

## KIDMORE END PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held at the Church Room, Kidmore End on Wednesday 20 April 2011 at 8.00pm and concluded at 10.00pm.

Present: A K Martin (Chairman), R S Young (Vice-Chairman), Mrs S Hall, Dr B J Knapp, Dr J D M McNie, R G McQuillan, T M Perchard, J A Swift QC.

Also present: PCSO M Bellamy (Thames Valley Police).

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs S M Biggs, Mrs J E O'Sullivan, N J M Topham, M H Leonard (district councillor), Mrs C Y Viney (county councillor).

### 11.01 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 23 March 2011 were taken as read, confirmed and signed as a correct record, subject to the correction of the figure "£25,899" in Minute 10.05(i).

### 11.02 REPORT OF DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

It was noted that Mr R A H Peasgood was not seeking re-election as a district councillor for the Shiplake ward.

RESOLVED: That Mr R A H Peasgood be thanked for his service to the Parish, as a district councillor, since 2007.

### 11.03 REPORT OF AREA BEAT OFFICER

PCSO M Bellamy of the Thames Valley Police reported that the zig-zag road markings, at the entrances to Kidmore End School, were not enforceable, as the County Council had not made, and did not presently intend to make, the necessary traffic orders for any sites in the County. PCSO Bellamy advised that he cycled around the Hamlet, Gallowstree Common and had reported the potholes he had noticed. He had also discussed flooding of the roads near Kidmore End pond with officers of the County Council.

A Member referred to the activities of people in vehicles at the end of the metalled highway in Chalkhouse Green Lane, Chalk house Green.

### 11.04 OPEN SESSION

During the open session, which was extended to 20 minutes with the consent of the Council:

- Mr A Aspden, Mr A P Bowley, Mr J M Ducker, Ms E M Miles and Ms H Steddon, all of The Hamlet, Gallowstree Common, asked questions about the Council's intentions regarding domestic gates on to the Recreation Ground at Gallowstree Common, whether fencing would be erected in connection with the project to replace the Pavilion, what exterior lighting was proposed for the Pavilion and the collection of litter and refuse from the Pavilion, which questions the Vice-Chairman endeavoured to answer;
- Mr C A N Rollin of Cane End expressed his opposition to the restoration to use of the allotments at Cane End and advised that his wife was collecting signatures on a petition against the re-opening of the facility;
- Mr D Thornton of Tokers Green Lane, Tokers Green enquired when the allotments at Cane End were to be sprayed: the Vice-Chairman advised that the work was to take place on 21 April 2011.

#### 11.05 RECREATION GROUND, GALLOWSTREE COMMON - PAVILION

(cf 10.05/11) The Council noted that, as at 19 April 2011, works on the project to replace the Pavilion at the Gallowstree Common Recreation Ground, since the last report, included floor screed, flat roof covering, external windows and doors, plastering, electrical installations, mechanical services installations, loft insulation and barriers, photo voltaic panels and wiring, soffit and wall cladding, wall and floor tiling and sanitary ware.

The Clerk reported receipt of a grant payment of £54,209 from the District Council and that he had made application to the England & Wales Cricket Board for the release of its promised grant.

The Council considered a report (10/11-8) of the Clerk appraising it of developments relating to the project to replace the Pavilion and seeking decisions in respect of those developments. Following full discussion of the report, Members favoured raising no objections to the gates installed by many residents of The Hamlet from their properties direct into the Recreation Ground

RESOLVED: 1 That the position regarding the electricity and water supplies to the Pavilion be noted.

2 That Thames Water Utilities Ltd be requested to review its decision requiring a new water supply to the Pavilion, separate from that serving nearby domestic properties.

3 That, if Thames Water Utilities Ltd stand by their decision, a wayleave be sought for a water supply pipe across land owned by the Phillimore Estate, for a fee of £250 and legal costs.

4 That Caversham Solicitors be instructed to act for the Council in respect of the above wayleave.

5 That no objection be raised to residents of properties on the north side of The Hamlet entering the Recreation Ground directly from their homes, on foot, in order to enjoy the facilities available to the public at the Recreation Ground, but that this does not represent permission for residents to service their properties via the Recreation Ground, and that the specific approval of the Council should be sought for such activities.

6 That the owners and occupiers of properties on the north side of The Hamlet be advised of the decision set out in resolution 5 above.

