

KIDMORE END PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held at the Church Room, Kidmore End on Wednesday 18 October 2017 at 8.00pm and concluded at 10.20pm.

Present: Ms S M Biggs (Chairman), Dr C D Aldridge (Vice-Chairman), Mrs S J Hunter, I G C Pearson, T M Perchard, H Thresher.

Also present: R Simister (district councillor).

Apologies for absence were received from Ms S Forde, Mrs S Hall, Ms A S O'Reilly, J A Swift QC,

5.01 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 20 September 2017 were taken as read, confirmed and signed as a correct record, subject to

- the deletion of the words "the President" in Minute 4.04(i);
- the insertion of a colon after the word "RESOLVED" in Minute 4.10(i).

5.02 REPORT OF COUNTY COUNCILLOR

The Council noted a written report by Mr K Bulmer, the county councillor for the Goring division, covering, inter alia:

- the support by the Oxfordshire Growth Board for a number of infrastructure projects, which, with the exception of Didcot Garden Town, had little relevance to the southern part of the County;
- the publication of the public health annual report;
- support for groups providing open access to services formerly provided by children's centres;
- day-time support for older persons in 8 new centres, the nearest to the Parish being in Wallingford.

5.03 REPORT OF DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Mr R Simister, the district councillor for the Kidmore End & Whitchurch ward, reported on

- the Oxfordshire Infrastructure Strategy (OxIS);
- the development of the Cambridge/Milton Keynes/Oxford road corridor;
- planning statistics relating to his Council - an increase in planning applications, an increase in enforcement cases and a rate of 63% of planning appeals being dismissed;
- grants available via ward councillors – he had £5,000 to disburse in the 4 parishes in the Ward;
- the approval process for the Local Plan.

5.04 OPEN SESSION

During the Open Session,

- Mr C Hvass of Tokers Green Lane, Kidmore End, was sceptical about the benefits of the proposed 20mph speed limit in Kidmore End village, and objected to a 20mph speed limit repeater sign being installed on the highway grass verge forming part of his property;
- Dr & Mrs C Bradford of Tokers Green Lane, Kidmore End, objected to a 20mph speed limit repeater sign being installed on the grass verge outside the property of Mr Hvass.

5.05 KIDMORE END VILLAGE – TRAFFIC SPEEDS

(cf 4.17/17) The Council noted that, following the decision the County Council's Cabinet Member for Environment to reduce the speed limit on roads in Kidmore End village to 20mph, the various roads had been marked for the installation of the necessary signage. It was this action that had given rise to the issues raised in the Open Session (Minute 5.04 above).

RESOLVED: That Mr C Hvass and Dr & Mrs C Bradford be advised to raise their objections regarding the siting of speed limit signs with the County Council.

5.06 PLAY AREAS

(i) Refurbishment project

(cf 4.04(i)/17) The Council noted a report (17/18 – 4) of the Clerk advising of the financial outcome of the project to refurbish the play areas at Gallowstree Common and Kidmore End.

The Chairman reported that she was pursuing the claim of the balance of the promised grant from the District Council.

(ii) Safety inspections

(cf 4.04(ii)/17) The Chairman and Vice-Chairman reported on actions taken or intended in respect of issues raised by Playsafety Ltd, acting on behalf of RoSPA, relating to the play areas at Gallowstree Common and Kidmore End.

The Chairman suggested that warning signs about the risks of using the play equipment should be erected at each entrance to both play areas, a total of 5 signs.

RESOLVED: That suitably worded warning signs be acquired and sited at each entrance to the play areas.

(iii) Kidmore End Play Area

It was reported that hinges had been installed on one of the panels in the fence between Willow House, Tokers Green Lane, Kidmore End and the Kidmore End Play Area, apparently to facilitate access from the rear garden of the property direct into the Play Area. The Clerk was not aware of any permission previously granted by the Council for access into the Play Area, other than by the 3 public entrances.

