

## KEEVIL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30 p.m.  
ON MONDAY 5<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2011.

**Present:** Cllr Ginny Sherman (Chairman). Cllrs Francis Banfield, Myra Link, Rodney Meatyard, David Propert and John Ritchens.

**In attendance:** Cllr Jonathon Seed (WC)  
PC Emily Thomas  
Harold Ferrin  
George Goodwin (Clerk)

### **Consultation Period:**

- Harold Ferrin presented a Royal Engineer plaque to the Chairman. This was a gift from the cycling sappers who lay a wreath at the Airborne Forces Commemorative wall plaque at the junction of Main Street and Martins Road. Cllr Link will ask the Village Hall Committee if the plaque can be hung in the Village Hall. Cllr Link will provide the Clerk with a name and address to contact the sappers and to thank them for their gift.
- Mr Ferrin said that he supported the PC's communication with the WC Core Strategy team regarding the classification of Keevil as a "Small" Village and not a "Large" one.
- PC Thomas said that a rotivator had been stolen from Pinkney Farm and that tractors and batteries were still being stolen locally although some of the tractors have been recovered. She also said that 2 young men had been arrested in connection with tile thefts from church roofs. One had been released without charge and the other was on police bail. His possible connection to the theft of roof tiles from Keevil Church was still being investigated. Emily also mentioned that there had been no recent complaints concerning the cycling youths performing dangerous stunts on the highway. However, somebody had placed a plank on a hump in the Playing Field which was probably being used for stunt riding. It was agreed that if the plank was still there at the next weekly inspection, it should be removed in order to comply with the PC's Insurance Policy.
- Cllr Seed said that Bulkington PC had managed to obtain a £50K grant from the Lottery Fund and spent the money on play equipment and a cycling stunt area on their playing field. The Clerk was asked to contact Bulkington PC to see if a similar grant application could be made for Keevil.
- Cllr Seed said that due to the volume and quality of the protests, the X88 Wednesday bus to Bath has been saved. The fate of the Saturday bus is still in doubt.

### **The Parish Council Meeting commenced with Councillor Sherman in the Chair.**

1. Apologies for Absence

Cllr Jerry Wickham

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 11<sup>th</sup> July 2011

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2011 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

4. Minutes of the Planning Committee Meetings of 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2011 & 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2011

The minutes of the Planning Committee Meetings held on 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2011 and 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2011 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

5. Matters Arising from the Parish Council Meeting of 11<sup>th</sup> July 2011

Core Strategy - The Clerk has written to the WC Core Strategy Team pointing out the errors in their assessment of Keevil as a "Large" village. It is hoped that the revisions will mean that Keevil is designated as a "Small" village. The Clerk will chase the Core Strategy Team regarding their acknowledgement of the PC's submission. See the Consultation Period notes above.

Speed Indicator Device (SID) – It has been agreed that when all the SIDs have been installed in approved sites that any SIDs left over will be allocated to PCs by the Melksham Area Board. Councillor Seed will try to secure a SID for Keevil.

Work on Listed Buildings etc. - The WC booklets, "Owning a Listed Building" & "Conservation Areas", have been distributed to owner/occupiers of Listed Buildings.

Grit Bins – The Clerk has requested delivery of one tonne of grit to Councillor Banfield for storage. Cllr Ritchens has secured 2 grit bins. Cllr Banfield will investigate locating one bin at the junction of Martins Road and Martins Lane. The Clerk will contact WC Highways regarding siting the other bin at Pyatts Corner.

Accounts 2010/2011 - Approved by Mazars with no comments.

War Memorial - See Main Agenda.

6. Playing Field

Entrance – Nothing to report.

Millennium Tree – Cllr Propert has secured an oak sapling to replace the dead tree. This will be located closer to the edge of the playing field to avoid collisions with machinery etc. The Millennium Plaque will also be moved to the new tree.

7. Highway Matters

The Clerk has written to Great Hinton PC re the Lamb on the Strand junction as agreed at the last meeting. He also raised the issue of trimming back the hedges at Quilkins Corner to improve visibility. The Clerk has also written to property owners in Main Street asking them not to obstruct the footway when parking their cars.

