

## KIDMORE END PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held at the Church Room, Kidmore End on Wednesday 23 July 2008 at 8.10 pm and concluded at 9.50pm.

Present: A K Martin (Chairman), R S Young (Vice-Chairman), Mrs S M Biggs, Mrs S Hall, Dr J D M McNie, R G McQuillan, Mrs J E O'Sullivan, J A Swift.

Also present: Mrs C Y Viney (county councillor).

Apologies for absence were received from Prof T R Morris, Mrs M S Rowland, Mrs C Toms.

### 3.01 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 18 June 2008 were taken as read, confirmed and signed as a correct record, subject to the substitution of the word "was" for the word "Wws" in Minute 2.03.

### 3.02 REPORT OF COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Mrs C Y Viney, the county councillor for the Sonning Common division, reported that

- Mr J Howell, a county councillor, had been elected as Member of Parliament for Henley, in succession to Mr Boris Johnson, who had been elected as Mayor of London;
- her Council's Community Safety Committee had reviewed local measures for responding to a flu pandemic;
- the recommendations of her Council's Children's Scrutiny Committee about support for child carers had been adopted by the Council's Councils;
- the Government had supported the South East Plan proposals for development in the Oxford Green Belt, at Grenoble Road, and the number of housing units to be provided within Oxfordshire had been increased: this could lead to pressure for more housing on, say, the fringes of Sonning Common;
- her Council was still "out-of-pocket" in terms of funding from the Government towards local expenditure following the floods of July 2007.

Mrs Viney advised that she had raised the subject of transport to school for pupils of Kidmore End School and confirmed that her Council valued the comments of parish councils in response to consultation exercises.

### 3.03 REPORT OF AREA BEAT OFFICER

The Clerk reported statistics, produced by one of the volunteers at Sonning Common Police Station, relating to recorded crimes in the Parish. In the period 1 April to 30 June 2008, 4 crimes had been recorded – 1 autocrime, 1 theft and 2 other.

### 3.04 KIDMORE END CHURCHYARD

(cf 2.07/08) The Secretary of the Parochial Church Council, by letter, thanked the Council for its contribution towards the upkeep of the churchyard at St John the Baptist, Kidmore End.

### 3.05 THAMES VALLEY POLICE AUTHORITY

(cf 2.14/08) The Clerk advised that he understood that Mrs M S Rowland had been unable to attend the event, organised by the Thames Valley Police Authority, for representatives of town and parish councils.

### 3.06 RECREATION GROUND, GALLOWSTREE COMMON

(cf 2.16/08) It was reported that the letter from Mr & Mrs D Beddis of The Hamlet, Gallowstree Common, drawing attention to their concerns about aspects of use of the Recreation Ground, Gallowstree Common, had been discussed at the meeting of the Playing Fields Committee on 16 July 2008.

The representatives of the Cricket Club had reported to the Committee that they had met all the signatories to the letter and had sought to address the concerns that the residents had expressed. Younger members of the Club had been advised about their behaviour. The Club was seeking a solution to the issues about presenting refuse for collection.

The residents had voiced fears about increased use of the Recreation Ground when the new pavilion was in place: they had been re-assured that was unlikely to arise, given the constraints of the playing facilities. Residents had also mentioned anti-social use of the Ground at night. They had been encouraged to close the gates at the Recreation Ground at night, as this, it was thought, might act as deterrent to some potential nocturnal misusers of the facilities.

Members acknowledged the positive response of the Club to the concerns expressed.

### 3.07 HEATHROW AIRPORT

(cf 2.20/08) Members speculated on the impact on residents of the Parish of the possible expansion of Heathrow Airport. Mr J A Swift undertook to look into the matter and report to a future meeting.

### 3.08 POLICE NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION GROUP

(cf 2.20/08) The Chairman reported that he understood that the Chairman of Mapledurham Parish Council, Mrs J E Bowen, was a member of the Police Neighbourhood Action Group for southern South Oxfordshire, representing parish councils.

### 3.09 FINANCE

#### (i) Balances

The Clerk reported that balances at the bank totalled £17,377.73.

#### (ii) Accounts for payment

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

M O'Sullivan – Printing Pavilion appeal leaflets	£321.00
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#### (iii) Budget monitoring

The Council noted a report of the Clerk showing expenditure, up to 30 June 2008, against the approved budget for 2008/9. The report showed a predicted overspend at year end of £90.

#### (iv) Transfer of Funds

It was proposed that the fund held by the Council for the replacement of the Pavilion - £3006 – be transferred to the Kidmore End Playing Fields Committee, to be held in that body's account for the project.

RESOLVED: That the Pavilion replacement fund be transferred to the Kidmore End Playing Fields

Committee.

