

KIDMORE END PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting the Parish Council held at the Church Room, Kidmore End on Wednesday 20 February 2019 at 8.00pm and concluded at 9.30pm.

Present: Ms S M Biggs (Chairman), Mrs S Hall, Ms A S O'Reilly, I G C Pearson, T M Perchard.

Apologies for absence were received from Dr C D Aldridge, A B Gitsham, J A Swift QC, H Thresher.

10.01 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 23 January 2019 were taken as read, confirmed and signed as a correct record.

10.02 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 budget setting exercise, including its plans for grant funding for community-run youth services, and investment in schools, transport and street lighting;
- the launch of the Oxfordshire Heath and Wellbeing Strategy;
- his Council's successful bid to the Government for £1.25m to help transform the traffic management system;
- the repair of more than 40,117 road defects since January 2018;
- the action plan for co-operation by health and social care services in the County.

10.03 REPORT OF AREA BEAT OFFICER

Members observed that it was many months since the last report from an Area Beat Officer, or any member of the Thames Valley Police, and recalled that the Sector Sergeant was reported to have indicated that police officers would not, in future, report to parish councils meetings. It was, therefore

RESOLVED: That "Report of the Area Beat Officer" be discontinued as an item on the agenda for meetings of the Council.

10.04 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

(cf 9.02/19) RESOLVED: That Mr R Simister be thanked for his service to the communities in the Parish, as the district councillor for Kidmore End, since May 2011.

10.05 GALLOWSTREE COMMON RECREATION GROUND - GRANT APPLICATION

(cf 9.04(i)/19) Mr I G C Pearson reported receipt of a letter from the Community Enabling Manager of the District Council about the application for a grant from the district councillor's fund. As a result of Mr Simister's resignation as a district councillor, and the concomitant vacancy, the District Council was unable to process the application. She advised that a further application be made after the district council elections in May.

Mr Pearson further reported that the Playing Fields Committee was investigating other grant or fund-raising opportunities.

10.06 HIGHWAYS MATTERS

(i) Cross roads behind former Palm Tree Restaurant, Cane End

Reference was made to the sight lines at the cross roads on Horsepond Road and Park Lane, Cane End, behind the former Palm Tree Restaurant. Following the start on building works at the site, the view towards Reading Road, if approaching the cross roads from the south, was obstructed by fencing or hoarding.

RESOLVED: That the above matter be drawn to the attention of the County Council.

(ii) Oxfordshire Together

An officer in the Service Improvement section of the County Council's Communities' Directorate drew attention to her Council's ambition to refresh and broaden its approach to community led highways' services, through the "Oxfordshire Together" initiative. In this connection, the County Council was conducting a survey of parish and town councils as to how the County Council could work with and empower communities.

Members reviewed the questions in the survey, and discussed answers.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk be authorised to respond to the survey on the lines discussed at the meeting.

10.07 FINANCE SUB-COMMITTEE

(cf 9.08/19) The Council noted a letter from Sonning Common Parish Council thanking it for the grant awarded to Club SC.

10.08 TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT ISSUES

(i) Vehicle speed reduction measures

(cf 9.10(i)/19)The Council considered the report by the Chairman concerning the possible acquisition of vehicle speed indicator devices for deployment in the Parish, a matter deferred at the last meeting. The Chairman advised that she was awaiting information from officers of the County Council.

Mr T M Perchard advised that had arranged for the use of the Police speed indicator device from 15 to 28 March 2019, inclusive. He would be responsible for the equipment whilst it was in the Parish. Mr Perchard and Mr A B Gitsham intended to deploy the device in Tokers Green on 21 March. Volunteers would be needed to support the deployment of the device elsewhere in the Parish.

RESOLVED: That consideration of the report be deferred.

(ii) Temporary road closure

With an e-mail, an officer of the County Council gave notice of the temporary closure, under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, of Reades Lane, Sonning Common, near Chiltern Edge School, on 8 April 2019, for 5 days, to facilitate a water mains' connection.

