

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 27th July 2026

Present:

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

Cllr Steve Bruton
Teresa Griffin (KPC Clerk)
CD Cllr Tristan Wilkinson
CD Cllr Helene Mansilla

Member of the public: -
Helen Cheese-Probert
James Cheese-Probert

1. **Apologies:** Cllr Christine Nugent, Cllr John O'Connell and GC Cllr Dom Morris
2. **Minutes:** Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 15th June 2026 were approved.
3. **Disclosure of member's interests:** Cllr Sarah Newman declared an interest in the matter of Paradise Farm under 'Residents reports to councillors' and did not take part in the discussion.
4. **Dispensation requests:** None
5. **Matters Arising:** None
6. **Questions/comments from members of the public:** None
7. **County Councillor's Report** – Not present.
8. **Local District Councillor's Report** – Cllr Tristan Wilkinson reported –
 - Local Government Reorganisation – decision is for Gloucestershire to become a single unitary. Next May there will be elections for what they call a 'shadow' authority. 110 councillors will be elected. Stephen Andrews advised that there are 5 strands of workstreams being looked at by GALC, that when approved, will decide how town and parishes can be involved.
 - New Local Plan – a draft document has now been published and the Regulation 19 consultation begins shortly. Fairford Town Council (with others) are disputing the algorithm used. There are on-going issues with Thames Water. In addition to the sheer number for Fairford, the question is infrastructure – there has been 2 fatalities on London Road in the past couple of months.
9. **Planning, Policies & Licensing:** None
10. **Consultations:**
 1. Neighbourhood CIL for local infrastructure projects – A meeting to be arranged to discuss with Fairford and Lechlade Town Councils, in respect of the multi-user path project. CD Cllrs Tristan Wilkinson and Helene Mansilla both offered their support for this idea.
 2. Notification received today of the published Draft Local Plan from CDC. The consultation will run from 24 August to 5 October 2026.
11. **Kempsford Parish Council**
 1. Impact of operations at RAF Fairford –

There is a feeling that the relationship/communication between RAF Fairford and the community is not as good as it used to be and unfortunately comes at a time when most needed. This may be due to a number of things -

 - The gap in a Community Relations Advisor post and misunderstanding of the role, which is 'to help Americans integrate into British society and community.
 - New Commander and commander structure.
 - The volume of issues and correspondence.

The issues raised at the public meetings last week were discussed in detail. It was agreed that moving forward, the following matters should be priority -

 - Press for a multi-agency meeting to discuss issues such as traffic, parking and environmental matters.

