

MINUTES OF THE KENTFORD PARISH COUNCIL VIRTUAL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 18TH JUNE 2020 AT 11.30AM

Present: Cllr M Baker, Cllr T Alexandra, Cllr C Carter, Cllr F Cunnington, Cllr B Tautz. Two members of the public joined the meeting.

1. Apologies

Cllr S Thompson, Cllr H Morrison

2. Declarations of Interest

None declared.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting/Matters Arising

One street light replacement still outstanding (MB to chase again); a concern that the barrier at the entrance to the area behind the church will not be high enough for emergency vehicles; website profiles for councillors almost completed; visit stats from website to be added to docs. Other matters will be covered within the agenda.

The minutes were unanimously approved as a true record of the meeting and will be signed by the Chairman at a later date.

2. Finance

The finance reports for the year 2019/20 were previously circulated for consideration. Unanimously agreed that the reports be approved. Asset Register - the notice board at Jeddah Way to be added.

Need for additional dog bins, MB offered to investigate suitable locations and report back to the next meeting. Street lights required to be replaced in Moulton Avenue (due to cost implications deferred at this present time – a long term agenda item).

3. Planning

Other than the two hundred and fifty homes in Kennett, there are no further planning issues to discuss. Although not imminent, the future of The Animal Health Trust and potential house development on the site was raised by Cllr F Cunnington – an agenda item for a future meeting (F C to keep the Council updated).

4. Public Forum

Issues included the lack of pathway maintenance from Sire Lane to The Bell/Jeddah Way i.e. trees overhanging the road, undergrowth growing onto the public footpath. Land opposite Gracewell Care Home is also very overgrown with six foot high weeds. West Suffolk Council to be contacted as they are now responsible for maintaining the area in question (MB to action). Additionally, it was recommended a dog poo bin be located on the nursing home side of the pavement. CM to check with WSC on availability and whether they are provided free of charge.

5. Pathways/Open Spaces

Prior to being sent to WSC, the draft document and map relating to proposals from the Parish Council for spending the S106 monies on open spaces and pathways was fully discussed. The allocated funds need to be spent by the end of March 2021.

Open Spaces budget in the region of £170,000

Proposed: The purchase of land behind the church by WSC. Estimated cost to be obtained from West Suffolk. Additionally, park benches, improvements to the car parking area, as well as simple amenities as and when considered useful could be included as part of that cost.

Pathways through the village budget in the region of £38,000 to £40,000

- Creation of a foot/cycle path from Herringswell Road to Bury Road garage which would link to the Ickneld Way.
- Improvements to the Ickneld Way to allow better passage from the Bury Road section to beyond the railway bridge.
- Enhancements to the footpath from Kentford Business Park to the 'Gypsy Grave' junction by putting in dropped kerbs where necessary and to ensure maintenance of pathway to ease vehicle visibility.

The creation of a pathway from Lambert Grove to exit opposite the nursing home. This would then link up with the Woodland Path which leads onto the village shop. Land Ownership and Maintenance will need to be considered. WSC will have the expertise to resolve any legal issues relating to the proposed path through a piece of land maintained by Atlantis but owned by residents. Consensus from householders on the proposals were mixed. Timeline required that supports the response and allocation of committed funds. **TA to send the updated version of the document to MB.**

6. Any other business

Owing to weight restrictions on Kennett Road, lorries are now using the road from 'Boys Grave' to the A11 and as a consequence, damaging the grass verges. No access to trucks signage needs to be in place, Highways Agency to be contacted. **MB to action.**

Date of next virtual meeting

Thursday 10th September 2020 at 7.00pm. Invitations to be sent out.

With no further business the meeting closed at 12.30pm.