RESOLVED: That the occupiers of Willow House, Tokers Green Lane, Kidmore End be asked not to access the Play Area direct from their rear garden.

5.07 DISTRICT COUNCIL'S TOWN AND PARISH FORUM

(cf 4.07/17) The District Council's Head of Corporate Services confirmed that her Council would be holding a Town and Parish Forum on 1 November 2017.

RESOLVED: That Mr H Thresher be appointed to attend the Town and Parish Forum on 1 November 2017, and that his attendance be an approved duty for the purposes of expenses.

5.08 TELEPHONE KIOSKS

(cf 4.15/17) The Chairman reported that Soha Housing Ltd had consented to the siting of a bench on its property, adjacent to the former telephone kiosk in Kidmore End. Mrs S J Hunter undertook to obtain details about suitable benches to be sited there.

The Clerk advised that the telephony equipment had been removed from the kiosk at Cane End, which had become the property of the Council on 17 October 2017.

5.09 CAVERSHAM CONSOLIDATED CHARITIES

(cf 4.21/17) The Clerk reported that, according to the Charity Commission website, the Caversham Consolidated Charities had been removed from the register by the Commission in June 2017. The Clerk was seeking to make contact with the last-known Clerk to the Trustees.

5.10 KIDMORE END POND

(cf 4.22/17) Mr T M Perchard indicated that he would cut back the vegetation at the south corner of Kidmore End pond, to expose fully the footway etc, but would need assistance with the removal of the resultant debris.

5.11 FINANCE

(i) Balances

The Clerk reported that balances at the bank totalled £35,106.01.

(ii) Accounts for payment

RESOLVED: That the following accounts, listed in the schedule under Financial Regulation 5.2, be approved for payment:

South Oxfordshire District Council – Emptying dog hygiene bin	£12.56
R F Penfold – Salary net of Income Tax	£376.49
HM Revenue & Customs – Income tax deducted	£250.99
R F Penfold – Printing agenda etc	£15.00

(iii) Budget monitoring

The Council noted a report of the Clerk showing expenditure, up to 30 September 2017, against the approved budget for 2017/18. The report showed a predicted underspend at year end of £3, excluding capital payments and if the Council otherwise spent in accordance with the budget.

(iv) Loan repayments

(cf 4.08(iv)/17) In an e-mail, the Business Operations Manager of the UK Debt Management Office reported that the Council's loan with the Public Works Loan Board had been corrected, and attached a revised schedule of repayments to the e-mail. An overpayment of £64.75 had arisen, and this had been credited to the Council's bank.

5.12 ALLOTMENTS, GALLOWSTREE COMMON – WATER

The Clerk presented, for payment, an invoice from Castle Water Ltd, for water at the allotments in Gallowstree Common, in the sum of £402.13. Given that the leak on the supply, in the vicinity of the meter, had been repaired on 24 May 2017, and that this was an estimated account, when the last actual reading had been taken on 2 May, Members were minded not to pay the account.

RESOLVED: That the account from Castle Water Ltd, for water used at the Gallowstree Common allotments, be not paid at this time, and that the Company be requested to submit a revised bill, based upon a recent actual reading of the meter.

5.13 CONSULTATION ON PLANNING MATTERS

(i) Decisions

The Council noted that the application for demolition of conservatory and erection of single storey extension, single storey porch extension and car port at School House Cottage, Wood Lane, Gallowstree Common had been permitted conditionally and that the following applications had been refused:

two-storey side and rear extension at 2 Tanners Cottages, 25 Tanners Lane, Chalkhouse Green; residential development of 30 dwellings on land at 44 Kennylands Road, Sonning Common [Parish of Sonning Common].

