



KENNETT PARISH COUNCIL

3 Feast Close, Fordham, Ely, Cambs, CB7 5PH

Email: clerk@kennett-pc.gov.uk

MINUTES

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 13th January 2025 at 7.30pm
in The Pavilion, Kennett Playing Fields, Kennett

PRESENT: Cllr A French – Chair
Cllr F Mclachlan – Vice Chair
Cllr R Swanson
Cllr T Foddy
Cllr D Watson – Apologies
Cllr M Hillyer
Cllr S Baxter – Apologies

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs S Field – Clerk

FC24/25.113 **Chairman's Welcome and Open Forum**
The Chairman welcomed all those present.

FC24/25.114 **Apologies for Absence**
Cllr D Watson – Apologies – Accepted.
Cllr S Baxter – Apologies – Accepted.

FC24/25.115 **Declarations of Interest**
Standing Declarations of Interests:
Cllr AF – Member CLT
Cllr DW – Member CLT, Trustee VHA, PCC
Cllr RS – Trustee and Member CLT, Trustee VHA, PCC, School
Cllr TF – Trustee and Member CLT
Cllr MH – Member CLT
Cllr SB – Member CLT, Trustee VHA
Cllr FMcL – Member CLT

FC24/25.116 The Minutes of the meeting held on 9th December 2024 were agreed as a correct record and were duly signed by the Chairman.

FC24/25.117 Matters arising from previous meetings
Covered under other items on the agenda.

FC24/25.118 Community Land Trust ("CLT") Update

Transfer of the first tranche of CLT properties is now expected to take place during February 2025 (6 properties). The CLT are also due to have the transfer of the Community Building take place in June.

Currently there are 10 privately owned properties occupied and another 8 are due to be occupied by the end of January 2025.

It is envisaged that there will be a central CLT contact in post (funding of which has yet to be finalised) who will be based, part time, within the Community Building, in due course but, at this time, no definitive timeline has been established.

Dependent on the official transfer date of some of the CLT properties, it is hoped that an event will be held to formally mark the commencement of the CLT tenancies.

One resident of the village had raised concerns about the pond citing their view that it posed a safety hazard. It was confirmed that the pond had been fully inspected by RoSPA and they have issued their confirmation that the pond does not pose a safety hazard.

FC24/25.119 Road Safety and Traffic – Update

Issues are still arising with both Ridgeons lorries and their suppliers' lorries destroying the grass on verges/junctions particularly at the corner of Station Road and Dane Hill Road. The Parish Council is still awaiting contact from the MP who had, at the meeting held in 2024, undertaken the task of contacting Ridgeons to request them to reiterate to their drivers, and others, that care must be taken when negotiating this junction but nothing had been received from the MP despite numerous reminders sent by both the Clerk and the District Councillors.

Investigations will be undertaken to ascertain the costs involved with installing either very large boulders on the Parish Council owned land at this junction or very large concrete planters to act as a deterrent. The Clerk will ascertain whether the CIL monies can be used to fund this purchase as it was felt that this would fall within the mitigation of affects of the new development criteria for spend.

Following the successful LHI bid from last year the order for the new MVAS units would be placed within the next couple of months. It is anticipated that there will be an increase in the cost but the Parish Council contribution (50% of cost) will be met with CIL monies already held, as confirmed by the District Council.

FC24/25.120 Village Tidy-Up Quotations

Further quotations had been received in respect of the village tidy-up.

Following discussion it was AGREED to appoint Grasshopper Landscaping and Cleaning Services as the preferred contractor for this work and the Clerk was instructed to contact them to accept the quotation and request a start date for the works to commence.

- FC24/25.121 Planning Application – 24/001262/SON – Proposed solar PV equipment on Kentford and Kennett Village Hall including battery storage
Cllr Swanson declared an interest in this item as the applicant.

Following discussion, it was AGREED that the following response to be sent to the District Council:

“The Parish Council has no concerns with this application and supports it.”

- FC24/25.122 Pre-Purchase of Burial Plots within Kennett Churchyard
An enquiry had been received regarding pre-purchase of cremated remains plots within the churchyard and, in the absence of any formal policy currently adopted, agreement is sought from the Parish Council as to whether pre-purchase should be permitted.

Following discussion it was AGREED that the Clerk will write to the enquirer to inform them that until a policy was adopted no decision could be made and that it was anticipated that a policy would be considered at the meeting to be held in February 2025 and further correspondence would be entered into after a policy was formally adopted.

The Clerk was instructed to obtain advice from ECDC as to whether CIL monies could be utilised to purchase additional land for any extension to the churchyard. The Parish Council believe that this would fall within the definition of mitigation of impact due to the resultant increase in village population.

- FC24/25.123 External Forum (District Councillors)
Nothing for this meeting.

- FC24/25.124 External Reports – Parish Councillors
Nothing for this meeting.

- FC24/25.125 Financial Matters
The following invoices were presented to the Parish Council for authorisation for payment for the month of January 2025 (those received to date of meeting).

Payee	Amount	Narrative	Power
K & M Lighting	£60.00	Street lighting maintenance for month of January 2025	Open Spaces 1906 ss9 and 10
S Field	£275.75	Salary (15hrs x £15.75 p/hr) plus Home Working Allowance £26.00 p/mnth – re calendar month of January 2025	Local Government Act 1972 s111
SALC	£54.00	Provision of 6 months payroll service ending 30 Sept 2024	Local Government Act 1972 s111

TOTAL TO BE EXPENDED	£389.75		
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The following amounts have been received into the accounts:

Creditor	Amount	Narrative
Lloyds Bank	£8.46	Interest for December 2024
Lloyds Bank	£9.39	Interest for January 2025
TOTAL RECEIVED	£17.85	

As at the date of the meeting the bank balances were:

Business Bank Instant: £11,051.15
Treasurers Account: £93,967.97

A copy of the bank reconciliation report was presented to Councillors and signed by the Chairman to indicate agreement with the detail contained therein.

The Clerk was instructed to continue to pursue the opening of a higher interest account with Lloyds Bank for a minimum sum of £75,000.

FC24/25.126 Clerk's Update

- i) An update from Utility Aid has been requested.
- ii) An electronic copy of the previous grass cutting tender documentation (including maps) is sought to enable the new tender documentation to be created and sent to contractors to be agreed at the meeting to be held in February 2025.

FC24/25.127 Councillors' Forum

Nothing for this meeting.

FC24/25.128 Items for next meeting (to take place on 10th February 2025)

Grass Cutting Tender – agreement of documents and contractors to contact.
Update on unmetered supply for street lights contract.
Burial Pack and Policy.

Meeting closed at 8.45pm

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Chairman

Dated: