

Minutes of the Kimpton Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 28th September 2015 in the Kimpton Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Present : Cllr Mr R Hart – Chairman
Cllr Mr T Cotterill
Cllr Mr S Payne
Cllr Mr P Clements
Cllr Mr T Tamke
Richard Waterman – Parish Clerk
Borough Councillor Mr P Lashbrook
Members of the Public – 14

Apologies : Cllr Mr G Verity – Vice Chairman, Borough Councillor Mrs P Mutton and County Councillor Mrs Z Brooks.

WELCOME.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Cllr Mr T Tamke declared an interest in the planning application for the Old Bakery, Reference 15/01903/FULLN.

Cllr Mr T Tamke made a statement about the Old Bakery planning application and left the table to sit with the members of the public. Cllr Mr T Tamke made no further comment and did not take part in the decision making on how to respond to this planning application.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Members of the Public voiced their objections to the planning application for the Old Bakery. Summary of the Objections raised :

- The National Planning Policy states that listed buildings must be preserved, Kimpton cottage and Yew Tree Cottage are some of the oldest buildings in the village, their setting in the Conservation Area is of great importance to the look of the village.
- The proposed removal of some of the hedges has been missed by the Conservation Office when they submitted their report.
- The Conservation Officer has made critical comments on the design of the proposed dwelling e.g. the blanked out windows, dormer design etc
- The proposed new dwelling has a very small garden, is 5 metres away from the boundary of Barn House taking away the feeling of space and privacy that currently exists.
- The design of the proposed new dwelling will mean that a big white wall will be visible from the neighbouring property, this has been reduced in height by 0.5 metre but will still be detrimental to the neighbouring property.
- The flooding issue is still of great concern, the ground water levels are an unknown quantity and existing fluvial maps are historic and not very accurate.
- The past flooding history was relayed - Kimpton and Yew Tree Cottages have taken measures to stop flooding, Pumps have been working over the winter to take ground water away from the properties.

- It was felt that the proposed new development does not comply with Policy E1. Policy E1 was read out to the meeting.
- A drawing of the roof height in relation to neighbouring properties was distributed to the Parish Councillors.

Response from the applicant on the amended plans:

- The roof height has been reduced as requested to 6.4 and 7 metres.
- The hedges between the Barn House and the site are dead and will be replaced with fencing and a mature hedge will be planted. There are also 40 foot trees that will remain.
- The houses in Kimpton lane were studied and feature incorporated into the design for the proposed new dwelling. There is a mix of various aged and style houses in the lane.
- The drawing of the roof heights distributed is not accurate and does not show Barn House that is higher than the Old Bakery.
- The Old Bakery does not flood. The proposed new dwelling and the Old Bakery will be added to the main drainage system and therefore will reduce the amount of water going into the ground as there will no longer be a septic tank.

Councillor Mr P Lashbrook stated that the Planning Officers are taking note of the objections raised and there are issues that need to be investigated relating to this planning application. The Planning Officer has confirmed that this application will not go to Committee until the 29th October 2015.

15/01903/FULLN – Erection of 4-bed dwelling with the widening of existing access (amended scheme to 14/02628/FULLN) – Old Bakery, Kimpton Lane, Kimpton.

The Parish Council discussed this application at great length. It was agreed to OBJECT by a vote of 3-1 on the grounds that there were so many unanswered questions on the issue of ground water flooding and the possible consequences to neighbouring properties, a full investigation needs to be undertaken. The Parish Council felt that the issues with the proposed dwelling raised by planning, from the previous application had been dealt with and they had no problems with the proposed dwelling. Cllr Mr P Clements will put together a letter to set out the Parish Council's objections.

The Members of the Public all left the meeting.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING.

The Chairman signed the minutes of the previous meeting as a true record. Matters arising from those minutes :-

DEFIBRILLATOR – The Clerk reported that the defibrillator and cabinet have been purchased. Mr Brian Pearce will liaise with the Village Hall to install the cabinet. Once this has been done the Clerk will install the defibrillator and inform the Ambulance Service.