(The meeting was adjourned for 10 minutes to enable residents to comment on the above decisions.)

#### 11.06 ALLOTMENTS, CANE END

(cf 10.08/11) The Clerk reported an enquiry, on 26 March 2011, from a Mr D Thomas, who had been a potential purchaser of Ingle House, Park Lane, Cane End, as to whether the Council would sell the site of the allotments at Cane End to him. It was, however, understood that Mr Thomas was no longer interested in the property.

The Clerk also reported a telephone conversation, on 30 March 2011, with Mr C A N Rollin of Clervaux, Cane End, who had expressed surprise at the decision of the Council to re-open the allotments, a decision about which he had not been consulted. The Allotments Manager reported that she had subsequently met Mr & Mrs Rollin: she had been unable to contact them on 2 previous visits to their home. The Allotments Manager had apologised to Mr & Mrs Rollin that they had not previously been aware of the proposal. Members observed, however, that the proposal had been aired on a number of occasions in the Parish Newsletter, and on the Council's website.

It was reported that the allotments had been marked out – there were 10, each of 240m<sup>2</sup> and that the gate had been installed at the new entrance.

The Vice-Chairman advised that he had accepted a quotation in the sum of £150 for spraying out the plots, after which the site would be mown

Members observed that the tenants should be provided with some form of licence to occupy the plots prior to formal tenancies commencing at Michaelmas 2011.

RESOLVED: that the action of the Vice-Chairman be approved and confirmed.

#### 11.07 SUE RYDER – NETTLEBED HOSPICE

(cf 10.14/11) The Community Fundraiser of Sue Ryder- Nettlebed Hospice thanked the Council for its donation to the chair appeal.

#### 11.08 PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS

(cf 10.21/11) The Returning Officer of the District Council enclosed, with a letter, the statement of persons nominated for election as parish councillors on 5 May 2011. 9 persons, all existing councillors, had been nominated.

Noting that Dr J D M McNie was not standing for re-election, it was

RESOLVED: That Dr J D M McNie be thanked for his service to the community as a parish councillor since May 1999 and as member of the Editorial Board of the Parish Newsletter from May 1994.

#### 11.09 FINANCE

##### (i) Balances

The Clerk reported that balances at the bank totalled £103,924.22.

##### (ii) Accounts for payment

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

Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils – Membership subscription	£237.12
Oxfordshire Rural Community Council – Membership subscription	£30.00
Hale Building Contractors Ltd – Pavilion project: stage payments	£120,312.28
Acorn Services – Installation of gate, Cane End allotments	£650.00
Mapledurham Parish Council – Contribution towards costs of Rokeby Recreation Ground	£105.00
R F Penfold – Clerk's expenses 2010/11	£170.82

##### (iii) Budget monitoring

The Council noted a report of the Clerk showing expenditure, at year end, against the approved budget for 2010/11. The report showed an overspend of £872.

#### 11.10 NOTICE OF AUDIT

By letter, BDO Stoy Hayward LLP gave notice that they had appointed 8 July 2011 as the day when local government electors could question the external auditor on the Council's accounts for the year ended 31 March 2011. The Clerk advised that he intended to submit the annual accounts for 2010/11 to the Council at its next meeting, and then to ask the Council to make arrangements for the completion of the annual return.

## 11.11 CONSULTATION ON PLANNING MATTERS

### (i) Decisions

The Council noted that the application for

relocation of field gate access to existing paddock off Park Lane, Cane End;  
proposed rear single and second storey extension at Willow House, Kidmore End;  
proposed garage with private gym above at 7 Craysleaze, Kidmore End;  
single storey extension to link existing barn conversion to an existing detached store at Collegewood Barn, Cane End;

had been permitted conditionally, that the applications for extensions and alterations to eastern wing including removal of modern extensions with provision of new staff accommodation to replace existing at Cane End House, Cane End had been refused and that the application for 2 storey rear and single storey side extensions at Highland Wood House, Mill Lane, Kidmore End had been withdrawn.

