

# Kenn Parish Council

## Minutes of the meeting of Kenn Parish Council

held on the 13<sup>th</sup> of January 2026 at 7pm in the Kenn Centre.

**PUBLIC OPEN DISCUSSION** No members of the public in attendance

Two Teignbridge officers attended the meeting, Amanda Pujol Director of Customer Experience and transformation, and Jon Lloyd head of planning. Both were there to explain the unexpected granting at appeal for the illegal site to be granted a three year lease on the land. A summary of events was explained.

Following years of travellers and others illegal occupation of land at Haldon ridge, owned by Devon County Council (DCC) Teignbridge District Council (TDC) took on the task of clearing the site and established a permanent site at a cost more than £1million, operated by Teign Housing (TH). TDC entered a ten year contract with DCC to operate the site and monitor the surrounding land. That contract expired in July 2024. Prior to that in 2022/23 an illegal encampment set up in a disused carpark a short distance along the road from the newly established TH site. TDC informed DCC of the illegal site on DCC land and requested the County Council took action to clear the site. No action was taken by DCC. There followed a planning application to make the site permanent (24/001962/FUL) this application was refused by the planning authority TDC. The application was resubmission from 22/02044/FUL which was also refused. A new application was made for a temporary period of three years (24/01962/FUL, which was again refused. On appeal it has now been granted. At no time since the illegal occupation of the site have DCC made any attempt to enforce removal of the occupiers and clear the land of accumulated rubbish and secure it from future illegal use. Now that the contract with TDC has expired there is little chance of DCC enforcing any conditions of the appeal, TDC can function as the planning authority, and have pledged to act at the appropriate time.

The overall conclusion of the Parish Council is that the illegal encampment will grow to eventually join up with the Established site along the road. Neither authority has ever made any attempt to establish Traveller transit sites across the County. Developers required to include traveller pitches in all major developments are passing the funds required to meet the planning requirement to TDC, in mitigation. To date no other travellers' pitches, have been provided in the District since the Haldon site, despite the considerable number of development sites coming forward in that period.

**26/702 Councillors in attendance,** Cllr A Chislett, Cllr P Westwood , Cllr C Salter, Cllr H Mortimer  
Cllr S Skuse, Cllr D Kukulka, Cllr B Stretton,  
District Cllr C Nuttall (part), District Cllr J Parrott.

**26/703 Apologies for absence** Cllr R Redding, County Cllr A Connett

**26/704 Declarations of interest.** None declared. Councillors were reminded to check their ROI to inform TDC of any changes required.

**26/705 Dispensation requests regarding the code of conduct.** None received

**26/706 Minutes** To consider the approval of the minutes of the of the meeting held on The 11<sup>th</sup> of November 2025 signed off by the Chairman.

**26/707 Matters raised by the Chairman.** The Council had paid for a private contractor to clear the drains At Pye corner, DCC highways workers were in the village to pump out one drain sump beyond the flooded area. The private contractor removed a large length of root from the pipe which was blocking the flow, this demonstrated that the pipe was broken which may be caused by HGVs that continue to break the weight restriction in the village. Also, the reporting of issues the Devon highways rarely sees any action taken. A manhole cover that needs re seating is ignored; this cover is causing a noise and mental disturbance to residents all day and night due to the constant clack clack as cars and larger vehicles pass over it.

**26/708 Clerks Report.** To note the email newsletters received since the last meeting and correspondence received and any Previous meeting action points.

**Action Points:**

- 1, Blocked Drains Pye corner & Exeter road reported Highways response W2519205
- 2, The door of the Kenn phone box need repairs, the wood frame has rotted, A replacement frame and other repairs were agreed including the repainting of the box following the repairs

**Correspondence received:**

- 1, letter of introduction from the new Highways officer
- 2, update from Cllr Connett re two stone lane.
- 3, update re potholes on Splatford lane bridge & Kenn lane flooding.
- 4, Response re Matford brook academy school
- 5, Invite to Devon community resilience forum
- 6, Defibrillator pads due for replacement Kenn Centre expire 1st Feb
- 7, Police crime report for December
- 8, Proposals of content of a lease for the proposed play area have been received copy will be circulated to councillors for comment

**Meeting attended:**

- 1, 18<sup>th</sup> December TDC Budget Briefing Forde House.
- 2, 05<sup>th</sup> January EIKS hub meeting Shillingford.