FLOODING - Cllr Mr K Tamke up-dated the up-dated the Parish Council on progress of the new Flood Plans developed by the Environment Agency at present.

These will replace the Fluvial River maps used at present which are not accurate and based on old data.

The new maps will be much more precise but will only show the actual Pill Hill Brook River area and surface flooding along this river. The Pill Hill Brook River has been defined to start at the Manor House/Down Road.

The new maps will not show any fluvial underground flow or groundwater levels which have been the main cause of flooding in Kimpton.

The only other mapping being kept updated is the surface/flash flooding map.

Hence it is even more important to keep our Kimpton flood data up to date

Residents who have experienced flooding are being asked to fill in a questionnaire that can be added to the flooding data base.

STREET LIGHT – The Clerk reported that the new street lights in the village are controlled by a sim card and monitored and controlled through the mobile Network. HCC have confirmed that there is a problem with the signal from the street light outside Cllr Mr G Verity's property. This is being investigated.

WEB SITE – The Parish Council discussed the Kimpton Web Site. The Chairman stated that if Kimpton Hampshire is googled it comes up as no 2 in the search list. For the web site to be active new information needs to be added, this does not come forward from the community and a push to encourage the flow of information needs to be undertaken.

The Chairman reported that he has had replies in the mid 30's to be added to the web site data base. Cllr Mr P Clements suggested that the data base for the Oil Syndicate could be used to distribute an email asking residents to join the web site, Cllr Mr P Clements will ask if the organizer would be willing to forward an email to the members from the web site, this would not compromise the confidentiality of the oil Syndicate members.

PLAY AREA FUNDING – The Clerk reported that he has submitted two applications for funding for the Play Area. TVBC have a capital grant that the Parish Council can access, however it is a 50/50 match funding. The Clerk suggested that when the precept is discussed that the Parish Council consider adding an amount for the Play Area, possibly also pledging some of the reserves. This will also help when applying for grants as there is always a question on how much money will the applicant be putting in to the project. This was noted.

PLANNING

15/02142/TREEN – Thin and coppice up to 10 trees per year with a maximum trunk diameter of 30cm as described within the application.
Littleton Manor, Fyfield.
The Parish Council had NO OBJECTIONS.

COUNCILLOR MR P LASHBROOK

Cllr Mr P Lashbrook spoke about the Penton Bellinger Ward Resilience Team. The idea is that the Parishes in the ward pool their resources to deal with emergencies. The Police, Fire, Ambulance, NHW and volunteer groups will all be involved. There will be a small charge to each parish to cover the insurance. With the severe cuts in Government funding it falling to Parish Councils to take the lead in first response to emergencies. Cllr Mr P Lashbrook would like to have a representative from each village on the Resilience Team. Cllr Mr T Tamke offered to represent Kimpton.

EMERGENCY PLAN

This will be deferred until the October meeting.

PARISH COUNCILLORS REPORTS

CLLR MR P CLEMENTS - Spoke about the Welcome Stranger planning application, the Parish Council had lodged a NO OBJECTION. There are two letters of objection on the TVBC web site that he suggested the Parish Councillors should read. There is a petition to get these letters removed.

CLLR MR T COTTERILL – Asked if there was any news on the flooding issue at Shipton corner? The Clerk reported that Highways are in the area for a site meeting on the 6th October and this has been flagged up as an issue that needs addressing.

CLLR MR K TAMKE – Reported that there is a leak from a water trough in one of the fields belonging to Mr Packenham and it is running down and causing a large puddle on Footpath 1.

Southern Water have still not repaired the leak by the farm at Shoddesden on the Perham Road, with winter on the way it needs to be repaired before there is an accident. The Clerk will report this to Southern Water.

The planning application for the new garden centre at Weyhill has been given permission with conditions. The Parish Council thought this good news.

The Planning application to remove the tree at Woodside has been given permission, on inspection the tree officer confirmed that it was in a poor state and should be removed.