- Press the MP to ask the Government about JSP418 which requires a Military Aviation Noise Contour (MANC) assessment be undertaken for every Military Airbase in the UK and doesn't currently exist for RAF Fairford. This does need to be considered in respect of the new Local Plan.
- 2. Letter to the Secretary of State for Housing Communities and Local Government from Fairford Town Council – It was agreed to support the draft letter and request Kempsford Parish Council is added to the list of councils supporting the letter. It was suggested that the letter conclude with a stronger request for the algorithm to be reviewed.
- 3. Updates from meetings attended and working groups –
 - Karen Saunders circulated notes from the last Village Hall meeting by email prior to the meeting. They are happy with the idea of combining their website with the Parish Council one. Steve Bruton advised they were interested in an online booking facility but that would be at an additional cost. With regards to the Parish Council website, Steve is working on upgrading it to the latest version and also suggested having a 'FAQ' section. Stephen Andrews advised that being able to direct the public to the 'Contact us' facility would be useful for people reporting specific issues.
The Village Hall committee have created a new WhatsApp Group to publish posters advertising events.
 - Sarah Newman reported on the School Governors meeting of the 6th July after joining. This was the last one with the temporary Head, the new Head starts in September. I will be the Pupil Premium and Resources Lead. There is a lot to do and they are expecting Ofsted. The current Chair of the Governors is stepping down and will be replaced by Laura. The next meeting is on the 14th September.
 - Debbie Watson attended the Fairford Flood and Sewerage Teams Meeting. All the sewer pipes in Kempsford have been inspected with cameras. There is quite a lot in infiltration, Hazel View have cement in their pipes and immediate action is needed to repair a broken pipe at Wharf Lane.
 - Debbie Watson advised that there has been some recent activity in the land at the rear of The Knoll – one person looking at land for solar panels, and the other a surveyor on behalf of builders. The Parish Council has not received any formal notification of anything.
 - The Whelford Community Speed Watch Group undertook a session on the 15th July as part of National Speed Watch Day. Out of all the CSW groups in Gloucestershire, only 3 took part. The session was supported and attended by the Police Traffic Enforcement Officer. Unfortunately, the road from the Garage was closed so there was reduced traffic.
 - Stephen Andrews and the Clerk attended a meeting at Manor Farm Quarry with the new Gloucestershire Cabinet Member for Minerals and Waste. He will have a better understanding for future changes and community issues. A copy of the slide pack has been circulated.
- 4. Residents reports to Councillors –
 - A resident reported that swans at Horcott lakes have had their wings clipped by RAF Fairford and were left in a distressed state afterwards. It was questioned whether clipping is allowed given the SSSI designation. Stephen Andrews has contacted Cotswold District Council for clarification.
 - There have been several emails from residents concerning the camping at Paradise Farm, Kempsford. There are two separate planning applications and it is important that they are considered separately. No response has been received from the planning enforcement officer. It was agreed that we should follow up with the planning officer, advise on the implementation of an Article 4 Direction.
- 5. Christine Nugent has decided to stand down as a councillor with immediate effect, and her resignation was received earlier today. Council expressed their thanks for all her work and long service. Clerk to notify CDC tomorrow.

12. Finance

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

002614	Kinsey Premiere Services (fencing deposit/chain-link repair)	£7,420.03 inc. VAT
	Lloyds Bank (monthly service fee charges)	£8.25

The following bills were approved to be paid: -

002615	GRCC (membership renewal)	£25.00
002616	Countrywide Grounds (grass mthly charge)	£332.50 inc. VAT
002617	Busy Fingers Printing (Newsletter Printing)	£94.50
002618	M Dyball t/as Willow Gardening (Kemp. Grass)	£604.80 inc. VAT
002619	Open Spaces Society (training DW)	£125.00
002620	GALC Ltd (training SA)	£50.00
002621	T Griffin (wages & use of home)	£992.25
002622	HMRC (Emp'or NI)	£83.59

Receipts since last meeting

Bank Interest	£33.31
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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. Updating of banking arrangement and signatories – Mark Strange to be removed as signatory, Stephen Andrews, Teresa Griffin and Karen Saunders to be upgraded to full access users, Sarah Newman and Steve Bruton to be added as signatories. Once these amendments have been completed, we can look to add online banking for future payments.

13. Clerks Report – A quote has been received for felling the dead tree on the open space area at the end of Tuckwell Road. This will be circulated tomorrow by email and the further quotes will be sought.

14. A Correspondence –

- All correspondence received via email has been circulated.

15. To note date of next meeting – Monday 17th August 2026 at 7.00pm at Kempsford Village Hall

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

Meeting ended at 9.40pm

Appendix A

Kempsford Parish Council - Attendance Report		12 months to: Jul-26
Name	Attendance	Attendance Percentage
Dom Morris (GCC)	5/12	42%
Helene Mansilla (CDC)	3/12	25%
Tristan Wilkinson (CDC)	5/12	42%
John O'Connell (KPC - Vice Chair)	10/12	83%
Christine Nugent (KPC)	7/12	58%
Karen Saunders (KPC)	12/12	100%
Stephen Andrews (KPC)	12/12	100%
Debbie Watson (KPC)	12/12	100%
Sarah Newman (KPC) - joined Apr 26	4/4	100%
Steve Bruton (KPC) - joined Apr 26	4/4	100%