

**MINUTES OF THE KENTFORD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 9TH MAY 2024
AT ST MARY'S CHURCH, BURY ROAD, KENTFORD AT 7.30PM.**

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

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

Resignation: A vote of thanks was given to Cllr Sherlock for the time she has spent as a valued member of Kentford Parish Council.

Apologies

Cllr B Tautz

Election of Chairman

Proposed by Cllr Carter seconded by Cllr Sherlock that Cllr Baker is re-elected as Chairman for the forthcoming year – all in favour. The Declaration of Acceptance of Office was duly signed.

Co-Option

Unanimously agreed that David Reid be co-opted to Kentford Parish Council. The Declaration of Acceptance of Office was duly signed.

Minutes/Matters Arising

Proposed and seconded that the minutes of the meeting held on 14th March 2024 are a true record of the meeting and were signed by the Chairman.

Officer reports

To encourage more recycling, new food waste boxes/bins are to be introduced in 2025; new freighters are to be purchased; looking at an 80% target for people to commit to the scheme; recycled food waste will be made into pellets for animal feed.

Public Forum

The public inquiry for the Animal Health Trust Planning Appeal has begun. Time scale for the Inspector's decision is 31 May 2024.

Finance

Treasurers Account: The bank balance as of 27th March 2024 stands at £6413.16 - approved.
Instant Savers Account: The bank balance as of 11th March 2024 stands at 978.76 - approved.
The Receipts and Payments summary for the year ending 31st March 2024 was approved.
The Certificate of Exemption, Annual Governance Statement, Accounting Statement were approved and signed by the Chairman and Clerk.

With the precept of £18,000 and a locality budget grant of £470 paid into the Treasurers Account in April 2024, suggestions for new projects to be undertaken to be discussed at the next meeting.

With a higher rate of interest paid, It was further agreed that an account with the

Cambridge Building Society is opened and the sum of £1000 be transferred from the Lloyds account– all in favour. Cllr Baker and Clerk to action.

KPC Roundcube account – email usage and webpage

New emails have been set up and should now be used, any problems with logging in, Suffolk Cloud to be contacted. The webpage requires content i.e. events, reports, planning; Suffolk Cloud will upload to the website and if appropriate insert links.

Bury Road traffic update

A good response from Matthew Fox. In terms of the legality regarding catching drivers speeding, it is not the repeater signs that matter but the end ones. If they are down prosecutions cannot be imposed; repairs to potholes are to be prioritised.

A question was raised relating to a) when the ANPR is to be sited in Kentford – delayed due to vandalism of the device b) when will the construction of the proposed roundabout at The Bell crossroads commence – once 99 new houses at Kennett are occupied.

AHT inquiry

Heard earlier in the meeting.

Buses

Now invited to attend the Bus Service Improvement Programme run by Suffolk's Enhancement Partnership (SCC); following the first meeting when plans were submitted, a second online conference led by Simon Barnett, the Integrated Transport Manager for the Enhancement Partnership in Suffolk has taken place. With the 312 Mildenhall bus contract due for renewal, hopefully in the future, the bus company can be persuaded to come through Kentford on the way to Bury St Edmunds; also looking at what can be done to enhance the number 16 service.

Station Road bridge

As Cambridgeshire County Council own the bridge and serve the weight restriction, this could prove difficult in reinstalling the number 16 route. Simon Barnett to speak with CCC to confirm they own the bridge and if so, what are they going to do about it on the basis one third of residents are being dislocated from the community. To be monitored.

St Mary's Community Hub

Events – The Quiz night made £400, Strawberry Afternoon Tea in Church Friday 19th July at 3.30, Second Annual Pudding Evening in the Church Saturday 7th September 2024 at 6.30pm, Christmas Fayre Saturday 30th November.

Cllr Baker informed the meeting there has been early discussions on holding a potential joint summer event with Kennett, further details to follow.

Date of next meeting agreed as 4th July 2024 at 730pm.

With no further business the meeting closed at 8.24pm.