Cllr Mr K Tamke asked the Clerk if in future he could email the Parish Councillors with details of planning applications so that councillors could take a look on line while waiting for the paper copy to get around the Councillors. The Clerk said that he would.

CLLR MR R HART – Requested that in future all the members of the parish council are copied into emails regarding issues that concern the Parish. This was noted.

Cllr Mr R Hart reported that he had received an email from the owners of North Farm Barn regarding a wall and a planning application. The property in question is not actually in Kimpton but adjacent to the boundary and in Wiltshire. TVBC have been asked to comment by Wiltshire but the Parish Council have not been consulted as it is out of our boundary. Cllr Mr R Hart could see no reason why the Parish Council would object and has replied to the sender.

An email has been received from Mr S O'Sullivan regarding the overgrown state of the track further up from Cow Lane. The Chance of getting HCC to cut this is slim so it was decided that the Parish Council will into getting this cut in the spring, possibly seeing if it could be done using labour from the young offenders scheme.

Cllr Mr R Hart gave a report from the TVAPC Meeting that he had attended.

FINANCE

BANK ACCOUNT BALANCE - 28th September 2015

After movements below - Lloyds TSB Current Account = £ 8,586.01

Money Received - TVBC Precept = 4,000.00

Payments made in August and September 2015

R.N. Waterman	Wages - August	£170.00
R.N. Waterman	Wages - September	£170.00
R.N. Waterman	OA and Expenses	£120.00
Mr R Welch	Grass Cutting	£33.00
Mr B Pearce	Footpath Cutting	£40.00
Wel Medical	Defibrillator and Box	£1,658.10
Mr D Yates	Storage Fee	£55.00
		<u>£2,246.10</u>

AUDIT

The Clerk reported that he had received the Audit Certificate for the 2014/2015 Accounts and no issues had been raised.

Cllr Mr S Payne thanked the Clerk on behalf of the Parish Council for keeping such good accounts. All agreed.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Chairman read out an email he had received from Marie-Anne and Ian Mackie

We just wanted to formally follow up to the Parish Council, picking up on our previous emails.

It is very easy to joke about the constant hounding that we endure about the hedges, but it is neither funny nor reasonable. We have always kept our property and boundaries in good order. Hedges have been cut every year of the eleven years that we have been here, not because we are pestered, but because we are responsible.

The incessant bullying of which we have been victims is neither justified nor remotely reasonable. It is deeply inappropriate for the Parish Council to allow itself to become a conduit for such bullying. It is emphatically outside the scope and remit of the Parish Council, and brings the Parish Council into disrepute.

An appropriate response to this sort of unreasonable and personal attack is to direct the individual making the complaint to speak directly with those being accused. This has never been done. The Parish Council simply relays the attack, thereby condoning it, and giving it the weight of an official body.

It has now been many years that we have had to put up with this, and we will not continue to do so.

In the very week in which the most recent complaint was made, we had written confirmation from Hampshire Highways that there was no blockage, danger to traffic nor any other issue with which the authorities need concern themselves. This alone demonstrates that the pretext that there is a safety problem, or that the nastiness directed towards us is based on real concern for the village is simply that, a pretext and a fiction.

The reason that Hampshire Highways were looking at the property was because I had contacted them myself to ensure that all was well following an incident with a fallen tree. As we have already stated we are responsible home owners and maintain our property and its boundary carefully.

We do not expect to hear from the Parish Council, nor any representative of the Parish Council on this topic next year. Should we suffer more bullying at this hands of this individual facilitated by, or directed through the Parish Council, we will be making a formal complaint.

The Chairman reported that he had spoken to Ian Mackie and assured her that this would be brought up at this meeting. The Parish Council have not discussed this issue at any meeting during 2015 but a report had been given to Cllr Mr G Verity who passed it on to the council via email. This was followed up by the Chairman. The Chairman reported that this same complaint had been made for many years and each time it was investigated it was found to have no basis. The Chairman understands the Mackie's issue and that it should have been handled in a different way, the council took on-board the letter content.

CLOSE OF THE MEETING

The Chairman thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting.

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

26th October 2015