Members referred to the temporary closure of Tokers Green Lane, at its junction with Shepherds Lane, Caversham, in January 2019 and regretted that neither Reading Borough Council nor the County Council had given notice of that closure to the Council.

10.09 GALLOWSTREE COMMON ALLOTMENTS – WATER SUPPLY

(cf 9.12/19) Mr T M Perchard confirmed that a new meter had been installed on the water supply pipe at the Gallowstree Common allotments on 12 December 2019.

10.10 THE REFORMATION PUBLIC HOUSE, GALLOWSTREE COMMON

(cf 9.21/19) The Clerk reported that he had submitted the nomination of the Reformation public house, Gallowstree Common, to be listed as an asset of community value, on 31 January 2019.

10.11 COUNTY COUNCIL’S TOWN & PARISH LIAISON EVENTS

(cf 9.22/19) A Policy Officer from the County Council attached, to an e-mail, a brief report on the series of meetings for town and parish councils held by the County Council between September 2018 and January 2019. Some 123 councils, including this Council, had been represented at the meetings. The focus of the meetings had been on highways and infrastructure, communications, signposting and support and public transport.

A conclusion reached at the meetings was that there should be an annual such meeting in any given geographical area.

10.12 FINANCE

(i) Balances

The Clerk reported that balances at the bank totalled £24,573.82.

(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	£13.09
The Henley College – Printing Newsletter	£45.00
R F Penfold – Renewal of web domain names for 2 years	£69.82
David Woodward: design for print – Speed reduction posters	£240.00
Kidmore End Playing Fields Committee – Grant	£1,000.00
R F Penfold – Salary net of Income Tax	£379.29
HM Revenue & Customs – Income tax deducted	£252.86
R F Penfold – Printing agenda etc	£4.30

10.13 CONSULTATION ON PLANNING MATTERS

(i) Decisions

The Council noted that the applications for

proposed single storey extension including conversion of ground floor into habitable accommodation at The Old Farmhouse Flat, Cane End;
enlarge 2 dormers on side elevation to provide headroom in existing bedrooms at Hazledene, Beech Road, Tokers Green

had been permitted conditionally.

(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:

demolition of existing single storey extension and replacement with a larger single storey extension in the same location at Rock Cottage, Chalkhouse Green;
erection of leisure complex to house indoor swimming pool, sauna and steam room adjacent to Oldfield House, Horsepond Road, Gallowstree Common;
proposed single storey extension and use of loft space for storage at Primrose Cottage, Reading Road, Cane End (amended plan);
conversion of existing outbuilding, including demolition of the existing timber frame extension to be replaced with an extension, removal of existing front wall and new dropped curb to front of existing house at Anstey, Wood Lane, Gallowstree Common;
demolition of existing dwelling and erection of detached dwelling together with detached ancillary building accommodating double garage, storage and studio at Norton Lee, Wood Lane, Kidmore End;
single storey orangey extension, along with internal and external alterations at Pond House, Kidmore Lane, Kidmore End;
proposed single storey garden room extension and replacement windows and doors to existing dwelling at Collegewood Barn, Cane End.

(iii) Tree preservation orders

In letters, the Head of Planning of the District Council advised that his Council had confirmed

the South Oxfordshire District Council (Kidmore End Area) Tree Preservation Order No 18S24, covering individual trees, groups of trees and woods on land at Reading Golf Club, Emmer Green, and

the South Oxfordshire District Council (Kidmore End Area) Tree Preservation Order No 18S19, covering a group of trees in the rear garden of Felix Lodge, Wood Lane, Kidmore End, following, in that case, consideration of representations or objections.

(iv) Possible development at Bryants Farm, Emmer Green

(cf 9.19/19) It was noted that the High Court had not granted Gladman leave to challenge the inspector's decision into respect of the appeal relating to development around Bryant's Farm, Emmer Green. The Company had, however, subsequently sought a short oral hearing before the Court.

