

## KIDMORE END PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held at the Church Room, Kidmore End on Wednesday 21 November 2012 at 8.00pm and concluded at 9.20pm.

Present: Ms S M Biggs (Chairman), Ms C D Aldridge, Mrs S Hall, Dr B J Knapp, I G C Pearson (from Minute 6.07 ), T M Perchard, J A Swift QC, H Thresher (from Minute 6.07), Mrs J M Williams.

Also present: R Simister (district councillor).

Apologies for absence were received from R G McQuillan, Mrs J E O'Sullivan, Mrs C Y Viney (county councillor).

### 6.01 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 24 October 2012 were taken as read, confirmed and signed as a correct record, subject to the substitution of the word "before" for the word "being" in the final line of Minute 5.04, and the correction to the spelling of the following words:

- "District" in the first line of Minute 5.13;
- "separately" in the resolution to Minute 5.18;
- "PROJECTS" in the heading of Minute 5.25.

### 6.02 REPORT OF COUNTY COUNCILLOR

In presenting her apologies for absence, Mrs C Y Viney, the county councillor for the Sonning Common division, submitted a report covering the final meeting of the former Thames Valley Police Authority, the election of the first Police & Crime Commissioner for the Thames Valley and the change of status of Chiltern Edge School to a foundation school.

### 6.03 REPORT OF DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Mr R Simister, a district councillor for the Shiplake ward, reported that

- his Council's internal audit team was offering its services to town and parish councils;
- his Council had recovered further funds from Icelandic banks;
- the number of arrests in the District, arising from CCTV surveillance, was increasing;
- his Council and the Vale of White Horse District Councils were 2 of the best performing authorities at rates of recycling by residents;
- the Core Strategy of his Council's Local Development Framework would be formally adopted before the end of 2012, and that land needed to be identified to sustain 5 years' worth of house building.

### 6.04 REPORT OF AREA BEAT OFFICER

The Chairman had circulated a report by PCSO C Boyes of the Thames Valley Police. She had asked him to visit the Kidmore End School again, regarding parking issues.

### 6.05 OPEN SESSION

During the open session

- Mrs A D Thiam of The Hamlet, Gallowstree Common asked about the planning application for affordable housing at Gallowstree Common and was advised that an amended application had been submitted, reflecting the outcome of the traffic survey on Horsepond Road;

- Mrs Thiam also asked whether enforcement action was being taken in respect of the wall at Cottage, Reades Lane, Gallowstree Common;
- Mr B Warren of Highdown Hill Road, Emmer Green asked about possible development of land off Highdown Avenue, Emmer, which, he said, was a private road: he was advised of the approaches to the Council by Mr D Heron of Vortal Properties on behalf of Mr L Lee.

#### 6.06 MEMBERSHIP OF THE COUNCIL

(cf 4.05/12) The Clerk had circulated details of 2 persons who had indicated an interest in serving as parish councillors, viz:

Mr I G C Pearson of Chalkhouse Green Road, Kidmore End, and  
Mr H Thresher of Rokeby Drive, Tokers Green.

Both were present at the meeting.

RESOLVED: That Mr I G C Person and Mr H Thresher be co-opted, pursuant to Section 89 of the Local Government Act 1972, to fill the vacancies for the office of parish councillor caused by the resignation of Mr R S Young and Mr R C Gutteridge ceasing to be a councillor.

(Mr Pearson and Mr Thresher thereupon signed declarations of acceptance of office, and participated in the remainder of the meeting.)

#### 6.07 LAND AT GRAVEL HILL/HIGHDOWN AVENUE, EMMER GREEN – POSSIBLE DEVELOPMENT

(cf 5.05/12) The Clerk reminded Members that he had circulated, in written form, the address made by Mr D Heron of Vortal Properties Ltd to the Council, at its last meeting. concerning the possible development of land at Gravel Hill and Highdown Avenue, Emmer Green.

The Chairman made the following proposal, seconded by Mr J A Swift:

“Following discussion with the Clerk, I would like to propose that

“In light of the Council's decision regarding a neighbourhood plan and the approval of the Core Strategy of the Local Development Framework, the Council considers it inappropriate to engage any further with Vortal Properties Ltd or Mr L Lee over the possible development of land at Gravel Hill/Highdown Avenue, Emmer Green, unless and until a planning application for the development is submitted to the local planning authority, South Oxfordshire District Council.

