

KIDMORE END PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held at the Church Room, Kidmore End on Wednesday 19 June 2013 at 8.00pm and concluded at 10.00pm.

Present: R G McQuillan (Vice-Chairman, in the Chair), Ms C D Aldridge, I G C Pearson, T M Perchard, J A Swift QC, Mrs J M Williams.

Apologies for absence were received from Ms S M Biggs, Mrs J E O'Sullivan, H Thresher, R Simister (district councillor).

2.01 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 29 May 2013 were taken as read, confirmed and signed as a correct record.

2.02 REPORT OF COUNTY COUNCILLOR

The Council noted a written report by Mr K Bulmer, the county councillor for the Goring division, which covered

- the formation of a new [political] administration at the County Council;
- Operation Bullfinch;
- the contract to provide Oxfordshire's Broadband network;
- consultation on the Local Transport Plan 3;
- his Council's Older People's Strategy.

In presenting her apologies for absence, the Chairman of the Council had drawn attention to the funding opportunities mentioned in the report, particularly the Area Stewardship funding for highways' issues and the Chillout Fund to support projects for children and young people.

2.03 REPORT OF AREA BEAT OFFICER

The Clerk had circulated a report by PCSO C Boyes of the Thames Valley Police for May 2013, covering parking in the vicinity of Kidmore End School, door-to-door salesmen and the Vulnerable Person List.

The Council received a newsletter, for June 2013, from the Police's Henley Sector Neighbourhood Team. While this focussed on issues in the town of Henley, it contained details of "Have your say" meetings across the sector.

Members commented that they were aware of incidents which did not seem to figure in either report.

2.04 OPEN SESSION

During the open session, Mr L Lee of Highdown Avenue, Emmer Green, asked the following questions, in relation to the possible development of his land at Gravel Hill/Highdown Avenue, Emmer Green:

"Does KEPC consider my site to be a part of the neighbourhood of Emmer Green, or Kidmore End?"; and

"Having been advised by KEPC to follow the formal planning process for development of my site, can KEPC please now confirm representative(s) attendance at the pre-planning application meeting with SODC?"

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

(cf 1.06/13) The Council considered the questions posed by Mr L Lee, during the Open Session (see Minute 2.04 above). Mr J A Swift and Mrs J M Williams suggested answers to the 2 questions, respectively, which Members endorsed.

With the consent of the Council, the Chairman re-opened the Open Session to allow Mr Lee to address the Council on the responses to his questions.

The Clerk reported receipt, too late to be considered at the meeting, of a letter from the Emmer Green Residents' Association about the possible development of the land.

RESOLVED: That the following answers be given to the questions posed by Mr L Lee:

First question - "Your land is in the Parish of Kidmore End. Under the legislation, in a parished area, it is for the parish council to decide whether to seek designation of a neighbourhood area. Kidmore End Parish Council is not presently intending to seek such designation for land in the Parish, for the purposes of developing a neighbourhood plan, except some land adjoining Sonning Common, in response to an approach from Sonning Common Parish Council".

Second question - "You are entitled to invite the Council to attend a pre application meeting with South Oxfordshire District Council, but not to demand that the Council attends. The Council is entitled to attend such a meeting but is not obliged to do so. Once you take this first formal step in the planning process and arrange the meeting, the Council will formally confirm its attendance, in consultation with the District Council. Any such attendance would be as an observer and any actions taken subsequently in relation to the pre-application meeting would be as consultees of the District Council, not you. At the present time, the Council is minded to attend such a meeting. This does not mean that the Council is supportive or otherwise of any application which you may ultimately make".

2.06 COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

(cf 1.08/13) With an e-mail, the Clerk to Sonning Common Parish Council enclosed a copy of a draft letter to the District Council, suggesting some adjustments to the boundary of his Council's area, in response to the District Council's Community Governance Review. 2 of the possible boundary changes were germane to the Parish – in the vicinity of Chiltern Edge School and at the junction of Kennylands Road and Peppard Road. The Clerk to Sonning Common Parish Council invited comments on the possible changes.

