

KEMPSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Teresa Griffin, Winterwood, Whelford, Fairford, Glos. GL7 4EB

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To all Parish Councillors

Members are reminded that the council has a general duty to consider the following matters in the exercise of any of its functions: Equal opportunities (race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, religion and any disability), Crime and Disorder, Health and Safety, and Human Rights.

Minutes from the Parish Council Meeting of Monday 15th December 2025

Present:

Cllr Stephen Andrews (Chair)
Cllr Karen Saunders
Cllr Debbie Watson

Cllr John O'Connell
GCC Cllr Dom Morris
Teresa Griffin (KPC Clerk)

Member of the public:-
Helen Cheese-Probert
Steve Bruton

1. **Election of Chairman:** Proposed by John O'Connell and seconded by Karen Saunders, Stephen Andrews was elected to serve as Chairman until the annual meeting 2026. Chairman's declaration of acceptance duly signed.
2. **Election of Vice-Chairman:** No election required as John O'Connell to remain as Vice-Chair.
3. **Apologies:** CD Cllr Tristan Wilkinson and Christine Nugent
4. **Minutes:** Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 17th November 2025 were approved.
5. **Disclosure of member's interests:** None
6. **Dispensation requests:** None
7. **Matters Arising:** None
8. **Questions from members of the public:** None
9. **County Councillor's Report** – Cllr Dom Morris reported: -
 - Local Government Reorganisation - GCC plus three District Councils voted to become a Unitary Council. Cheltenham voted for the East and West option, Gloucester City voted for the donor option and the Forest of Dean did not support any options. The results have now been sent to central Government.
 - Regarding flooding and quarrying, I put the question to full council requesting the cabinet member visit Kempsford and it was agreed. Can the Clerk email Cllr Martin Harwood to arrange and copy me in. Martin is also the cabinet member for Minerals and Waste. It may be worth inviting Cllr Lisa Spivey as she has similar issues in her area.
 - I have a very small community fund of £20,000 so if there is anything around £1,000 for Kempsford Parish please let me know.
 - I did a farmer's motion on inheritance tax at county council which was lost.
 - I'm pleased that the Hannington Road will finally be reopened shortly.
 - With regards to the Local Plan Consultation, I am interested in your thoughts. Stephen Andrews advised that we are working on a response based on the impact to Kempsford Parish as a result of the proposed significant growth of Fairford and Lechlade, together with what Kempsford may face as a rural settlement. As a starting point we have looked at all sites included in the 2021 SHELA and plan to comment on any changes that may or may not affect these.
10. **District Councillor's Report** – Not present.
11. **Kempsford Parish Council**
 1. Hazel View land transfer and management committee – Our solicitor has emailed a list of comments/questions he has raised with Persimmon's solicitor, primarily to do with access rights and adoption of the footpath. He also raised the question of protecting the field for the future, particularly in light of it being part owned by GCC, together with the long-term maintenance. It was agreed to draft an email to GCC for consideration. We are now awaiting a response from Persimmon's solicitor. A meeting of the newly formed Management Committee is essential for the new year.
 2. Updates from meetings attended and working groups –
 - Kempsford Village Hall – Karen Saunders circulated notes by email.

- Whelford Water Management Meeting – Highways were more engaged this time and offered to take away a few actions. It is apparent that the quarry foresees more issues with water as work progresses into new areas. It was disappointing that the person responsible for water on the base was not in attendance.
The impact on the Dudgrove Brook if there is substantial more development at Fairford as a result of the new Local Plan was briefly discussed. It was suggested the base may wish to comment as they would be impacted by any increase water passing through their site and the Clerk was asked to email them again.
The question of inspecting the grills on the Base was asked. Sqn Ldr Jayne Robertson advised that the regular inspections previously mentioned refers to inspections concerning security, and not waterflow.
- Manor Farm Quarry Liaison Meeting – It was a positive meeting and the quarry are clearly looking to address the comments we have previously raised.
- Fairford Joint Sewage Working Group Meeting – This was held earlier today. The Thames Water representative advised that they have done work on the Reevey end and will be putting some monitors in Kempsford. They will be reinvestigating the previously sealed drain at John of Gaunt. The recent low water pressure affecting some properties has now been resolved as they have repaired the main.
- Meeting with Fairford and Lechlade Councils on the 9th December – This meeting was to discuss areas of common interest such as footpaths etc. and how we move things forward in the new year.
- GAPTC EGM – GAPTC will be disappearing and it will be heading more towards a NALC type organisation and people were identified to take up new roles. There was discussion over expenditure in their accounts, which was unexplained. It was proposed that the meeting agree the minutes with the qualification that was the case, and this was passed.