“The Council strongly refutes the suggestion by Mr Heron that it has failed to follow appropriate procedure, or has not exercised its duty of care to the residents of the Parish, in respect of the proposed affordable housing at Gallowstree Committee. It calls upon Vortal to withdraw their objection to that application”.

The motion was put to the vote and declared carried, unanimously.

RESOLVED: 1 That, in light of the Council's decision regarding a neighbourhood plan and the approval of the Core Strategy of the Local Development Framework, the Council considers it inappropriate to engage any further with Vortal Properties Ltd or Mr L Lee over the possible development of land at Gravel Hill/Highdown Avenue, Emmer Green, unless and until a planning application for the development is submitted to the local planning authority, South Oxfordshire District Council.

2 That the Council strongly refutes the suggestion by Mr Heron that it has failed to follow appropriate procedure, or has not exercised its duty of care to residents of the Parish, in respect of the proposed affordable housing at Gallowstree Common and it calls upon Vortal to withdraw their objection to that planning application.

## 6.08 WEBSITE

(cf 5.10/12) It was reported that the webmaster had expressed disquiet about the ability of YorHost adequately to host the Council website. Recognising these concerns, the Website Liaison Councillor had made arrangements for the Council's website to migrate to his Company's hosting arrangements, if that became necessary.

The Council thanked Dr B J Knapp for making these arrangements and thanked the webmaster for the continued excellence of the website.

## 6.09 PLAY AREAS

(cf 5.18/12) In a letter, Ian Kendrick Ltd provided a revised quotation, in the sum of £675 + VAT, to undertake routine maintenance of the play equipment areas at the Gallowstree Common Recreation Ground and the Kidmore End Play Area, eg repair of gravel boards, cut the hedge at the side of the play area at Gallowstree Common and cut the identified scrub at the Kidmore End play area..

Later in the meeting, the Chairman advised that she was confident that the application for a grant from the District Council's Community Investment Fund, for the renovation of the Kidmore End Play Area, would be successful.

RESOLVED: That, notwithstanding Financial Regulation 11.1(h), the revised quotation from Ian Kendrick Ltd for works at the Gallowstree Common Recreation Ground and the Kidmore End Play Area be accepted.

## 6.10 FUTURE PROJECTS

(cf 5.25/12) It was

RESOLVED: That consideration of the identification of future projects be deferred to the next meeting, when the Council will consider its budget for 2013/14.

## 6.11 FINANCE

### (i) Balances

The Clerk reported that balances at the bank totalled £19,565.95

### (ii) Accounts for payment

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

South & Vale Carers Centre – Grant	£40.00
Thames Water Utilities – Water for allotments	£77.11
Ian Kendrick Ltd – Mowing	£1,722.00
Public Works Loan Board – Loan repayment	£7,649.88

## 6.12 CONSULTATION ON PLANNING MATTERS

### (i) Decisions

The Council noted that the applications for

erection of new double carport at Cherry Trees, Tokers Green Lane, Tokers Green;

proposed single storey side extension, extension of existing porch roof and porch walls rebuilt at St Fillans, Tokers Green Lane, Kidmore End;  
conversion of existing attached garage into study/playroom with additional bedroom/ensuite above, new detached triple garage and extension of bay window to south west of dwelling at Kidmore Farm, Tanners Lane, Chalkhouse Green

had been permitted conditionally and that the application for formation of 2 additional holes for Reading Golf Club use on land between Tanners Lane and Kidmore End Road, Chalkhouse Green, 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:

amendment to permission P11/E2351 to include a single storey garden room to rear of chalet style bungalow at Hazelmoor Lane Farm, Hazelmoor Lane, Kidmore End;  
extension of time for implementation of permission P09/E1330 – erection of 2 storey side extension at The Old Orchard, Wood Lane, Kidmore End;  
erection of 3 industrial units with associated external works at 28 Kennylands Road, Sonning Common (Parish of Sonning Common);  
barn to store hay and tractor at Collegewood Farm House, Cane End.

(iii) South Oxfordshire Local Development Framework

(cf 4.13(vii)/12) By letter, the District Council's Head of Planning advised that his Council had received the inspector's report on the Core Strategy of its Local Development Framework. The inspector had found the strategy sound, subject to a number of modifications which had been the subject of previous consultation. As a result, the Council was expected formally to adopt the Strategy before the end of 2012, at which time it would become part of the development plan.