Members felt that the possible boundary adjustment at the junction of Kennylands Road and Peppard Road would not affect the Parish.

As to the possible adjustment in the vicinity of Chiltern Edge School, after careful thought and a full discussion, Members concluded that they would probably not object to an adjustment, if proposed, which would transfer the area identified in the Sonning Common Neighbourhood Plan. Members were, however, opposed to the transfer of the "whole school site", given the extent of playing fields on the west side of Reades Lane, towards Gallowstree Common.

RESOLVED: That the above views be conveyed to Sonning Common Parish Council

2.07 KIDMORE END PLAY AREA

(cf 1.16/13) Ms C D Aldridge advised that the contractors had commenced work to re-equip the Kidmore End Play Area on 17 June 2013. The Chairman of the Council was making arrangements for the sign, required as a condition of the LEADER grant, to be displayed at the site. Ms Aldridge indicated that the Chairman continued to research funding opportunities, with a view to covering the ongoing

maintenance costs of the play equipment.

It was pointed that the specification, in the present contract, for mowing at the Play Area, would be insufficient to meet the requirements for the re-equipped facility.

RESOLVED: That the Chairman of the Council and Ms C D Aldridge devise a revised specification for the mowing of the Kidmore End Play Area, to be submitted to the next meeting for approval, and that they be authorised to negotiate a price for the revised works with the existing contractor, again for approval at the next meeting.

2.08 MOWING CONTRACT

Arising from discussion about the Kidmore End Play Area (see Minute 2.07 above), it was noted that the specified supervisor of the mowing contract was no longer a Member of the Council and that the contract for general mowing ought to be relet, following a tendering process, for the 2014 season.

RESOLVED: That Ms C D Aldridge be appointed supervisor of the mowing contract.

2.09 FINANCE

(i) Balances

The Clerk reported that balances at the bank totalled £26,381.49.

(ii) Internal audit

The Responsible Financial Officer reported that the internal auditor had completed his exercise in order to complete Section 4 of the Annual Return for 2012/13, and had no points to draw to the attention of the Council.

2.09 CONSULTATION ON PLANNING MATTERS

(i) Decisions

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

erection of single storey 3 bay garage at Cane End House, Cane End;
installation of 2 dormer windows to replace 4 velux rooflights, and resiting of manage at Kidmore Farm, Tanners Lane, Chalkhouse Green;
single storey front extension at Arnen, Coopers Pightle, Kidmore End;
construction of single storey infill extension with flat roof and parapet over, construction of georgian portico and door to front entrance and installation of juliette balcony to french doors over, installation of new window in north west elevation and replacement of some doors and windows at Cold Norton, Wood Lane, Kidmore End;
proposed single storey rear extension and single storey rear and side extension at Old Pastures, Tokers Green Lane, Kidmore End.

(ii) Action of Plans Sub-Committee

RESOLVED: 1 That the action of the Plans Sub-Committee in respect of the following application, as set out in the register of action, be approved:

erection of one detached infill bungalow incorporating existing detached double garage on land between College Wood Farmhouse and Collegewood Barn, Cane End.

2 That the action of the Plans Sub-Committee in respect of the application for erection of advertising

hoarding and boards at Recreation Ground, Gallowstree Common, be not endorsed, that the comments made by the Sub-Committee be withdrawn, and that the following comments be submitted on that application: "Refuse – unless the display of advertisements is restricted to the period 1 April to 30 September each year".

(iii) Applications

The Council considered an application referred to it since the last meeting.

RESOLVED: That no strong views be submitted on the application for extension of time for implementation of planning permission P10/E0568/EX (2 storey extensions to side elevation) at Field Close, Wood Lane, Kidmore End for Mr D Mellor.

