

KIDMORE END PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held at the Church Room, Kidmore End on Wednesday 15 May 2019 at 8.00pm and concluded at 9.25pm.

Present: Dr C D Aldridge, Ms S Biggs, I G C Pearson, T M Perchard, J A Swift QC, H Thresher.

Also present: P H Dragonetti (district councillor).

Apologies for absence were received from A B Gitsham, Mrs S G Hall, Ms A S O'Reilly.

The outgoing Chairman, Ms S Biggs, took the Chair.

1.01 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED: That Ms S Biggs be elected Chairman of the Council for the ensuing year.

(Ms Biggs thereupon signed a declaration of acceptance of office.)

1.02 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED: That Dr C D Aldridge be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Council for the ensuing year.

1.03 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 20 March 2019 and of the meeting of parish councillors held on 17 April 2019 were taken as read, confirmed and signed as correct records, subject to the amendment of Minute 12.17 to read "... an officer of the County Council had agreed to discuss undertaking remedial works ...".

RESOLVED: That the decisions recorded in Minutes 12.03(i), 12.07, 12.08(ii), 12.08(vii) and 12.11 of the April meeting be confirmed.

1.04 REPORT OF THE RETURNING OFFICER

The Returning Officer of the District Council had given notice that the following had been elected as parish councillors for the Parish of Kidmore End on 2 May 2019, without contest:

Dr C D Aldridge	Mrs S G Hall	Mr I G C Pearson	Mr J Swift
Ms S Biggs	Ms A S O'Reilly	Mr T M Perchard	Mr H Thresher
Mr A B Gitsham			

The Council noted that there was a vacancy to be filled, by co-option, before 24 June 2019.

RESOLVED: That, pursuant to Section 83(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, Mr A B Gitsham, Mrs S G Hall and Ms A S O'Reilly be permitted to make their declarations of acceptance of office at or before the next meeting.

1.05 REPORT OF DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

The Chairman welcomed Mr P H Dragonetti, who had been elected as the district councillor for the Kidmore End & Whitchurch ward on 2 May 2019, to the meeting. Mr Dragonetti reported that

- although elected as an independent, he had joined the Green Party Group on his Council;
- the Liberal Democrat and Green Party Groups had decided to act together to form an

administration on the District Council: the Liberal Democrat Group was the largest on the Council, with 12 members, but did not have overall control;

- his Council was contemplating a return to committee-style governance;
- his Council might well reconsider the draft Local Plan, following its examination by an inspector;
- his Council might have to give serious consideration to raising its share of the Council Tax, going forward.

1.06 APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS, SUB-COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES

RESOLVED: That the following appointments be made for the period to the Annual Meeting in 2019:

Allotments Manager	Mrs S G Hall
Deputy Allotments Manager	Dr C D Aldridge
Wells Manager	Mrs S G Hall
Finance Sub-Committee	Ms S Biggs, Mr I G C Pearson, Mr J A Swift
Plans Sub-Committee	Ms S Biggs, Mr A B Gitsham (<i>subject to his willingness so to serve and covering Gallowstree Common</i>), Mrs S G Hall, Mr T M Perchard (<i>covering also Cane End</i>)
Rights of Way Sub-Committee	Dr C D Aldridge, Mr T M Perchard
Transport Sub-Committee (and Transport Representatives)	Ms S Biggs, Mr J A Swift
Editorial Board of Newsletter	Dr C D Aldridge, Ms A S O'Reilly, Ms S Remenyi*, Mrs J Russell*
Representatives on Kidmore End Neighbourhood Development Plan Steering Group	Ms S Biggs, Mr I G C Pearson
Representative on Oxfordshire Association Local Councils	Ms A S O'Reilly
Representatives on Playing Fields Committee	Dr C D Aldridge, Mr I G C Pearson, Mr H Thresher
Representative on Sonning Common Neighbourhood Development Plan Working Group	Ms S Biggs
Website Liaison Councillor	Ms A S O'Reilly
BroadBand Champion	Mr H Thresher

* Not a member of the Council

1.07 VEHICLE SPEED REDUCTION MEASURES

(cf 12.03(i)/19) The Council further 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 reported that she continued to press County Council officers for information and advice, particularly as to what equipment was available and effective in reducing vehicle speeds.

Mr T M Perchard reported that a resident of Wood Lane, Gallowstree Common had volunteered to be trained in the use of the mobile equipment available from the Thames Valley Police.

RESOLVED: That consideration of the report of the Chairman be again deferred.

1.08 FINANCE

(i) Balances

The Clerk reported that balances at the bank totalled £34,819.72.

(ii) Accounts for payment

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

W J Hatt Ltd – Installing water supply pipe at Cane End allotments	£2,396.40
Ian Kendrick Ltd – Weed and worm inhibitor treatment, Gallowstree Common Recreation Ground	£1,172.70
NALC – Subscription to “Local Council Review”	£17.00
The Henley College – Printing Parish Newsletter	£45.00
R F Penfold – Salary net of Income Tax	£380.84
HM Revenue & Customs – Income tax deducted	£253.89
R F Penfold – Printing agenda etc	£4.10

1.09 FINANCE SUB-COMMITTEE

The Council received the minutes of the meeting of the Finance Sub-Committee held on 7 May 2019.