(ii) Action of Plans Sub-Committee

RESOLVED: That the action of the Plans Sub-Committee in respect of the following applications, as set out in the register of action, be approved:

erection of new dwelling at Fairlea, Horsepond Road, Gallowstree Common;
proposed loft conversion with 2 rear pitched dormers at 5 Craysleaze, Kidmore End;
demolition of existing house (approved for conversion to garage), construction of new replacement garage at Oakridge Farm, Wood Lane, Kidmore End;
demolition of conservatory and erection of single storey extension, single storey porch extension and car port at School House Cottage, Wood Lane, Gallowstree Common (amended plan);
change of use of barn from a store, study and home office to a business office use (class B1) at Curtis Farm, Tokers Green Lane, Kidmore End;
2-storey side extension with dormers and new rear dormer at Brambles, Kidmore End Road, Chalkhouse Green.

(iii) Applications

The Council considered an application referred to it since the last meeting .

RESOLVED: That no strong views be expressed on the application for change of use of barn from ancillary residential use to a mixed C3 residential use and B1(a) office use, for use only by occupiers of Curtis Farm, and up to 5 fulltime employees at Curtis Farm, Tokers Green Lane, Kidmore End (amended plan) for Mr D Remenyi.

(iv) Proposed development of land at Emmer Green

(cf 4.10(iv)/17) In the light of the Council's response to his enquiry at its last meeting, Mr D Holmes, an Associate Director of Progress Planning, advised by e-mail that Kirby Homes would "consult on site" about their proposal to provide up to 30 dwellings on land at Emmer Green.

(v) South Oxfordshire Local Plan

(cf 4.10(x)/17) The Head of Planning of the District Council, by e-mail, advised that the publication version of the Local Plan was open for consultation until 22 November 2017, ie the date of the next meeting of the Council. A number of drop-in events had been arranged across the District.

Mr I G C Pearson reported orally on the briefing session for parish councils and neighbourhood planning groups on 11 October 2017. The presentations from the session had been circulated to all Members.

The Council noted the comments on the draft Local Plan circulated by the Oxfordshire Branch of the Campaign to Protect Rural England.

RESOLVED: That the Plans Sub-Committee be authorised to submit a response to the District

Council on that Council's publication version of its Local Plan.

(vi) "Planning Matters"

The Council noted "Planning Matters", a newsletter issued by the District Council in October 2017.

(vii) Reading Borough Council - Gypsy and traveller provision

In an e-mail, the Planning Policy Team of Reading Borough Council drew attention to its consultation, within the Local Plan framework, concerning provision for gypsy and traveller accommodation. Its assessment was that it needed to provide 10-17 permanent pitches, 5 transit pitches and 2 pitches for travelling showpeople. A potential site for transit pitches had been identified south of the River Thames, near Cow Lane.

5.14 COMMUNITY EMERGENCY PLANS

With a letter, the County Council's County Emergency Planning Officer enclosed the annual survey update on community emergency planning within the Parish, and, in the letter, encouraged parish and town councils to develop community emergency plans and gave details about community resilience workshops.

RESOLVED That the Clerk complete and return the annual community emergency planning survey to the County Council.

5.15 NATIONAL HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORT PUBLIC SATISFACTION SURVEY

An officer from the County Council's Highways and Transport Team had invited, in an e-mail, participation by the Council in the National Highway and Transport Public Satisfaction Survey 2017.

RESOLVED: That the Transport Sub-Committee be authorised to submit a response to the National Highway and Transport Public Satisfaction Survey 2017, if the Sub-Committee felt that to be worthwhile.

5.16 CAVERSHAM AND DISTRICT RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

The Council noted an invitation to be represented at the 50th anniversary celebrations of the Caversham and District Residents' Association on 17 October 2017. No Member had been available to attend.

5.17 ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, KIDMORE END - CHURCHYARD

(cf 11.11/16) In a letter, the PCC Treasurer of the Parish of Kidmore End and Sonning Common had reported that repairs were urgently required to the churchyard wall at the Church of St John the Baptist, Kidmore End, and enquired whether the Council might make a donation towards the cost of the work. The Clerk had responded that the Council had made provision in its budget for the financial year 2017/18 for a grant of £800 towards churchyard wall repairs.