3. Residents reports to Councillors –

- Karen Saunders reported issues with recent refuse collections at Whelford. Some residents experienced only half their recycling bags being emptied and lots of waste being strewn across the ground. Residents should be encouraged to report individually to CDC with photographic evidence if possible.
- John O'Connell reported a resident enquiring about the reopening of the Hannington Road.
- Stephen Andrews advised that regarding the previous request for a bus stop at the end of Ham Lane, he has been in touch with the Working for Wellbeing Officer who has offered to help the resident concerned.
- Stees'.

12.

Planning, Policies & Licensing:

Ref.	Location	Proposal	Decision
25/03795/TDC	Land South East of Goldfinch House, Totterdown Lane, Fairford	Technical detail consent application for the erection of a single dwelling, detached garage & associated works following approval of Permission in Principle (25/02023/PLP)	Submit comments on drainage & biodiversity as per neighbouring application
25/0884/FUL	Kempsford House, High Street, Kempsford	Full Application for alterations to existing dwelling including erection of double storey extension to north-east elevation, greenhouse, outdoor swimming pool & associated works – New Information	Withdraw objection as issues raised now being addressed by the relevant officers
25/03718/REM	Millacre Farm, Whelford	Approval of Reserved Matters application to approve access, appearance and layout, scale and the landscaping for the erection of 1 new dwelling approved pursuant to outline permission 23/03519/OUT	No comment

GCC	Manor Farm Quarry, Kempsford	To consider Phase 4A Access – Liaison Note (28/11/25)	To reconsider after meeting with cabinet member
Cotswold District Council		Local Plan Update (Regulation 18) Preferred Option Consultation	Updated draft to be circulated by email
25/03880/OUT	Land South of London Road, Fairford	Outline proposals for up to 74 dwellings and up to 170 sqm of community floorspace (Use Class F2) including access,	Object – loss of potential employment land & impact on facilities if not part of Local Plan process

13. Finance

1. The following bills paid between meetings were approved: -

002556	J&T Chesterman (Whelford grass Oct & Nov)	£150.00
	Lloyds Bank (monthly service fee & chgs)	£5.78

The following bills were approved to be paid: -

002557	Viking Office UK (toner & envelopes)	£47.68 inc. VAT
002558	Busy Fingers Printing Dec/Jan Newsletter)	£141.75
002559	M Dyball t/as Willow Gardening (Nov grass Kempsford)	£604.80 inc. VAT
002560	Countrywide Grounds (Dec grass mthly chg)	£332.50 inc. VAT
002561	Hewetts Electrical (new PC)	£725.00 inc. VAT
002562	T Griffin (wages & use of home)	£969.30
002563	HMRC (Emp'er NI)	£80.14
002564	GeoXphere Ltd (Parish Online mapping subs)	£60.00 inc. VAT

Receipts since last meeting

Bank Interest	£36.82
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2. Finance Reports – The monthly Finance Report consisting of bills to be paid, receipts received, bank reconciliation and income/expenditure vs budget was received and agreed.

3. Budget and Precept request for 2026/27 – Following discussions last month, the Clerk has obtained more accurate estimations for insurance and legal fees but no changes are required to the previous draft. The draft budget and precept request circulated prior to the meeting was approved. The requested precept for 2026/27 is £31,625, which, when divided by the Tax Base provided of 489.3 equates to a Band D property cost of £64.63, an increase of 15% from the current year. The precept rise to £31,625 from £27,150 in 2025/26 represents an increase of 16.5%. The increase this year reflects the additional costs of managing the Hazel View Community area, Clerks pay increase and related employers NI, and ear-marked reserves for provision of a new burial ground.

14. Clerks Report – A replacement Chapel Road Street sign has been installed.

15. Correspondence –

- All correspondence received via email has been circulated.
- GCC and CDC Budget Consultations – comments and draft response to be circulated by email.

16. To note date of next meeting – Monday 19th January at 7.00pm at Kempsford Village Hall

Stephen Andrews concluded the meeting by expressing his thanks to Mark Strange for all his previous work.

Copies:- Mrs Nugent, Mrs Saunders, Mr Strange, Mr O'Connell, Mr Andrews, Mrs Watson, CD.Cllrs, C.Cllrs.

Meeting ended at 8.50pm

Appendix A

Kempsford Parish Council - Attendance Report		12 months to: Dec-25
Name	Attendance	Attendance Percentage
Dom Morris (GCC)	5/12	42%
Helene Mansilla (CDC)	2/12	17%
Tristan Wilkinson (CDC)	4/12	33%
Mark Strange (KPC - Chair)	12/12	100%
John O'Connell (KPC - Vice Chair)	12/12	100%
Christine Nugent (KPC)	8/12	67%
Karen Saunders (KPC)	11/12	92%
Stephen Andrews (KPC)	12/12	100%
Debbie Watson (KPC)	12/12	100%
Graeme Plank (KPC) -	1/1	100%