The Clerk was asked to contact WC Highways regarding the grating that has been installed in the ditch outside Cellar House to stop the ditch being blocked. The new grating is now nearly blocked and it is likely that a new solution is required to this problem.

There was concern about the number of weeds on the Main Street high bank verge. Cllr Banfield will investigate the possibility of using a selective weed killer on the area. We are still awaiting action re the Pinch Point at Pyatts Corner.

8. Melksham Area Board

The Clerk referred the Councillors to the Minutes of the Melksham Area Board which are available both in paper form and online at the WC web site.

9. War Memorial

The Clerk reported that Melksham Area Board had approved a grant towards the War Memorial Conservation and maintenance of £885. Unfortunately, the original contractors, S & L Kelland, are unable to undertake the works before mid-2012. This could mean the loss of the grant which is valid for one year. Consequently, the Clerk approached two other contractors, one of whom, Independent Memorial Inspection (IMI) has quoted circa £1,550 to undertake the works. It was agreed to award the contract to IMI. This was proposed by Cllr Ritchens and seconded by Cllr Meatyard and carried unanimously. It was also agreed that, if necessary, stage payments could be authorised by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman.

10. Planning Matters

The Chairman asked Councillors to respond to the Email Agenda sent out by the Clerk to convene Planning Committee meetings. She said that it was important that the Clerk knew if there was a quorum for the meeting to avoid wasting Councillor's time and, if not, to arrange a new date when a quorum could be expected. It was also agreed that Planning Committee meetings should start at 9:30 a.m. instead of the present 10:30 a.m.

11. Financial Statement (before Invoice Payments)

The Clerk reported that the Council's finances stood as listed below:

-	Current Account	£	6.00
-	Deposit Account	£	11,471.21
-	<b>Total</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>11,477.21</b>

The Clerk reported that he transfers the PC's money between the Cheque and Savings A/Cs by telephone. The transfer is confirmed in writing with the signatures of 2 Councillors. This is not working in that, despite instructions to the contrary, Lloyds transfer the money again causing problems with the two accounts. The Clerk can only transfer money between the Council's accounts and not to any other account(s). The Clerk recommended that the PC dispense with the written confirmation in future. The Internal Auditor has been consulted and is happy with this course of action. Councillor Banfield proposed that the written confirmation of account transfers be dropped. This was seconded by Councillor Link and approved unanimously.

12. Cheque Approval

- (a) Payee = Rebrooks Ltd  
Sum = £164.40 for printing Listed Building booklets (£137.00 = VAT £27.40)  
Proposed by Councillor Ritchens & seconded by Councillor Meatyard  
Already authorised by Chairman & Vice-Chairman
- (b) Payee = = Keevil Village Hall  
Sum = £10.00 for Hire of Hall on 11 July 2011 (£10.00 + VAT £0.00)  
Proposed by Councillor Ritchens & seconded by Councillor Link.
- (c) Payee = Mazars  
Sum = £144.00 for Audit Fee for 2010/2011 (£120.00 + VAT £24.00)  
Proposed by Councillor Meatyard & seconded by Councillor Ritchens

A total of £318.40 (£267.00 + VAT £51.40) was disbursed with the consent of all present.

13. Any Other Competent Business

- (a) The Clerk drew Councillor's attention to the forthcoming Diamond Jubilee of the monarch in 2012. It was possible to provide celebratory mugs for the children of the Parish. After discussion, it was agreed that Cllr Link will mention this possibility as well as the Street Party suggestion at the Event Planning meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> September.
- (b) The Clerk has received a set of Recycling Leaflets describing the new arrangements for 2012. He will circulate these to Councillors. He has asked for additional copies of the leaflets for Councillors to keep.
- (c) Cllr Meatyard asked that the Clerk contact WC Highways regarding a replacement for the missing sign at Wick Crossroads. This sign shows the direction to take for Wick & Hurst farms and is useful for delivery vehicles.
- (d) The next meeting of the Council is on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2011 in the Village Hall starting at 7:30 p.m.

SIGNED

DATE

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