for Kenn and it had been agreed to place the item of the agenda of this meeting for consideration.

What would be required? The Parish Council would prepare a plan; this process has to be completed with the help of local residents, businesses and interest groups. A draft is then prepared for consultation locally and with the statutory bodies. Following which it would be fully scrutinised by an independent examiner. If it is approved it would then take the place of many of NSC's planning policies which cover Kenn Parish.

Agreed: For the moment, not to progress the time consuming and complicated processes that are involved in the preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan. Instead to consider a future report to be prepared by the Clerk into the possible benefits of using the Localism Act, Sustainable Communities Act, Community Rights etc, as and when considering plans and proposals applicable to Kenn.

14/82 Planning Application

14/P/1335/ADV – Griffin House, Windmill Road, Kenn, BS21 6UJ – Advertisement consent for 3 flagpoles of 6m high with a 1.8m x 1.2m flag at the top.

Resolved: No objections. It was noted this was a retrospective application.

14/83 1. Planning Decisions on the following were **noted**

13/P/2220/F – Orchard Farm, Kenn Rd, & 14/P/0640/F – Village Hall, Kenn St, Kenn

- 14/83 2. Enforcement** letters as detailed were **noted**
- Cherry Tree Cottage, caravan located on the site
 - Hand Equestrian Centre, caravan located on the site
 - Colehouse Farm, not built as approval permission
 - Portbury House, unauthorised works to a LB

14/84 Yatton meeting with local MP

Members received a report from those who had attended the meeting. It had been arranged because of local concerns at the effects of a large scale (400-500 units) housing development proposed for Yatton. Concerns reported; (1) possible developer proposals to make small group submissions thereby avoiding Section 106 agreements being applied, (2) the increased traffic that would be introduced onto local roads, (3) added pressure on local schools, doctors etc services, (4) impact on a drainage and sewerage system which is already at capacity and would therefore requiring additional provision, (5) flooding issues.

The local MP had been invited to attend but it seemed there was little action he was prepared to take. The local NSC councillor had opposed it but felt it would be approved. The meeting agreed to encourage interested parties to comment, to ensure sufficient concerns are highlighted by local service providers such as schools, doctors.

General Items

14/85 Community 2014 Survey

This survey is feedback from local (parish/town) councils on a key part of the Localism Act in Community Rights. The Government wants local councils to tell them what activity they are taking to support Neighbourhood Planning, Community Right to Challenge and Community Right to Bid & Asset Support. The outcomes will help to inform the continuing development of Government’s work with local councils and shape the type of support they provide to respond to the issues highlighted in the survey. **Agreed:** The Clerk would complete the survey on behalf of the Parish Council.

14/86 Flying the flag for on Commonwealth Day – 9 March 2015

As the village flagpole is listed in the assets and insurance of the Parish Council, consideration was given to a request to fly the Commonwealth flag in 2015. **Noted,** will keep it in mind but only do so if it seems appropriate.

14/87 Nominations for the Queen’s Birthday Honours List 2015]	All these
14/88 Community Connect correspondence]	were noted
14/89 National Grid update]	without
14/90 Schools Admissions Arrangements 2015-18]	any action
14/91 Handling Complaints & DIS June]	

Accounts & Finance Items

14/92 Defibrillator (min 14/67)

Following the decision in min 14/67, members received further information from the supplier; proposed digital/smart cabinet requires good internet access to function. **Resolved:** As internet access would be an issue, to order a non-digital cabinet.

14/93 Annual Audit 2013/14 (min 14/68)

The Auditor had completed the audit of the accounts with no matters raised. **Noted**

14/94 Great Western Air Ambulance Charity grant request

Resolved: (1) to make a grant of £100 & (2) set a Grant Budget of £500 for 2014/15

14/95 Accounts for Payment Members considered the details in the Clerk’s Report.

Resolved: To approve the accounts for payment as detailed.

APPROVED AS A TRUE RECORD

Signed by the Chairman

Date.....