5.18 OXFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

The Council noted an update for members published by the Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils in September 2017.

5.19 TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURES

With e-mails, the County Council's Director of Infrastructure Delivery gave notice of temporary

closures, under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, of Chalkhouse Green Road, Kidmore End, outside Gable Cottage, on 26 September 2017, for 3 days, to facilitate emergency water mains' repair works, and of Horsepond Road, Gallowstree Common, between its junctions with Wood Lane and Park Lane, on 14 December 2017, to facilitate telegraph pole replacement works.

5.20 COMMUNITY FIRST OXFORDSHIRE

The Council noted that the annual general meeting of Community First Oxfordshire was to be held in Kirtlington on 26 October 2017.

5.21 OXFORDSHIRE SOUTH & VALE CITIZENS' ADVICE

In a letter, the Director of Oxfordshire South and Vale Citizens' Advice asked that the Council consider making a donation to support the work of the organisation.

RESOLVED: That consideration of the request be deferred until later in the year.

5.22 NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN STEERING GROUP

The Council considered a report (17/18 - 5) of the Clerk advising it of the membership of the Neighbourhood Development Plan Steering Group, the Group's adopted terms of reference and the budget the Group was recommending.

The Chairman reported orally that the Steering Group had met on 5 October 2017.

2 significant issues had arisen since the last meeting of the Council – the classification of the villages in the Parish in respect of future development and the boundary of the neighbourhood plan area. District Council officers had advised that, under their Council's present policy, growth was only expected in smaller villages – Gallowstree Common and Kidmore End in the Parish. As to the boundary of the plan area, the District Council was unable automatically to approve the Council's proposal – the whole Parish – because 3 small areas of the Parish had been included in the Sonning Common Neighbourhood Development plan area. If the area was not the whole Parish, the District Council would have to consult formally upon it.

RESOLVED: 1 That the terms of reference of the Kidmore End Neighbourhood Development Plan Steering Group be noted.

2 That the budget recommended by the Steering Group be adopted.

3 That resolution 1 of Minute 3.13(v) of the meeting held on 19 July 2017 be varied, by excluding from the area to be covered by the neighbourhood development plan those parts of the Parish already included in the area of the Sonning Common Neighbourhood Development Plan.

5.23 PLAYING FIELDS COMMITTEE

The Chairman of Playing Fields Committee reported that the Committee had not met since the last meeting of the Council.

However, planning for the proposed community music event in May 2018 was proceeding.

5.24 RIGHTS OF WAY COMMITTEE

It was reported that the Rights of Way Committee had been invited to look into whether there were any historic footpaths/rights of way or ancient lanes in the Parish which were not on the County Council's Definitive Maps, as such paths could not be claimed after 2026.

5.25 LOGO FOR THE COUNCIL

The Council considered a report (17/18 - 6) of the Clerk enabling it to decide whether it wished to adopt a “corporate” logo. Members expressed support for the suggested design, but felt that there should be recognition of the five villages or settlements in the logo.

RESOLVED: That consideration of the matter be deferred pending further design work.

5.26 MEETINGS, CONFERENCES ETC

The Chairman reported that she had attended a meeting about the proposed new recreational facilities on land off Reades Lane, Sonning Common.

5.27 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That the public be excluded from the meeting, pursuant to Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, during consideration of the following item on the grounds that exempt information, under paragraphs of Schedule 12A of the Act shown below, would be discussed:

Item	Paragraph
Community education venture	1

5.28 COMMUNITY EDUCATION VENTURE

The Council considered a report (17/18 - 7) of the Clerk advising it of a community education venture in Gallowstree Common and enquiring whether the Council would subsidise the venture.

RESOPLVED: That, using the Council’s powers under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972, the cost of hiring the Diamond Jubilee Pavilion for the community education sessions held from September to December 2017 inclusive be met.