

MINUTES OF THE KENTFORD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 7th NOVEMBER 2024 AT ST MARY'S CHURCH, BURY ROAD, KENTFORD AT 7.30PM

Present at Meeting: Cllrs Malcolm Baker, Barbara Tautz, Chris Carter, Steve Thompson, David Reid, District Cllr Roger Dicker, County Cllr Andy Drummond and ten members of the public.

1. Apologies
All present.
2. Minutes/matter arising
Unanimously approved as a true record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.
3. Officer reports
Cllr Dicker: Although not being initiated until 2026, WSC voted for refuse collections from the black bin remain at two weeks rather than the recommendation of three weeks. Instead of putting waste food in the black bin, food caddies are to be supplied.
Cllr Drummond: With regard to purchasing a second defibrillator for the village, Cllr Drummond agreed to help fund this from his locality budget. An application form to be sent to the Clerk. Suggested location, the porch at St Mary's Church. Approval, however, will be required from the Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich.
Traffic calming – In response to speeding/volume of traffic through the village raised at the meeting with Nick Timothy MP and residents, Cllr Drummond agreed to fund various surveys from his Locality Budget. Suggested recommendations a) a tube survey on the main road through the village and b) a radar survey on Herringswell Road.
4. Finance
The finance report as of 9th October 2024 was noted and approved. Balance of the Business Account £25,649.15, balance of the Savings Interest Account £985.57, balance of the Cambridge Building Society Account £1000.
5. Buses
With Stephensons now an employee run bus company, a meeting has been held with Suffolk County Council. With ownership now changed, the effect on the 11 and 16 services is yet unknown. SCC are still waiting for an updated service usage report from Mulleys on the 312 service since the new extension has been in place, this will determine whether it is worth continuing operating. Cllr Carter will be attending a meeting of the Suffolk Enhanced Bus Partnership organised by Simon Barnett, the SCC Integrated Transport Manager. Bids are now open for Government Funding, more details following the meeting.
6. Animal Health Trust
No further update as awaiting the outcome of the appeal submitted to the Planning Inspectorate.
7. Public Forum
Points raised by members of the public included the bad state of the road surface with a number of potholes and dropped manhole covers: A14/A11 diversions through the village totalling 28 nights in February and May; high volume of HGV lorries;

speeding vehicles; poor state of existing traffic calming measures i.e clearer signage and road markings, well-lit pedestrian crossings. A second meeting with Nick Timothy MP and Matthew Fox to be arranged. The Chairman to action.

8. Defibrillator
Previously covered in Cllr Drummond's report.
9. Project 25
Moving forward with the precept, and as a priority, it was agreed to start building towards the purchase of two new average speed cameras. Costs and how they work to be sought.
10. Precept
It was agreed further discussion on setting the precept for the next financial year be deferred until the January 2025 meeting.
11. Meeting Closed at 8.50pm

Date of Next Meeting - Thursday 23rd January 2025 7.30 pm in the Church.