

KIDMORE END PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting the Parish Council held at the Church Room, Kidmore End on Wednesday 18 July 2018 at 8.00pm and concluded at 9.25pm.

Present: Ms S M Biggs (Chairman), Mrs S Hall, I G C Pearson, T M Perchard, J A Swift QC.

Also present: K Bulmer (county councillor), R Simister (district councillor).

Apologies for absence were received from Dr C D Aldridge, Ms A S O'Reilly, H Thresher.

4.01 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 20 June 2018 were taken as read, confirmed and signed as a correct record.

4.02 REPORT OF COUNTY COUNCILLOR

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

- his Council's shared service arrangement with Cherwell District Council;
- improving figures in the County for delayed transfer of care of hospital patients after their recovery;
- the consultation on site allocation for the minerals and waste local plan;
- his Council's new domestic abuse service;
- support for Friends Against Scammers.

Mr Bulmer expanded orally on his report and mentioned extra funding of £10m received by his Council to repair potholes, which had enabled his Council, inter alia, to acquire another "Dragon" patching machine.

In response to questions from Members, Mr Bulmer advised that the details of the county councillors' local grant scheme had yet to be settled, and that unitary local government in the County seemed a distant prospect.

4.03 REPORT OF DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Mr R Simister, the district councillor for the Kidmore End & Whitchurch ward, reported on progress with the development of his Council's Local Plan.

4.04 REPORT OF AREA BEAT OFFICER

Although there was no report from the Police, it was noted that the Neighbourhood Sergeant of the Thames Valley Police had arranged a meeting for representatives of town and parish councils – the Henley and District Area Forum – to be held in Henley on 13 August 2018.

RESOLVED: That Mr T M Perchard be appointed to attend the [Police] Henley and District Area Forum on 13 August 2018, and that his attendance be an approved duty for the purposes of expenses.

4.05 MEMBERSHIP OF THE COUNCIL

The Clerk reported that Ms S L Forde had resigned as a member of the Council, by e-mail, on 25 June 2018.

The Clerk advised that he had given notice of the vacancy for the office of parish councillor caused by the resignation of Ms Forde. If no election was called to fill the vacancy, the Council could co-opt a qualified

person at the September meeting.

The Council was reminded that Ms Forde had been appointed to serve on the Plans Sub-Committee and as a representative on the Kidmore End Playing Fields Committee.

In an e-mail, Mr A B Gitsham of Tokers Green Lane, Tokers Green expressed his interest in serving as a member of the Council, to fill one of the existing vacancies.

RESOLVED: 1 That Ms S L Forde be thanked for her service to the community as a Member of the Council since January 2015.

2 That, pending further appointments to the Plans Sub-Committee, planning applications for Gallowstree Common be handled by the Chairman and applications for Cane End by Mr T M Perchard.

3 That Mr A B Gitsham be co-opted, in accordance with Section 89 of the Local Government Act 1972, to fill the vacancy for the office of parish councillor caused by the resignation of Mrs S J Hunter.

4.06 TRAFFIC MATTERS

(i) Temporary road closures

(cf 3.03/18) In an e-mail, Ms M Hatton of Tokers Green had reported that contractors working in the highway had denied pedestrians the use of Tokers Green Lane, Tokers Green, between the junctions with Shepherds Lane and Elm Road, on at least one occasion while the road was closed to through traffic. The Clerk had alerted the County Council to this action, and had advised Ms Hatton to do so, as well.

(ii) Junction of A4074 road and Rokeby Drive, Chazey Heath

(cf 3.10/18) The Chairman reported that she had met her counterpart at Mapledurham Parish Council to discuss a possible reduction of the speed limit on the A4074 road, Chazey Heath, in order to allow drivers to out from Rokeby Drive more safely. Following her meeting, she had written to the County Council's Area Highways Steward requesting a meeting with him to discuss this and other issues relating to the junction of the A4074 road with Rokeby Drive.

RESOLVED: That the action of the Chairman be approved and confirmed.

(iii) Junction of Rokeby Drive and Tokers Green Lane, Tokers Green – Parking

In an e-mail, Mr C Stevens [no address given but believed to be resident in Tokers Green] drew attention to vehicles being parked on the northern side Rokeby Drive, Tokers Green, close to its junction with Tokers Green Lane, and the potential danger this caused for drivers turning into Rokeby Drive from the south, who might face oncoming traffic. Members were of the view that, in the main, the parked vehicles were not associated with properties in Rokeby Drive.

RESOLVED: That Mr Stevens be reminded that there are no parking restrictions in force on the length of highway in question, but that the Editorial Board would be requested to include a note in the next edition of the Parish Newsletter drawing attention to the potential danger of the practice.