RESOLVED: 1 That the summary receipts and payments accounts for the year ended on 31 March 2019, as set out in Appendix 1 of the minutes of the Sub-Committee, be approved

2 That Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for the year ended 31 March 2019, as set out in Appendix 2 of the Minutes of the Sub-Committee, be approved and confirmed.

1.10 CONSULTATION ON PLANNING MATTERS

(i) Decisions

The Council noted that the applications for

demolition of existing single storey rear extension and replacement with a larger single storey extension in the same location at Rock Cottage, Chalkhouse Green Lane, Chalkhouse Green; detached carport with office/studio accommodation above at The Old Farmhouse, Cane End; single storey rear extension and enlargement of front porch at Hall House, Wood Lane, Gallowstree Common

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:

replacement of annex windows at The Coach House, Tokers Green Lane, Kidmore End; insertion of fully opening first floor window in the original side wall of Merville, Hazelmoor Lane, Gallowstree Common; amendment to permission P18/S3270/HH for 1.5m extension to front of garage at Acorns, Wood Lane, Gallowstree Common.

(iii) Applications

The Council considered applications referred to it since the last meeting.

RESOLVED: 1 That no objections be submitted on the application for single storey timber orangery to rear of Little House, Russell Road, Tokers Green for Mrs Houghton.

2 That the following comments be made on the application for new four bedroom dwelling at Oldfield House, Horsepond Road, Gallowstree Common for Mr J Langford: "Objection – the principles of refusal from 2017 remain, and the proposed building will overlook Mariners and Sundown".

(iv) Reading Golf Club

(cf 12.08(vi)/19) The Council noted a report prepared by the Chairman of the Reading Civic Society, for the Society, about the future of Reading Golf Club.

Members discussed a number of scenarios should the Club sell or vacate the course, and concluded that they would need to keep a watchful eye on developments.

1.11 THE REFORMATION PUBLIC HOUSE, GALLOWSTREE COMMON

(cf 11.04/19) By letter, the District Council's Head of Community Services advised that her Council had decided not to list the Reformation public house, Horsepond Road, Gallowstree Common as an asset of community value under the provisions of the Localism Act 2011. The Council's application was deemed not to contain "sufficient evidence of community and social value". However, the letter indicated that "if the parish council were to provide stronger evidence that the asset furthers social well being and/or cultural, recreational or sporting interest of the local community, then a new nomination could be considered".

Members expressed disappointment at the District Council's decision. Mr P H Dragonetti, the district councillor for the Kidmore End and Whitchurch, opined that his Council seemed to have raised the threshold for listing assets, and undertook to look further into the matter.

1.12 OXFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

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

1.13 NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN STEERING GROUP

The Chairman reported that the Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) Steering Group had met on 7 May 2019, and would meet again on 11 June 2019.

1.14 PLAYING FIELDS COMMITTEE

The Vice-Chairman reported that the Playing Fields Committee had met on 8 May 2019, when it had been noted that the cost of the remedial works to the football pitch at the Gallowstree Common Recreation Ground would be less than originally expected. It was also anticipated that the Committee's income would be bolstered by a junior football team training at the Recreation Ground. The representatives of the Cricket Club had thanked the Committee, and the Council, for their support of the "Around the Boundary" event.

Following the District Council elections on 2 May 2019, it was intended to resubmit the application for a grant, towards the cost of the remedial works to the football pitch, from the Ward Councillor's Community Projects Fund.

1.15 TRANSPORT SUB-COMMITTEE

Reference was made to the poor highway drainage at the junction to Chalkhouse Green Road and Chalkhouse Green Lane, Chalkhouse Green, as a result that there was often a significant puddle in the road in front of the former telephone kiosk and the post box at that location. Mr J A Swift agreed to report the highway defect to the County Council, via the "FixMyStreet" link on that Council's website.

1.16 DATES OF MEETINGS

RESOLVED: 1 That meetings of the Council be held on the following Wednesdays at 8pm:

19 June 2019	20 November 2019	19 February 2020
24 July 2019	11 December 2019	18 March 2020
18 September 2019	22 January 2020	22 April 2020
23 October 2019		

2 That the Annual Meeting of the Council be held on 20 May 2020 at 8pm.

1.17 MEETINGS, CONFERENCES ETC

The Chairman reported that she had met an officer of the County Council to discuss the condition of the footway in Horsepond Road, Gallowstree Common. The officer had acknowledged that the width of the path posed problems and that repairs could be undertaken to the surface of the path. However, he had intimated that the cost of the works would be prohibitive.

The Vice-Chairman reported on a meeting of the Editorial Board of the Parish Newsletter.

1.18 QUESTIONS TO CHAIRMAN

In answer to questions, the Chairman

- asked the Clerk formally to thank Mr I Beale and Mr G Hayne, and their voluntary helpers, on behalf of the Council, for arranging, and executing, the Spring Clean in the Parish;
- advised that she had yet to review any recommendations following the inspection of the play areas at Gallowstree Common and Kidmore End;
- noted that Thames Water would install the connection for the water supply to the Cane End allotments on 18 to 20 June 2019, and that traffic lights would be deployed on the A4074 road in Cane End for this purpose.