(iv) Reading Borough Council's Local Development Framework

In letters, the Head of Planning and Building Control of Reading Borough Council advised that her Council had adopted its Sites and Detailed Policies Document and Proposal Maps on 23 October 2012, and that it was consulting on draft Employment, Skills and Training Supplementary Planning Document and Affordable Housing Supplementary Planning Document. Comments were invited by 21 December 2012.

(v) Lovegroves Barn, Wyfold Road, Gallowstree Common - Hedge

The Head of Planning Services of the District Council reported, in a letter, that he was investigating a complaint, under Part 8 of the Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003, by the owner/occupier of Common Farm, Wyfold Road, Gallowstree Common about a high hedge at Lovegroves Barn, Wyfold Road, Gallowstree Common.

#### 6.13 HENLEY & DISTRICT CITIZENS' ADVICE BUREAU

The Manager of the Henley & District Citizens' Advice Bureau, in a letter, requested the Council to consider making a grant to the Bureau. The Council noted that the budget for 2012/13 contained provision for a grant of £90.

RESOLVED: That a grant of £90 be made to the Henley & District Citizens Advice Bureau in the financial year 2012/13.

#### 6.14 SCHOOL ADMISSIONS

The County Council's Director for Children, Young People and Families enclosed, with a letter, a poster about the closing date – 15 January 2013 – for on-line applications for school places in September 2013 for children born between 1 September 2008 and 31 August 2009.

RESOLVED: That information about the closing date for applications be published in the Parish Newsletter.

#### 6.15 JOHN HOWELL MP

The Council noted a newsletter from John Howell MP, the Member of Parliament for the Henley constituency, about key issues from Westminster and in his constituency in November 2012.

#### 6.16 BROADBAND

In an e-mail, the County Council's Broadband Team urged the Council to nominate one person to receive updates and/or to be broadband champion for the local area. The Team was also seeking views from residents about current broadband services and future needs.

RESOLVED: That Mr H Thresher be appointed Broadband Champion for the period to the annual meeting in May 2013.

#### 6.17 ELECTORAL REVIEW

(cf 4.09/12) A Review Officer of the Local Government Boundary Commission for England advised, in a letter, that the Commission had published its draft recommendations for the future electoral arrangements for the District Council, and invited comments thereon by 7 January 2013. In relation to the Parish, the Commission proposed to recommend that it be grouped with Goring Heath, Mapledurham and Whitchurch-on-Thames to form a single member ward.

RESOLVED: That no objection be raised to the grouping of the Parish with Goring Heath, Mapledurham and Whitchurch-on-Thames to form a single member ward of the District Council.

#### 6.18 OXFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

The Council noted an update for members published by the Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils in November 2012, commenting particularly on the paragraphs about setting precepts, PAYE and funding opportunities.

#### 6.19 PLAYING FIELDS COMMITTEE

It was reported that the Playing Fields Committee had met on 14 November 2012.

#### 6.20 TRANSPORT SUB-COMMITTEE

The Council considered a report (12/13 - 5) of the Transport Sub-Committee, concerning possible routes for the Henley Triathlon in 2013.

The Chairman reported orally that officers of the County Council were arranging to remove silt from Kidmore End pond, by means of pumping, before Christmas 2012. The Chairman hoped that good notice would be given of the operation, given that it would have an affect on traffic passing through the village.

RESOLVED: That the County Council be advised that, if the Henley Triathlon is to proceed in 2013, the Council has a preference for route option 2 and that, were route option 3 to be selected, the

Council would wish to discuss with the County Council and Just Racing the precise configuration of the route and road closures in Horsepond Road, Gallowstree Common.

#### 6.21 MEETINGS, CONFERENCES ETC

Mrs S Hall reported orally on the Winter General Meeting of the Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils on 19 November 2012, at which advice had been given about the expectations of local councils' insurers, as to inspections etc.

The Chairman reported orally on the District Council's Town and Parish Forum, which she had attended that evening.

#### 6.22 QUESTIONS TO CHAIRMAN

In answer to questions, the Chairman

- a proposed that the Council consider at its next meeting whether the frequency of publication of the Parish Newsletter should be changed to 3 times per annum;
- b advised that she and Ms C D Aldridge were consulting about coppicing the willows at Kidmore End pond and that there was the prospect of sale of the cut stems;
- c noted that the seat at Kidmore End pond required repair and that Acorn Services might be a suitable contractor to undertake the work.