(v) Oxfordshire Plan 2050

The Oxfordshire Plan Team, by letter, drew attention to the Oxfordshire Plan 2050, a document being drafted by the principal councils in the County, to guide development in the area up to year 2050. The plan was part of the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal, between the Government and the councils, about guaranteed funding on affordable housing, infrastructure and economic growth in the County.

Consultation on the first stage of the exercise had opened on 11 February and would close on 25 March 2019.

RESOLVED: That consideration of a response to the consultation on the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 be deferred to the next meeting.

10.14 GREAT BRITISH SPRING CLEAN

The Waste Team at the District Council gave details, in an e-mail, of the Great British Spring Clean, which that Council was supporting, between 22 March and 23 April 2019. It was reported that Mr I Beale and Mr G Hayne would lead the exercise in Tokers Green and Kidmore End respectively. Mrs S Hall indicated that she and her family would clear litter in Chalkhouse Green Lane, Chalkhouse Green. Members hoped that a leader could be found for the exercise in Gallowstree Common.

10.15 PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS

In a letter, the Returning Officer of the District Council providing information about the timetable for and conduct of the elections for parish councillors to be held in 2019. Notice of election would be given no later than 26 March 2019, with the closing date for nominations on 3 April 2019. In the event of the election being contested, a poll would be held on 2 May 2019.

The Clerk indicated that he would be prepared to deliver candidates' nomination papers to the Returning Officer before the closing date.

10.16 SUE RYDER SOUTH OXFORDSHIRE PALLIATIVE CARE HUB

By letter, the Community Fundraising & Operations Officer of the Sue Ryder South Oxfordshire Palliative Care Hub requested the Council to consider making a financial contribution to the work of the organisation, which provided support to people dying from life-limiting conditions like cancer, heart failure and lung disease.

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

10.17 OXFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

The Council noted an update for members published by the Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils in January 2019.

10.18 KIDMORE END PLAY AREA – BOUNDARY FENCE

(cf 7.06(ii)/18) By e-mail, Mr E Madejski reported that the title deeds to his property did not show a fencing responsibility on the boundary between his land and the Kidmore End Play Area. Nevertheless, he had endeavoured to shore up the fence on that boundary as a neighbourly gesture. He had erected signs throughout his land stating "Private land. No public access or right of way".

10.19 CHILTERN AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY

(cf 8.05/18) The Council considered the draft of a letter, circulated in advance of the meeting, to John Howell MP, written on behalf of the Council and other parish councils seeking an extension of the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, requesting Mr Howell to pursue, with relevant Government departments, the sought-for boundary change.

RESOLVED: That the letter, as circulated, be endorsed.

10.20 NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN STEERING GROUP

The Chairman reported orally that the Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) Steering Group had met on 19 February 2019, when the main focus had been on the preparations for a public meeting later in the year.

10.21 PLAYING FIELDS COMMITTEE

The Chairman of Playing Fields Committee reported that the Committee had not met since the last meeting of the Council. That said, he expected the Committee to address the issue of the repair or rehanging of the gate on the vehicular access to the Recreation Ground. The Committee had also repaired the driveway and car park at the Ground.

10.22 RIGHTS OF WAY COMMITTEE

Reference was made to a number of vehicles becoming stuck in byway 26, ie Chalkhouse Green Lane, south of Chalkhouse Green Farm. The vehicles, which were attempting to use the lane contrary to the law, included an ambulance seeking to access the Abbey Rugby Football Club.

RESOLVED: That the County Council be requested to erect suitable signage at each end of byway 26.

10.23 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

RESOLVED: That the Annual Parish Meeting be held on 20 March 2019 at 7.30pm.

10.24 QUESTIONS TO CHAIRMAN

In answer to a question, the Chairman reported that she had been advised by the Vice-Chairman of criminal damage to garden fences adjoining footpath 10, Kidmore End, and to illicit entry into the gardens of properties on the west side of Chalkhouse Green Road, Kidmore End.

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