(iv) Vehicle speed reduction campaign

(cf 3.17/18) The Chairman referred to her discussions with the Headteacher of Kidmore End School about the deployment of posters, produced by pupils at the School, urging drivers to comply with various speed limits in force in the Parish. The posters, samples of which had been circulated to Members prior to the meeting, and which would be laminated, would cost £25 each. The Kidmore End School Association had promised a grant of £150 towards the campaign, and it was hoped that the

Council would meet the balance.

It was proposed that the posters would be displayed on existing roadside structures, like telegraph poles. Members were asked to identify suitable structures in each village and notify them to the Clerk, so that permission could be sought, from the owners, to display the posters thereon.

RESOLVED: That the cost, net of the grant from the Kidmore End School Association, of producing speed reduction campaign posters for each village, be met, using the Council's powers under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972.

(v) Wood Lane, Kidmore End – Vehicle speeds

With an e-mail, Ms J Hartrup, of Wood Lane, Kidmore End sent a statement asking the Council to consider seeking an extension of the 20mph speed limit along Wood Lane to its junction with Horsepond Road in Gallowstree Common. She complained that vehicles were often driven in Wood Lane well in excess of the 30mph speed limit, the signs for which, she complained, were small. Ms Hartrup also suggested that wheelie bin stickers regarding speed limits, as deployed in other places, could be used in Kidmore End.

Members noted that the prospect of extending the 20mph speed limit was minimal, that the 30mph "repeater" signs in Wood Lane conformed to the national guidelines and that wheelie bin stickers would only be of deterrent value on one day a week, when bins were put out by residents.

RESOLVED: That Ms Hartrup be advised of the above points, and of the Council's proposed campaign (see Minute 4.06(iv) above).

4.07 FUND RAISING EVENT AT GALLOWSTREE COMMON RECREATION GROUND

(cf 3.05/18) The Council recalled that it had asked the Playing Fields Committee to address the issues raised by Ms Kew about the music event held at the Gallowstree Common Recreation Ground on 27 May 2018.

The Chairman of the Committee reported that the Committee had provided the following answers to the questions asked by Ms Kew:

- the event had been promoted by Kidmore End Cricket Club;
- the benefiting charities in 2018 had been the Cricket Club and the Playing Fields Committee;
- an appropriate entertainment licence had been in force;
- the music had not been played outside the hours permitted under the planning permission for the Diamond Jubilee Pavilion;
- people had been discouraged from entering the Recreation Ground from the neighbouring wood, via the informal entrances, during the event.

RESOLVED: That the responses provided by the Playing Fields Committee be endorsed and forwarded to Ms C Kew.

4.08 FINANCE

(i) Balances

The Clerk reported that balances at the bank totalled £26,679.67.

(ii) Accounts for payment

RESOLVED: That the following accounts, listed in the schedule under Financial Regulation 5.2,

be approved for payment:

Wicksteed Leisure Ltd – Parts for play equipment repair	£13.56
The Henley College – Printing Parish Newsletter	£45.00
R F Penfold – Salary net of Income Tax	£379.29
HM Revenue & Customs – Income tax deducted	£252.86
R F Penfold – Printing agenda etc	£10.80
Adam’s Pest Control Ltd – Removal of wasp nest, Kidmore End play area	£60.00

(iii) Payment of accounts

As the Council was not due to meet in August 2018, it was

RESOLVED: That, notwithstanding Financial Regulations 5.2 and 6.3, the Chairman and Vice-Chairman be authorised to approve accounts received before 22 August 2018, for payment out of meeting.

(iv) Budget monitoring

The Council noted a report of the Clerk showing expenditure, up to 30 June 2018, against the approved budget for 2018/19. The report showed a predicted overspend at year end of £2,567, excluding capital payments and if the Council otherwise spent in accordance with the budget.

4.09 CONSULTATION ON PLANNING MATTERS

(i) Decisions

The Council noted that the applications for

erection of timber garden building at Byfield, Reades Lane, Gallowstree Common;
remodelling of existing double garage and sheds into an annexe living with loft space at Rock Cottage, Chalkhouse Green Lane, Chalkhouse Green;

had been permitted conditionally and that the application for a detached carport and new vehicular access at Little Copse, Park Lane, Cane End had been refused.

(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:

first floor replacement dormers and gable extensions, roof extension over garage with dormers and rooflights and replacement canopy over entrance at Foxhill View, Rosebery Road, Tokers Green;

proposed single storey extension and separate double garage at Primrose Cottage, Reading Road, Cane End (2 applications);

enlarge lounge window to same depth as other window and enlarge bathroom window at Three Oaks, Tokers Green Lane, Tokers Green;

remodelling of double garage and sheds into annex living with loft space at Rock Cottage, Chalkhouse Green Lane, Chalkhouse Green (amended plan);

single storey extension and first floor dormer extensions with roof lights at Hadley, Tokers Green Lane, Tokers Green (amended plan).

