

KELVEDON PARISH COUNCIL

ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY

Minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly held at 7.45 p.m. on Thursday 22 April 2010 in Kelvedon Institute

Present: Cllr C Martin (Chairman); parish clerk Ms L Fuller; clerk's assistant Mrs S Green; parish councillors Mrs J Anderson, Mrs J Coates, Q Colborn, T Dixon, G Dossett, N Ezra, Mrs L Hill, M Pilbeam, H Siggers; district councillors T Foster, R Mitchell; county councillor N Edey; PC A Heard (and 2 officers); Community Warden Mrs J Windard; 24 members of the public

1 Introduction of Councillors and Apologies for Absence:

Cllr Martin welcomed everyone to the meeting, and introduced the parish, district and county councillors, the clerk and clerk's assistant.

Apologies for absence were received from Brooks Newmark (MP); Cllr J Hackworth (Kelvedon PC); Helen Edwards (Feering PC); Sue & Clive Ramsden; S Gibbs and J Doughton.

2 Minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly held on Thursday 23 April 2009

The minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly held on 24 April 2009 were agreed as a correct record, with Mr Nee pointing out that he asked whether the parish council was actively seeking S106 agreements with regard to the Rivenhall planning application, and had received a positive answer.

3 Matters arising from the last meeting

None

4 Police/Community Safety Matters

The meeting agreed to bring this item forward.

PC A Heard gave a report on police activity in Kelvedon in the absence of PC S Hull, the officer now responsible for Kelvedon and Feering. He referred to the number of crimes committed in Kelvedon last year, in particular the ATM offences, confirming that arrests had now been made; burglaries and the rise in anti-social behaviour.

Questions were asked about the lack of crime information being passed onto the neighbourhood watch group; continued illegal parking outside One-Stop; criminal damage to vehicles parked in the High Street and police parking on double yellow lines.

KPC passed on thanks and gratitude to Mrs Papworth for all her work with the neighbourhood watch group.

Community Warden, Mrs J Windard, reported on the progress being made with untaxed vehicles; dog fouling; litter and fly tipping.

Mrs Windard was thanked for all her hard work over the years as her current role was due to cease in July 2010.

5 Report from the Chairman of the Council, Cllr C Martin

The Chairman's report had been distributed prior to the meeting and was taken as read. A copy is attached to these minutes.

6 Report from the Youth Forum – Cllr T Dixon

Cllr Dixon reported on the monthly discos held at the Labour Club and thanked all those who had helped. Numbers attending would need to exceed 50 to continue to be viable. He also confirmed that work on the new Thorne Road/Glebe Road play area would commence at the end of April now that grant monies had been received. A question was asked about possible lighting and locking of the play area at night.

The Youth Forum was planning a sponsored 5k walk to be held on 6 June 2010. Half of all monies raised would be given to charity.

7 Financial Report – Cllr Q Colborn, Vice Chairman of Finance Committee

Copies of unaudited accounts were distributed prior to the meeting.

Cllr Colborn reported that a Band D property would be paying £7 a year more in 2010/11 for KPC.

A major part of this year's expenditure would be the grant of £5k to Kelvedon Institute for carrying out a feasibility study on the building to assess what remedial works are required.

Grants to numerous local organisations including the Citizens Advice Bureau, Kelvedon in Bloom and the United Reformed Church would continue.

A question was asked about the costs of running the council owned car parks in relation to the income received. Cllr Colborn responded by saying that the High Street car park provided a useful facility and was not intended to be self funding.

8 Reports from District and County Councillors

District Councillor T Foster reported that BDC would have to make cuts amounting to £1.5 million this year and he outlined the services affected.

With regard to planning, 1,400 new homes had been planned for Witham. Kelvedon was designated as a key service village, with no extension of the village envelope proposed.

Finally, he referred to the Community Housing Investment Partnership Fund (CHIP), managed by Greenfields, where money could be made available for community projects.

District Councillor R Mitchell reported on various matters including waste services; BDC's people's panel; carbon management; Bramston pool; changes to the roles of existing Community Wardens in July 2010; village agents and the Green Heart of Essex campaign.

County Councillor N Edey said that the county council precept increase in council tax would mostly go toward adult and child social services.

The county council was looking to save £300 million in running costs with money saved going to front line services. A £2million grant was to be made available for the repair of pot holes.

Questions were asked about the poor state of the road surface in Heron Road; noise of the new A12 surface; the Rivenhall waste facility and outstanding A12 lighting works.

A member of the public asked Cllr Foster about the cessation of welfare rights services. These services would now be provided by the Citizens Advice Bureau.

9 Launch of parish council footpath walks

Cllr Dossett reported on the new guides now available. The Kelvedon/Coggeshall riverside walk booklet was available at a cost of £1 from KPC.

Two circular walks were now on the web site and could be printed free of charge or purchased from KPC at a cost of 25p plus p & p if required.

10 Discussion for possible sites for a pedestrian crossing/central refuge in Kelvedon High Street, led by Cllr Mrs Hill, Vice Chairman of the Council

Cllr Mrs Hill presented her report on the various possible sites for a pedestrian crossing/central refuge in Kelvedon High Street. Plans of the possible sites were available at the meeting for public inspection with members of the public being asked for their preferences. Once agreement is reached on a preferred site, ECC Highways would carry out surveys to establish the viability. If acceptable, grants could then be applied for.

A question was raised by a member of the public regarding the lack of enforcement of speeding /parking restrictions in the village. District Councillor Mitchell responded by saying the current parking restrictions were set around what the enforcement officers

could actually enforce and confirmed that the speed indicators signs were very effective.

11 To receive questions from the public concerning matters over which the Parish Council has control or some influence

What Section 106 obligations did KPC submit to the Rivenhall Waste planning application? – Cllr Martin confirmed that members of the planning committee did not make any requests.

Concern was raised about the low profile of KPC and the lack of turn out at the Annual Parish Assembly. Cllr Mrs Hill responded by saying that there are a great deal of meetings held each year that the public can attend. Cllr Martin said people attended advertised meetings only if they had an interest.

How much did the public car park cost and would this cost impact on the provision of other services for the village? – Cllr Dixon stated that the cost was around £150,000; but costs also relate to money borrowed to finance the car park. It was created as a service for the community and not intended as self funding. Cllr Martin said he was aware of the costs involved in relation to the provision of other services for the village.

The meeting closed at 9.37 p.m., when the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and invited them to stay for refreshments.

Signed:

Date: