

MINUTES OF THE KENTFORD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 14TH MARCH 2024 AT ST MARY'S CHURCH, BURY ROAD, KENTFORD AT 7.30PM.

Present: Cllr M Baker, Cllr B Tautz, Cllr J Sherlock, Cllr Chris Carter, Cllr Steve Thompson

In attendance: District Cllr Roger Dicker and seven members of the public

Apologies

Cllr Andy Drummond

Public Forum

Key topics included the second visit of the Police Traffic Team with 50 vehicles travelling in excess of 50mph; it was suggested fixed police cameras could assist, SCC to be contacted to ascertain whether this might be an option; excessive traffic due to flooding on the Chippenham side has resulted in damaged road surfaces, collapsing manholes and potholes; faded speed signage, blocked gullies continually contributing to flooding towards Boys Grave; 20mph speed limits; suitable intersection at A11/A14; undue noise at night due to speeding lorries. MB to summarise all points raised and circulate to councillors prior to forwarding to Matthew Fox, Nick Timothy, Tom Clements at Suffolk Highways, Police, Anglian Water.

Minutes / Matters Arising

In relation to the Decarbonisation Initiative Fund for changing all streetlights to LED, the clerk confirmed a successful application has been submitted and the total cost of the invoice previously paid by KPC is to be refunded.

The minutes of the meeting held on the 11th January 2024 were subsequently approved and signed by the Chairman.

Planning - Animal Heath Trust

Appeal date 16th April 2024. Cllr Jenny Sherlock to attend.

Buses

Notes provided by Cllr Carter:

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/council-news/funding-boost-for-new-and-existing-bus-services-across-suffolk>

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The council has been awarded £1.8 million per year for two years – a total of £3.6 million – from the Department for Transport's Bus Service Improvement Fund Phase 2 (BSIP 2, renamed from BSIP+) to deliver improvements to public transport in Suffolk.

Suffolk's Enhanced Partnership, which represents the county council and local bus operators, has agreed to allocate the first year's funding in three ways.

First, following an open call for suggestions, £1.2 million will be allocated to support operator- and local community-led proposals for new or enhanced services across the county. Eight Schemes in total are to be awarded funding.

The full list of submissions at:

<https://www.suffolkonboard.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/2024-03-12-BSIP2-Schemes-Summary.pdf>

West Suffolk, Newmarket Town, Moulton and Kentford Councils all requested reinstatement of the Newmarket – Kentford – Bury services. All have been assigned to “Reserve Funding List”. Costs not included!!!!

Cllr Carter to contact those on the earlier email circulation.

A BSIP Partnership meeting online has been arranged for 2pm on Tuesday 19 March. Cllr Carter to provide information at the next KPC meeting.

Cllr Carter to contact those on the earlier Funding invitation email circulation.

As an aside (and unattributable) current No 11 bus service, run by Stephenson's between Newmarket and Cambridge via villages including as Stow cum Quy, Lode, Swaffham, Reach and Burwell operates at a loss, made up presumably by CCC.

The No 12 service, running from Cambridge via Newmarket to Ely is operating at a profit.

St Mary's Community Hub and the role of the Parish Council

Kentford Events:

Quiz and Fish & Chip Supper in the Church Saturday 20th April 2024 at 6.30 pm. BYO plates, cutlery, and drinks £13.50. Booking via catherinegreen009@yahoo.com

Strawberry Afternoon Tea in Church Friday 19th July 2024 at 3.30pm Bookings to Barbara 07756083057

2nd Annual Pudding Evening in the Church Saturday 7th September 2024 at 6.30pm. BYO plates, cutlery, and drinks £10 each. Booking via catherinegreen009@yahoo.com

Phase one of the St Mary's Community Hub project, including all drainage, has been completed at a cost of £20,000. Now working towards the provision of a disabled toilet in phase two and three. The electrics will need moving and the unsafe access ladder requires replacing and turned the other way to make room for the toilet. Costs approximately £20,00 plus architect and Health & Safety fees. The K&K Association have given a direct donation of £10,000 and a potential future loan has been discussed. Currently, £18,500 has been raised with an additional £1000 promised, giving a shortfall of £2,500 to £3000. Following receipt of the finance report, it was proposed by Cllr Baker, seconded by Cllr Sherlock that a donation of £3000 be approved towards supporting the project - all in favour.

Finance

Treasurer's account as of 7th February 2024 stands at £9,705.66.

Instant Savers account as of 9th February 2024 stands at £977.68.

Any other business

Concerning a resident's complaint that the solar panel on the speed sign is shining into her garden, it was agreed the cost of £195 +vat received from the manufacturer to marginally adjust the panel is approved – all in agreement.

West Suffolk Planning Policy Consultations

West Suffolk Local Plan (Regulation 19) Submission Draft January 2024

Cllr Carter attended a Public Meeting on behalf of KPC, called by WSDC for 17 February, to provide information and access to the Final Draft Plan. Consultation and invitations for comment closed on 12 March. Kentford (a Type A village, one with some services) is not included as a village with any sites to be considered for residential development. The Plan is to run until 2040.

Date of next meeting agreed as 9th May 2024 at 730pm.

With no further business the meeting closed at 8.45pm.