(iii) Applications

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

The Council noted a copy of a letter from Matt Rodda, the Member of Parliament for the Reading East Constituency, to both Reading Borough Council and the District Council, objecting to the application for development of land off Highdown Avenue, Emmer Green.

RESOLVED: That the comments set out in the Appendix to Minute 3.08(iii) be restated in respect of the outline application for use of site for Class C3 residential, restricted to density and means of access, on land at Highdown Avenue, Emmer Green for S N Developments Ltd (restarted consultation), subject to the following amendments:

- insertion of an additional reason – “the proposal would be in conflict with the spatial strategy set out in the District Council’s Core Strategy and Policy CSR1”;
- the deletion of the words “or within southern South Oxfordshire” in the third reason.

(iv) Tree preservation order

With a letter, the District Council’s Head of Planning enclosed a copy of the South Oxfordshire District Council (Kidmore End Area) Tree Preservation Order number 18S13, covering 2 oak trees on land due south west of Highdown Avenue, Emmer Green.

(v) South Oxfordshire Local Plan

(cf 3.08(vi)/18) Following the last meeting, the Chairman, as a matter of urgency, had instructed the Clerk to include Palmer’s Riding School, Emmer Green in the request to the District Council to consider making tree preservation orders in respect of trees on the part of the Reading Golf Club course in the Parish.

In this connection, it was reported that Reading Borough Council had made a tree preservation order in respect of 23 trees and 9 groups of trees in 2002 relating to that part of the Reading Golf Club course in the Borough. It had made another order, covering all trees of whatever size and species on the course within the Borough, earlier in 2018.

The Council noted the draft of a letter to be sent by Campaign Against Gladman in Eye & Dunsden (CAGE) to the District Council about the inclusion, inter alia, of Palmer’s Riding Stables and Reading Golf Club in the review of sites for inclusion in the emerging South Oxfordshire Local Plan.

RESOLVED: That the action of the Chairman be approved and confirmed.

4.10 OXFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

The Council noted an update for members published by the Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils in June 2018, with particular reference to the paragraphs about the General Data Protection Regulations.

4.11 HIGHWAYS’ MAINTENANCE

The Council noted a briefing on highways’ maintenance, produced for members of the County Council, explaining that Council’s approach to roads maintenance, with some facts and figures to show progress, as well as the scale of the challenge.

4.12 NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN STEERING GROUP

The Council noted that there had been no meeting of Neighbourhood Development Plan Steering Group since the last meeting of the Council: the next meeting had been arranged for 31 July 2018. The Chairman advised that the call for sites for potential development had been completed and a consultant

from Locality was assisting the analysis of the sites put forward, in conjunction with officers of the District Council. Technical support was being arranged for the writing of the necessary policies in the Plan.

4.13 PLAYING FIELDS COMMITTEE

The Chairman of the Playing Fields Committee reported that the Committee had met on 11 July 2018, when it had reviewed the fund raising event (see Minute 4.07 above). The Committee had received no response from Kidmore End Football Club about the latter's future use of the Gallowstree Common Recreation Ground. The condition survey of the Diamond Jubilee Pavilion, arranged by the Council, was to start on 19 July 2018.

4.14 DISTRIBUTION OF AGENDA

The Council considered a report (18/19 - 4) of the Clerk, to facilitate a decision about changing the distribution of agenda for meetings.

RESOLVED: That the summons and agenda for meetings be served electronically to Members' Council e-mail addresses with effect from 1 September 2018.

4.15 MEETINGS, CONFERENCES ETC

The Chairman reported on a meeting of the Chiltern Conservation Board, when she had discovered that the Board had not included the whole of the Parish in the application it had made in 2014 for an extension of the boundary of the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Members recalled the decision of the Council in April 2018 (see Minute 11.08) to ask the Board to include the whole Parish, but were advised that the Board had yet to acknowledge receipt of the request.

Reference was made to the potential loss of beech woodlands across the Area, given that many of the trees were drawing to the end of their lives.

4.16 QUESTIONS TO CHAIRMAN

In answer to questions, the Chairman

- advised that she would ask the Editorial Board of the Parish Newsletter to include an exhortation for residents to be careful with bonfires, given the fire in a field near Vines Farm, Kidmore End;
- indicated that further consideration would be given to providing a water bowser at the Cane End allotments, pending the completion of the formalities of the easement for a water supply there.