

KENNETT PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR APRIL 2003-MARCH 2004

<u>Parish Councillors</u>	Mrs Pamela Evans, Chair Mr Keith Mobbs, Vice Chair Dr John Gumpert Mrs Diane Wallis Mr Robin Watson
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<u>Parish Clerk</u>	Mrs Jackie Hughes
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All the above Parish Councillors were returned unopposed in May for another term of office.

The good news this year was the decision to close the landfill site early. The tidying up and landscaping are almost complete, monitoring of leachate, gases etc. will continue for 25 – 30 years. We are still awaiting news of the plan for green waste at Red Lodge.

Our community police officer has kept us up to date with recorded crimes in the village. There are proposals to employ Police Community Support Officers in East Cambridgeshire with Parish Councils paying towards the cost. The only viable way we could employ one is to share with other villages. We are still awaiting more details of how much it would cost us and how much time we would get for our money. These support officers would have limited power.

We are awaiting news from Hereward Housing about building some more affordable housing in the village; the probable site would be on land owned by Allen Newport (corner of Station Road and Church Lane).

The Wildtracks saga goes on. The Action Group are strongly contesting the new tarmac track and bunds which have been built without proper planning permission and are saying the noise monitoring by Wildtracks has been inadequate. There has also been overuse of the track, breaking the planning restrictions. We are waiting for decisions from East Cambridgeshire on these matters.

We have repaired the Church wall again this year and kept the hedges trimmed around the burial grounds. Our next task is to test the gravestones in the old cemetery for health and safety reasons. The Parochial Church Council gave us permission to inspect them as many are leaning. We are awaiting a quotation from a company who has suitable equipment to test accurately the safety of the stones, if some are found unsafe we then have to decide how to remedy this.

We have not replaced the seat in the bus shelter and have also removed the waste bin. There has been less vandalism and litter this year.

We wrote to one or two householders about overgrown hedges and trees and were pleased that they all cooperated.

The Parish Council managed to acquire some free hedging which the playing field association used to fill gaps in a hedge.

Banks Grain Store did not need change of use for Amtrak vans and lorries to use the land.

Street lighting: We hope to install 2 lamps and are awaiting the final cost. One is for the corner of Station Road and Church Lane and the other in Station Road opposite numbers 100 and 102. Grants are no longer available for street lighting so we shall have to meet the total cost.

We are still on the waiting list of Cambridgeshire County Council for making the Church entrance safer.

Many flashing signs have been installed in the village hoping to slow the traffic down. At the time of writing not all of them appear to be working, we will keep an eye on this.

Code of Conduct and Councillor statements of interest are kept up to date.

Freedom of Information Act: all records, accounts etc. can be inspected at the home of the Parish Clerk; Mrs Jackie Hughes by arrangement on 01638 552576.

We have given donations to Kennett & Kentford Village Hall & MacLaren Playing Field Association, Newmarket Day Centre, St Nicholas Church Kennett and East Anglia Air Ambulance.

I would like to thank my fellow councillors for the time and support given to the Parish Council this past year.

Many thanks to Jackie Hughes for all her hard work as Parish Clerk.

Pamela Evans, Chairman