**26/709 County and District Councillors' reports.**

**C/Cllr Connett.** Not in attendance

**D/Cllr Parrott.** Assisted the TDC officers in their report on the planning appeal.

**D/Cllr Smith.** Not in attendance

**D/Cllr Nuttall.** Part ( left meeting 19.50) no report

**26/710 TO AGREE THE PARISH PRECEPT FPR 2026/27 FINANCIAL YEAR ( deferred from Dec)**

The Precept for the fiscal year 2026-2027 was agreed at an increase of 3% on the prior year,

An increase of £2,69 on the annual parish proportion of the council tax, which equals 22,4P a month.

**26/711 UPDATE ON KNDP REVISED SUBMISSION DOCUMENT SUBMITTED TO TDC (deferred from Dec)**

The draft submission of the KNDP was submitted to TDC for comment at the end of November 2025, Their response is still awaited. Due to this delay the proposed working party meeting on the has been Cancelled.

**26/712 UPDATE OPTIONS ON NEW EMAIL** Progress has been slow but will be progressed.

**26/713 Planning Applications -**

**Planning Applications** - Teignbridge District Council has asked for comments from the Parish Council on the following planning application.

APPLICATION: 25/02145/LBC

LOCATION: Belford House, Bulford Lane Kennford EX6 7TB

PROPOSAL: New electric vehicle charging point

Comment to TDC No Objection

**26/714 PLANNING DECISIONS:**

APPLICATION: 25/01837/CAN

LOCATION: Stables North, track to Trehill House

PROPOSAL: T1 - Oak - Reduce in Height by up to 3m - reduce canopy on eastern (house side) side by up to 2m - crown lift to first significant lateral limbs

**Permission Granted**

APPLICATION: 25/01903/CAN

LOCATION: The Orchard Kenn

PROPOSAL: 3 trees to have Crown lifting to a height 2-3m

**Permission Granted**

## 26/ Accounts for approval

### TO RECEIVE THE END OF MONTH BANK RECONCILIATION STATEMENT FOR

The months ending on the 31<sup>st</sup> of November & 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025. agreed and signed off.

Please note that any invoices that are received after the publishing of the agenda, will be presented at the PC meeting for agreement, to ensure our suppliers are not waiting over four weeks to the next PC meeting for payment agreement which may be beyond their terms of supply.

#### INVOICES FOR PAYMENT

1333	SWW playbox Aug-Nov	164.46	DD
1334	Octopus energy	134.73	DD
1335	Unity Bank charge Dec	6.00	DD
1336	Length-man Ditch/drain work	218.10	PIA
1337	Office expense's Qtr 3	677.08	
1338	Exe Pest Control	35.00	
1339	Salary Dec	1228.50	
1340	Info commissioner data Protection	52.00	DD
1341	ExJet Drain services	660.00	
1342	Defibshop replacement pad Kenn Centre	<u>95.94</u>	
	Total	£ 3271.81	

**INCOME RECEIVED** Bank interest £ 345.70

**Bank balance** at 31<sup>st</sup> of December 2025

Current Account £56,090.75

Deposit Account £63,074.59

**TO note Public Works Loan Board statement (PWLb) as at 15/5/25 Balance to pay £109,035.01**

**26/ Councillors reports, and External Meetings attended (for information only).**

**Cllr C Salter** Requested an update on the speed sign repairs; council is waiting for the cost from the suppliers, repairs will then be made. Also new sites are being set up for speed awareness days

**Cllr H Mortimer** On behalf of the parish Church a request for a donation of £1500 was put forward. It was pointed out that there are legal restrictions regarding using parish funds in this way, further investigation to clarify the situation will be conducted

**Cllr P Westwood** reported he had informed the rights of way department at DCC of two fallen trees following the recent storms, he reported that he had a prompt reply thanking him for his actions and the trees had been removed,

**Cllr B Stretton** Requested the contact details of the charity Jays Aim so he could organise a defibrillator training session. Also, could the council produce a calendar of work cutting back brambles etc for our parish lengths man.

**Cllr S Scuse** Enquired if any reviews of the established traveller site had been conducted by the authorities, A follow up with TDC will be made considering the recent events.

**Cllr D Kukulka** Enquired if the recent installation of fibre broad band cabling had been run right through the village as enquires to suppliers are negative.

The next meeting of the parish council, will be on the  
10<sup>th</sup> February 2026. 7.00pm at the Kenn Centre.

Meeting closed at :- 21.30pm

Signed.....

Date.....