

Kettlebaston Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 4th October 2023 at Kettlebaston Village Hall at 7.00pm

Present: Cllrs Rob Butler (Chairman), Stephen Phillips, Ben Flockton, Graham Cranfield, Louise Daniels, Mary Shillington and June Carpenter

Attending: County Cllr Robert Lindsay and District Cllr Saw Lucinda Rogers (Clerk)

Two members of the public

22/23 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence

23/23 Declaration of Interests and Requests for Dispensation

None were declared

24/23 Minutes of the meetings held on on 17th May and 30th August 2023

The minutes of the meetings held on on 17th May and 30th August 2023 were approved by the councillors and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

25/23 Report from County Cllr Lindsay – The report from Cllr Lindsay had been circulated and was noted. The flooding at Bridge Farm corner was discussed. The notice that Highways issued to the owner of the adjacent land to clear the ditches has to be re-issued as there is a new owner so the action has to restart. The land is up for sale. The area continues to flood after heavy rain. The railings have been damaged and require repair/replacing. Concern about the increase in heavy lorries coming through the village when Bildeston is closed in the spring for the water main replacement. No official diversion but still gets used a lot when Bildeston is closed. Cllr Lindsay to visit the site with the Community Engineer.

20mph speed limit – Cllr Saw to contact Hitcham parish council who are in the process of installing white welcome gates to help slow traffic.

26/23 Report from District Cllr Saw – Babergh are making a corporate plan and would welcome people's comments and views on the online survey. This is to set the strategy for the next four years. The new Local Plan for Planning has been approved. There are no new large developments at the moment and Babergh needs to continue to build 416 houses each year until 2037. There is grant funding available to help village projects. Babergh are drawing up a new policy about improve energy performance in older listed buildings – insulation, double glazing etc. They are discussing with heritage groups at present.

27/23 Public Forum

The issue of flooding was raised. It has been flooded for more than a quarter of the year since January 2023. The low point of the road is where the main drain is and the pipe leading from it may be blocked by tree roots from the large tree growing there. It might be possible to bore the tree roots out to clear the pipe. They do not understand why resolving this is taking so long. The policy of dealing with flooding where houses are being affected is incorrect as no houses have been flooded due to road flooding. The grit bin at the top of Balls Hill needs replacing and filling. The roads have not been inspected for two years and the stones on the road in

Kettlebaston are causing many burst car tyres. The footbridge at Wagger Farm is closed as it is unsafe to use.

The flooding prevented a nurse from attending to a poorly resident who was left in a lot of pain for a day as the nurse couldn't reach the patient. The first step is for the Community Engineer to visit with Cllr Lindsay and for the Parish Council to write to County Councillor Paul West.

28/23 Planning Matters

There were no planning matters

29/23 People and Place Plan - The Cllrs to ask the Clerk to investigate and commence a People and Place Plan for Kettlebaston

30/23 Dog Waste Bins – It was agreed to purchase two green dog waste bins for the village at a cost of £230. Bins to be delivered to Cllr Phillips. It costs approximately £45 to empty a dog bin annually. Locations to be agreed but need to be very close to the road to enable Babergh to empty them. Permission has been confirmed by the land owners. Clerk to follow up

31/23 Highlands Road, Monks Eleigh – Clerk to follow up and write to housing and Environmental Health and copy the Councillors in.

32/23 20mph Speed Limit – agreed to investigate white welcome gates to slow traffic entering the village

33/23 Finance

- a. The councillors received the financial report and noted income received
- b. The councillors considered and approved outstanding invoices awaiting payment
- c. The councillors agreed to renew the insurance with Zurich at the same price as last year £214.00

34/23 Councillors reports

The footpath behind the church needs cutting. Can use the church lawn mower to do this. The footbridge from the church needs the wire/ anti slip cover to be replaced. The defibrillator should be checked annually – Cllr Cranfield has done this and all is ok.

The next Pub Night is 10th November

A shed, primarily for storage of tables and chairs used for village events only, is to be placed on the ground near the village hall near the road. The village hall charity intends to fund the shed. The parish council will investigate whether any of the capital grants mentioned by Cllr Saw may be available for the project as it is enhancing a village facility.

35/22 Date of the next meeting

Parish Council Meeting 7pm Wednesday 17th January 2024

The meeting closed at 8.20pm