

KENNETT PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR APRIL 2009 – MARCH 2010

Parish Councillors Mrs Pamela Evans, Chair.
Mr Barclay Dutson , Vice Chair.
Mr Darren Watson.
Mr Mark Hillyer.
Ms Jenny Wilton.

Parish Clerk Mrs Jackie Hughes.

At the start of this year we co-opted two new members to the Parish Council, Mark Hillyer and Jenny Wilton. We are in the process of increasing the number of P C members to seven. Hopefully this will be approved by the Parish Council election date.

Parish Council members and our Clerk have been to code of conduct training helping us to understand the importance of holding legal and non biased meetings.

The new flashing signs by the school and the dropped kerbs in Church Lane have finally been installed. We put in a bid to the Jointly Funded Minor Highways 2010 / 2011 for the yellow lines (no waiting) to be extended and for the school to have access to the recommended 20 mph flashing lights when walking the children to the playing field. Unfortunately we lost this bid but we will keep trying.

The Neighbourhood Panels are held four times per year and we have found them to be very useful for airing our local problems. The panel certainly backed our plea for speed limits past the school and are very sympathetic to our traffic problems. Barclay or I have attended regularly. These meetings are open to the public but as they are held in Soham not many Kennett parishioners have attended.

The new affordable housing was completed at the end of August and the Parish Council were invited to inspect the development; everyone was very impressed. The Parish Councils' suggestion of naming the development Saint Nicholas Close was adopted by ECDC.

We have installed a bench in the cemetery for the benefit of visitors.

We are still looking at improving the street lighting especially down towards the playing field. We had a meeting with EDF on August 6th 2009 to find the easiest and cheapest way to get power to the proposed lights. We have received quotations for the power and lamps and are now looking into ways of funding them.

The Parish Council and Mrs Diane Wallis for the Playing Field Association attended a meeting at ECDC to bid for Big Lottery funding for play equipment. This money has to be allocated to the Playing Field Association with the Parish Councils' total approval. This money has to be spent by June 2010 but we have not received any quotations for the play equipment to date. It would be a great shame if this money was lost but it is a matter for the Playing Field Association to resolve.

The Parish Council objected strongly to the proposed truck stop in Red Lodge. A very successful public meeting (including a leaflet drop to all households in Kennett) was held and money pledged towards funding a legal representative to fight our case jointly with other local villages at the public enquiry. The money collected must be designated as a planning defence fund as any money left from this project could not be used for anything else. I was on holiday when all this occurred so well done to all of you for organising such a successful meeting. Some Parish Councillors

attended a peaceful protest outside the Millennium Centre on the opening day of the public enquiry. We await the Government Inspector's decision.

The Village plan is updated and reviewed at every meeting.

Donations:-

Newmarket Day Centre £50.

Kennett Parochial Church Council £200.

Kennett & Kentford Village Hall & Playing Field Association £100.

Thanks to Derek Myles for his contribution to the Parish Council, and many thanks to my fellow councillors, Jackie Hughes our clerk, and our District and County Councillors for their support throughout the year.

Mrs Pamela Evans

Chair, Kennett Parish Council