

KETLEY PARISH COUNCIL TELFORD, SHROPSHIRE



Chairman: Councillor Martin Young
Clerk to the Council: John Roberts
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MINUTES of the public meeting held by **Ketley Parish Council** in the **Ke**
Thursday 10th September 2009 at **7.00p.m.**

Present;

Councillor Martin Young (Chairman)	Councillor Hilda Rhodes
Councillor June Lamsdell	Councillor David M. Evans
Councillor Margaret Evans	Councillor Laura Hodgkinson
Councillor Joy Francis	Councillor Anil Saini
Councillor Andrew Eade	Leader of the Council, TWC
Victor Brownlees	Chief Executive, TWC
14 members of the public.	
John Roberts	Parish Clerk

Martin Young, the Chairman of Ketley Parish Council welcomed everyone to the meeting and in particular expressed appreciation for the attendance of Councillor Andrew Eade and Victor Brownlees as observers. He referred to the document that was available which outlined the background to the meeting.

He explained that Ketley Parish Council has been negotiating with Telford & Wrekin Council to stay in the Community Centre permanently taking over the Nursery next door as a Youth Centre. This process would appear to be coming to a positive conclusion and we are in a position to gain both buildings to provide for residents of Ketley into the future. Confirmation has been received from Telford & Wrekin Council to sell the Community Centre for a minimal sum and lease the Youth Centre to the Parish Council on a peppercorn rent. The Council has therefore agreed to instruct their solicitors accordingly. This public meeting will give residents a chance to gain information, ask questions and put points of view for the Parish Council to take into consideration.

The chairman explained that the offer had in effect been an increase in the net contribution to the Parish Council of £225,000 as represented by the price they were formerly asking KPC to meet when buying the nursery. He was delighted with the atmosphere of the meeting which reflected a clear desire to work in partnership. The task nonetheless that the Parish Council was proposing to take on was a major undertaking. There would be a commitment to lease the Youth Centre for 10 years before a break clause with notice and both buildings needed refurbishment. The chairman explained that if the meeting was supportive the offer would be presented to the Parish Council at its next meeting on 1st October. He then invited questions from the public.

Questioner	Question	Response
Valerie Mulcuck	Is the Parish Council going to buy the Community Centre – it will be lovely to have such a building in the community?	Yes that is the proposal; for £1 but it comes with certain liabilities such as refurbishment.
Mike Wilkinson	The parish Council has been saving up for many years to fund a move to new premises. Presumably this money will be used towards the buildings.	Yes, matched funding will also be sought from other sources, e.g. SITA Landfill, Lottery and Heritage funds
Sue Taylor	Will the building be listed (although given the restrictions that then follow it may not be best to do it now)?	TWC is responsible for listing buildings of special interest. It may not meet the criteria today but may do so in time if well looked after
Adrian Harper	How far has the Parish Council gone to reduce the noise? Are the funds available?	The Parish Council is not able to spend money on the building until possession is confirmed. However it is a condition of the planning approval. A proposed plan has been drawn up and sent to TWC for approval. The PC is committed to spending the money. Double glazing and a traffic light system to monitor noise and cut out power if excessive is planned. Some of the problem is a management issue to ensure all groups keep the doors closed. There is not enough to do everything needed but quotes are being obtained for sound insulation work and it will be done.

Ellie	How do we raise the additional money?	There have been discussions with SITA and the
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Wilkinson		proposals fall within their criteria and catchment area (Granville), therefore optimistic of some funding from them; Heritage Lottery are looking for bids over £1m.
The work will need to be done on a rolling programme and the PC has started the process. E.g. a quote for double glazing has come in for £240K. Quotes are being obtained for heating and radiators, new floors (especially this room). There are no set time frames but it is expected that the work will be completed in three years time		
Rev. Jim Norton	As the new boy at St. Mary's and a Shropshire lad this is an offer too good to miss and therefore wishes the PC well. People are a major resource and very important, it is good to see the PC working to priorities. Young people are important too.	Totally agree and the Nursery is being used as a youth centre three nights a week. Jim was invited to visit
Sue Taylor	You are telling us what we want to hear. It is important to increase the sense of ownership by local people by involving them in doing the work and raising money, will this happen. People who use the centre from all over Telford are hugely supportive and would be willing to support (Donations box?)	Yes. We are currently looking at the management of the centre to increase the involvement of local people and users. This will be looked at in November by the PC. It is all part of the process and links to successful fund raising. (MY expressed a slight concern about relying on local (voluntary) labour as the responsibility often comes back to him) Local (where possible) commercial concerns will most likely be used
June Lamsdell	At the last meeting there were a number of local people willing to help	We have the list of people who attended (the Clerk asked everyone present to sign the attendance sheets for this meeting!)
The bids for funding are being put together carefully to reflect the involvement of local people and the importance of community spirit.		
Laura Hodgkinson	How much work will go to local people?	The same question was asked over the TMC. A careful balance will be sought between getting the right skills and using local people. It is a difficult balance.
Barbara Evans	At the last meeting were names taken? Serious volunteers are needed	Yes. We have contact details for 2 volunteers with appropriate skills.
Ellie Wilkinson	The newsletter is a good way of recruiting volunteers.	We will use it and the website too.
Hilda Rhodes	We are very pleased to see the Leader and the Chief Executive here. Ketley people deserve it.	
The proposals to go ahead as outlined were put to a vote and 22 people voted for with none against. The comment was made that it was far more important to have a community centre than more houses.		
The chairman offered his thanks to Councillor Andrew Eade and Victor Brownlees for their support and role in achieving this outcome.		