### 3.10 ACCOUNTS, 2008/9

The Council considered a report (08/9-3) of the Clerk, being the draft annual return for the year ended 31 March 2008.

RESOLVED: That the return for the year ended 31 March 2008 be approved.

### 3.11 CONSULTATION ON PLANNING MATTERS

#### (i) Decisions

The Council noted that the following applications had been permitted conditionally:

demolition of existing 3 bay garage to be replaced with a 2 bay garage and garden room at Butlers Farm House, Butlers Orchard, Kidmore End (and listed building consent);  
front porch extension and roof dormer to side elevation at West field, Tokers Green Lane, Tokers Green;

that a certificate of lawful use or development had been issued in respect of the use as a workshop and associated storage on land at Bugs Bottom, Gravel Hill, Emmer Green;

that the following applications had been withdrawn:

outline application to replace existing 1 bedroom detached cottage with 3 bedroom cottage at Pool Cottage, Cane End;  
detached oak framed garage at Glebe Cottage, Wood Lane, Kidmore End;

and that the application for erection of a single storey rear extension and raising the roof to create first floor accommodation with 2 dormer windows to the front elevation, erection of detached garage to rear at Bramble Cottage, Horsepond Road, 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:

proposed new balcony at Collegewood Farmhouse, Cane End;  
erection of single storey rear extensions and 3 front dormer windows at Sunnyside, Horsepond Road, Cane End.

#### (iii) Applications

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

RESOLVED: That no strong views be submitted on the applications for

demolition of garage and roof of dwelling, erection of first floor to form 2 storey dwelling, single storey side extension at Orchard Lea, Wood Lane, Kidmore End for Mr S Marshall;  
replacement of existing detached dwelling at Leawood, Tanners Lane, Chalkhouse Green for Mr R Border.

#### (iv) Open Space Sport and Recreation Study

(cf 2.08(iii)/08) At his request, it was

RESOLVED: That consideration of the report of the Vice-Chairman about the District Council's Open Space Sport and Recreation Study again be deferred to the next meeting.

(v) South East Plan

(cf 2.08(v)/08) By letter, the Acting Director for Environment & Economy of the County Council set out the concerns of officers of his Council on the impact of some of the options put forward by the South East England Regional Assembly for calculating the amount of land-won aggregates (sand, gravel and crushed rock) that each mineral planning authority was expected to provide. 2 of the options could lead to greater demands being placed on the County.

In view of her absence, it was

RESOLVED: That consideration of the report by Mrs M S Rowland on the consultation papers on the review of sub-regional allocation of primary land-won aggregates in the South East be deferred to the next meeting.

(vi) Planning appeals

(cf 1.13(iv)/08) A copy letter from the Planning Inspectorate indicated that the inspector, appointed by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, had dismissed the appeal against the refusal of planning permission for the construction of one pair of single storey semi-detached houses, and construction of new single garage to replace existing at Felix Lodge, Wood Lane, Kidmore End.

### 3.12 CHILTERN AONB MANAGEMENT PLAN 2008-2013

With a letter, the Chief Officer of the Chilterns Conservation Board enclosed a copy of the consultation draft of the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Management Plan 2008 – 2013. The plan provided the strategic context for the actions of all organisations and individuals whose activities influenced the AONB. Views on the draft plan were sought by 22 September 2008.

### 3.13 PROPERTY NAMING

By letter, the District Council's Head of Business & Information Systems advised that the property known as Oldfield, Horsepond Road, Gallowstree Common had been renamed Oldfield House.

### 3.14 KIDMORE END CEMETERY

(cf 1.09(ii)/08) The Head of Environmental Services of the District Council advised that her Council's Legal Team had provided further information concerning the access road and path to the Kidmore End Cemetery. That information confirmed that the access road – Coopers Pightle – had been constructed by the District Council's predecessor and that the District Council, recognised, therefore, that it was responsible for the maintenance of the road. However, the District Council would look to the occupiers of the houses which used the road for access for contributions towards the cost of the works.

The District Council did not, on the other hand, accept responsibility for the path to Cemetery from Tokers Green Lane, Kidmore End, which was not included on the definitive map of rights of way. Members suggested that the [Parish] Council should accept responsibility for the path, and a number volunteered to undertake works of maintenance later in the month.

RESOLVED: 1 That, pursuant to Section 50 of the Housing Act 1980, the Council henceforth maintain the footpath between the Kidmore End Cemetery and Tokers Green Lane, Kidmore End.

2 That the annual cutting back of vegetation from the path be included in the contract for mowing etc with effect from the financial year 2009/10.

### 3.15 OXFORDSHIRE HIGHWAYS ANNUAL REPORT

The Assistant Head of Transport of Oxfordshire Highways enclosed, with a letter, the first Annual Report of Oxfordshire Highways, the partnership between the County Council and its term contractor and consultant.