### (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 single storey rear extension to replace existing at Kees, Chalkhouse Green Road, Kidmore End;  
erection of conservatory extension to rear of dwelling and widening kitchen door to enable wheelchair access at Butlers Farmhouse, Butlers Orchard, Kidmore End (and listed building application);  
internal and external works of alterations and improvement at Butlers Farmhouse, Butlers Orchard, Kidmore End;  
replacement of dwelling and garage at Leawood, Tanners Lane, Chalkhouse Green (amendment to application P10/E1847);  
demolition of existing 2 storey extension and erection of modern 2 storey extension to rear of house at Hillside, Horsepond Road, Gallowstree Common;  
erection of replacement conservatory together with single storey link to games room, first floor bathroom/bedroom extension plus dormer extension to existing bedroom at Prospect House, Tanners Lane, Chalkhouse Green;  
first floor extension with new roof dormer windows at Owls Farthing, Tanners Lane, Chalkhouse Green;  
extension to planning permission P08/E0019 (replacement double garage and accommodation over) at Old Vicarage, Wood Lane, Kidmore End.

### (ii) Chilterns Conservation Board

With a letter, the Planning Officer of the Chilterns Conservation Board enclosed copies of 2 documents – the Chilterns Buildings Design Guide and “The Making of the Chilterns Landscape”, a popular version of the Chilterns’ historic landscape characterisation project.

The Board’s Planning Officer had also forwarded, by e-mail, a draft of Board’s position statement on development affecting the setting of the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, upon which the Board was consulting until 13 May 2011. Copies had been supplied to each Member. Members commented that they had been encouraged by the content.

RESOLVED: That the Chilterns Buildings Design Guide and “The Making of the Chilterns Landscape” be referred to the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Dr B J Knapp for consideration and report.

(iii) District Council's Procedures

In a letter, the District Council's Head of Planning reported that his Council's planning service had been merged with that of the Vale of White Horse District Council, with most of the [combined] staff being based at Crowmarsh. He advised that the planning application consultation timescale for neighbours and parish councils had brought into line, at 21 days. Hard copy decision notices would no longer be supplied to parish councils: they would be sent electronically, or could be downloaded from the District Council's website. Training in planning would be made available to parish councillors later in 2011.

11.12 NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

The Council noted a letter from the County Officer of the Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils with which she enclosed copies of publications from the National Association of Local Councils, for example "The Good Councillor's Guide".

11.13 JOHN HOWELL MP

The Council noted a newsletter from John Howell, the Member of Parliament for the Henley constituency, about key issues from Westminster and in his constituency in March 2011.

11.14 HIGHWAYS STEWARDS

By letter, the County Council's Area Steward Manager mentioned unspecified changes to the local highways representatives in each area steward's team. Details would be passed on by highway representatives in due course.

11.15 PLAYING FIELDS COMMITTEE

It was noted that the Playing Fields Committee had not met since that the last meeting of the Council. The Chairman of the Committee indicated that the Committee would give further consideration, at its next meeting, to lettings, both occasional and regular, of the Pavilion.

The Clerk advised that GrantScape Services Ltd had confirmed that the application, to the Oxfordshire Stronger Communities Fund, for funding for play space equipment for the Kidmore End and Gallowstree Common play areas had been unsuccessful. There had been a total of 145 applications, seeking 9 times more money than was available.

11.16 AFFORDABLE HOUSING SUB-COMMITTEE

Members commented favourably on the coverage in the Parish Newsletter and on the website, about the possible use of a site in Horsepond Road, Gallowstree Common as a rural exception site for affordable housing.

RESOLVED: 1 That the proposed public meeting on the proposal be held on 7 July 2011.

2 That consideration of the chairing of the public meeting be deferred.

11.17 RIGHTS OF WAY COMMITTEE

It was reported that installation of kissing gates on footpath 11 had been completed.

11.18 TRANSPORT SUB-COMMITTEE

It was reported that the vehicle activated speed indicator device in Horsepond Road, Gallowstree Common was not functioning properly.

Members noted the erection of 40mph speed limit signs on the A4074 road through Cane End, and that there had been another fatal accident on that road, in Greendene Bottom.

RESOLVED: That the County Council be requested to repair the vehicle activated speed indicator device in Horsepond Road, Gallowstree Common

#### 11.19 QUESTIONS TO CHAIRMAN

In answer to questions, the Chairman

- a understood that the County Council intended to replace the coronation tree on land adjacent to the Palm Tree restaurant, Cane End;
- b observed that there was no indication that the glebe land, off Wood Lane, Kidmore End, was being used as a market garden any more.