

KINETON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Kineton Parish Council held at 7.30 pm on Wednesday, 7th October 2009 in the Village Hall, Kineton.

PRESENT: Councillors Harris, Haywood, Gosling, Ingle, and Tuffen. DCllrs Mrs Wixey and Mills, CClr Williams. 2 Members of the Public.

68/09 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meetings held on 2nd September 2009 had been circulated. Their adoption was proposed by Councillor Haywood and seconded by Councillor Tuffen. All in favour.

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

69/09 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Old Library Railings – Cllr Gosling reported that enforcement has been approved by SDC and notice will be issued. The site owner has three months to carry out repairs but also six months if he wishes to appeal the order.

70/09 PLANNING

There were five planning applications.

Recommendations to the Planning Authority are appended on the Schedule attached to the minutes for signing.

71/09 RISK ASSESSMENT REPORT

The Chairman referred to the risk assessment action plan, copy attached to the minutes for signing, prepared by the Clerk with costings. Proposed by Cllr Haywood and seconded by Cllr Tuffen and:

RESOLVED: That the following action be taken:

- a. The inspections as listed are arranged at a cost of £ 400.
- b. The litter bins and lifebelts be purchased and fitted at a cost not exceeding £1700
- c. The repairs to the bridge and path be carried out a cost of £ 270
- d. The litter bins be emptied as required at an annual cost of £ 60
- e. The litterbin is replaced at the playing fields at a cost of £ 200.

72/09 FIRE STATION REVIEW – FENNY COMPTON

The Chairman referred to the meeting being held at Dassett Primary School on 8 October 2009 to discuss the proposed review of Fire and Rescue Services in Warwickshire and the possible closure of Fenny Compton Fire Station. Cllr Ingle will attend to represent the Parish Council and report back at the next meeting on 4th November.

73/09 SDC HOUSING STRATEGY

The Chairman referred to the Housing Strategy document already circulated. Proposed by Chairman and seconded by Cllr Ingle and:

RESOLVED: That the Parish Council confirms its support to SDC of the aims in the Housing Strategy Document.

74 /09 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT

Cllr Mrs Wixey reported that street cleaning in Bridge Street was unsatisfactory and she has taken this issue up with SDC. They will ensure that the street is cleaned regularly and copy of the Kineton cleaning schedule will be available to Parish Councillors. Various enquiries have been made for a location for the skateboard park. St Peters Road has been excluded. Mrs Wixey showed councilors examples of parks in Shipston etc and a briefing paper from the youngsters themselves. The costs envisaged are £ 40,000. Further enquiries for suitable sites continue.

75/09 COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

CClr Williams gave a report to the members on WCC finances, grants available and submitted a written report that is attached to the minutes for signing.

76/09 COUNCIL MEETINGS 2010

The Clerk submitted a list of dates for Council meetings in 2010.

77/09 FINANCIAL REPORTS

The Council considered the financial statement and accounts for payment as attached to the Minutes for signing. (Schedule 5/09). Proposed by Councillor Haywood seconded by Councillor Ingle and all in favour.

RESOLVED: That the financial statements and folio 5/09 are adopted and the accounts listed paid.

78/09 AUDITORS REPORT

The Clerk reported that the final report has been received and the accounts signed off without comment for 2008/2009. A public notice notifying completion has been on display for 14 days.

79/09 CLERKS APPOINTMENT

The Chairman reported that the interview panel had selected Mrs Jane Cove as the new Clerk from 1 January 2010. Mrs Cove takes up her appointment on 1st November as Assistant Clerk for two months.

The Meeting closed at 9.05 pm.

The date of the next Council Meeting is on 4th November 2009.

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Chairman

74th November 2009

**Kineton Parish Council 07.10.09.
County Councillor's Report**

1. Members will be aware that the Public Consultation has started with regard to the Review of the Fire Service. I must stress that we are in a period of discussing with all of the communities in Warwickshire the various proposals. Obviously, it is unacceptable to move to a situation where the communities will receive a reduced Fire Service.
2. In our own area there is a proposal to close the Fenny Compton Fire Station which, of course, provides a service for part of Kineton. As a matter of record, I oppose this particular aspect of the Review although there are many good initiatives that should be implemented. My main concern is the question of access time to an incident. The Fenny Compton Fire Station is, by definition, a Retained Fire Service. This means that the Firemen have regular employment and supplement their activities by being available 24 hours, 365 days a year to provide fire and rescue cover in our area. The Fenny Compton crew, as indeed all the Firemen in Warwickshire, are dedicated and committed to their work.
3. The issue for debate is whether or not, as a result of the proposals, all of the communities served by Fenny Compton Fire Station are within the 20 min. access time as allowed by Fire Regulations. It is quite obvious that this is not the case and the only way the 20 min. rule can be achieved is through possible service from the Banbury Fire Station in Oxfordshire. A further issue of concern is that the Kineton Ammunition Depot has always been identified as Strategically Important requiring the facility of the Fenny Compton Fire Service.
4. There is to be a Public Meeting on Thursday 8th October 2009 at 7.30 p.m. in The Dasset School in Fenny Compton when the Assistant Chief Fire Officer, Glenn Ranger, will be available to answer specific concerns of residents. I must stress that the format of this meeting is basically a 'Question and Answer' Session and will not be available to those residents who wish to make a statement. I do hope Kineton will be well represented at Thursday's meeting so that the Fire Station will have a clear understanding of the views of Kineton.

As I mentioned last month, the Review of the Budgetary Requirements for the County Council has already commenced. To put it into perspective, the Council has a shortfall of some £20 million and a 1% increase in Council Tax produces £2.25 million increase in income. It is hoped to keep the Council Tax at 2%. Clearly, where employee costs amount to some 55% of the spending in running our Council, it indicates that we will have to review spending pressures. Areas have already been identified where savings can be made and I am confident that the proposals are not only achievable but will meet with the support of most tax payers.

Cllr Chris Williams
04.10.09.