RESOLVED: That the Oxfordshire Highways Annual Report be referred to Mrs C Toms for consideration and report.

### 3.16 SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGIES

With a letter, the Chairman of the Oxfordshire Partnership enclosed a copy of "Oxfordshire 2030", the draft community strategy for Oxfordshire, together with a copy of the draft delivery plan. Comments were invited on the documents by 22 September 2008.

The Chairman of the South Oxfordshire Partnership, with a letter, enclosed a copy of the draft sustainable community strategy for South Oxfordshire, "Our Place, Our Future". He invited comments thereon by 22 September 2008.

RESOLVED: That "Oxfordshire 2030" and "Our Place, Our Future" be referred to Mr R G McQuillan for consideration and report.

### 3.17 OXFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND

A Fundraiser for the Oxfordshire Association for the Blind requested, in a letter, that the Council consider making a grant to the Association. The Council recalled that the budget for the financial year 2008/9 contained provision of £35 for a grant to the Association.

RESOLVED: That a grant of £35 be made to the Oxfordshire Association for the Blind in the financial year 2008/9.

### 3.18 OXFORDSHIRE BUSINESS ENTERPRISES

By letter, the Acting Manager of Oxfordshire Business Enterprises and Economic Development drew attention his organisation, which provided an independent support service to residents of the County, particularly aimed at anybody in the early stages of starting a business. It was suggested that the services available should be publicised in the Parish Newsletter.

### 3.19 DIAL-A-RIDE SERVICES

The County Council's Director for Environment & Economy, by letter, drew attention to his Council's review of the Octabus Dial-a-Ride Service, which his Council funded with 3 of the 5 district councils in the County. South Oxfordshire District Council was not a partner in Octabus, and the service was not available in that District. He sought views on the continued funding of the service, and its possible extension into South Oxfordshire.

Members observed that, given that the existing Octabus service was not available in South Oxfordshire, they had no comment on whether the service should be provided after 1 April 2009.

Members considered whether it should support the extension of Octabus into South Oxfordshire. They recognised that many residents saw Reading as their town of choice for shopping etc, and felt, therefore, that a Reading-based dial-a-ride service, eg Readibus, might have more relevance for residents of the Parish. They also noted the FISH volunteer service, which operated from Sonning Common, and which provided some services for the target group of potential passengers. Finally, Members recognised that they had no data about possible take-up of services.

RESOLVED: That the above comments be conveyed to the County Council

### 3.20 REMOVAL OF PAYPHONES

The Head of Planning of the District Council, with a letter, enclosed a list of payphones, in the District, which had been earmarked for removal by British Telecom. He invited comments on the proposals. None of the identified payphones were in the Parish.

### 3.21 HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY

The District Council's Head of Housing, in a letter, drew attention to his Council's Housing Needs Survey, a chance for residents of the District to advise his Council of their housing needs and aspirations. Questionnaires were being sent to 4,900 household during July 2008.

### 3.22 COUNTRYSIDE SERVICE

The Annual Report of the County Council's Countryside Service was referred to Mrs J O'Sullivan.

### 3.23 OXFORDSHIRE RURAL COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Issue 3 Oxfordshire Rural Community Council Review was referred to the Chairman.

### 3.24 ROAD SAFETY

Road Safety News 2008, from the County Council, was referred to Mrs C Toms.

### 3.25 PLAYING FIELDS COMMITTEE

The Chairman of the Playing Fields Committee reported that the Committee had met on 16 July 2008, when there had been present a full complement of members from the Cricket and Football Clubs. The Committee had observed that some of the children's play equipment at both the Gallowstree Common Recreation Ground and the Kidmore End Play Area was life expired, and the Committee was seeking prices for the possible replacement of some equipment in 2009/10. The Committee had also discussed the financing of proposed replacement Pavilion.

### 3.26 RIGHTS OF WAY COMMITTEE

The Clerk reported that complaints had been made about vegetation partially obstructing footpaths 8 and 10, which complaints he had passed on to the County Council. Comment was made that some vegetation had been cut back on footpath 8.

### 3.27 KIDMORE END SCHOOL

(cf 2.13/08) Mrs S M Biggs reported that she had discussed concerns about the speed of parental vehicles and parking in the vicinity of the School with the Headteacher of Kidmore End School.

### 3.28 MEETINGS, CONFERENCES ETC

Mrs S M Biggs reported on the training event she had attended, with the Chairman and Mrs S Hall, on planning, organised by the Chilterns Conservation Board.

### 3.29 QUESTIONS TO CHAIRMAN

In answer to a question, the Chairman indicated his understanding of the responsibilities of authorities and others for the mowing of highway verges.