(iv) Sonning Common Neighbourhood Plan

(cf 1.14(v)/13) Mr L Rawlins, a Member of Sonning Common Parish Council, sent an e-mail to the Chairman of the Council about the site identified as SON4 for the purposes of the proposed Sonning Common Neighbourhood Plan - 4 fields to the east of Kidmore Lane, adjacent to the Parish boundary, which site was within the Parish. Copies of the e-mail had been circulated to all Members.

Following discussion of the e-mail, Members remained unclear as to why SON4 should be included in designated neighbourhood plan area. While not wishing to impede the progress of the Neighbourhood Plan, Members wished to understand the rationale for the inclusion of the site.

RESOLVED : That Sonning Common Parish Council or its Neighbourhood Plan Group be asked to be represented at the next meeting, with a view to explaining why site SON 4 should be included in the designated area for the Sonning Common neighbourhood Plan.

2.10 OXFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

The Council noted an update for members published by the Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils in May 2013.

2.11 ALLOTMENTS, GALLOWSTREE COMMON

By letter, Mr I Kendrick of Ian Kendrick Ltd gave a quotation for replacing the hanging and closing posts for the field gate at the entrance to the Gallowstree Common allotments in Hazelmoor Lane, in the sum of £375. Members noted that, under the Council's Financial Regulations, a second quotation ought to be obtained.

RESOLVED: That consideration of the quotation of Ian Kendrick Ltd be deferred pending obtaining further quotations for the work, from Acorn Services and other potential contractors.

2.12 MEMBERSHIP OF COUNCIL

(cf 11.07/13) Ms K Foxton of Tokers Green Lane, Tokers Green, in an e-mail, expressed an interest in serving as a member of the Council. Members recalled that there was a vacancy for councillor, as a result of the resignation of Dr B J Knapp, earlier in 2013.

RESOLVED: That consideration of interest of Ms K Foxton be deferred, and that she be invited to attend the next meeting, to address the Council.

2.13 BUS SERVICES

In an e-mail, an Assistant Public Transport Officer of the County Council advised that some journeys on service 142, which linked Woodcote and Whitchurch with Pangbourne and Reading, would be

routed via the A4074 road at Cane End whilst the Whitchurch Bridge was closed for major works between September/October 2013 and April 2014. 2 journeys from Reading and one into Reading would be affected, but Members felt that the benefit for residents of the Parish would be negligible.

2.14 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 June 2013.

In another e-mail, Ms A Paterson of Mr Howell's office gave notice of the Humanitarian Citizen Award 2013 organised by the British Red Cross.

2.15 TOWN AND PARISH FORUM

(cf 10.18/13) The Leader of the District Council confirmed, by letter, that her Council's next town and parish forum would be held on 6 November 2013.

2.16 PLAYING FIELDS COMMITTEE

The Chairman advised that the Playing Fields Committee had not met since the last meeting of the Council.

2.17 TRANSPORT SUB-COMMITTEE

Members observed that some potholes had been repaired.

2.18 PARISH NEWSLETTER

The Chairman advised that Mrs J Ronaldson had decided to retire from the delivery of the Parish Newsletter in Tokers Green. Mrs Ronaldson had delivered the publication in that village since the first edition.

RESOLVED: That Mrs J Ronaldson be thanked for her service to the community in delivering the Parish Newsletter in Tokers Green since the first edition.

2.19 QUESTIONS TO CHAIRMAN

In answer to a question, the Chairman requested the Clerk to alert the District Council to the damaged street nameplate for Coopers Pightle, in Kidmore End.

2.20 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That the public be excluded from the meeting, pursuant to Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, during consideration of the following item, on the grounds that exempt information, under the paragraphs of Schedule 12A of the Act shown below, would be discussed:

Item	Paragraph
Recreation Ground, Gallowstree Common – Water Supply	3

2.21 RECREATION GROUND, GALLOWSTREE COMMON – WATER SUPPLY

(cf 1.17/13) The Council considered further correspondence from Messrs Savills, acting for the Phillimore Estates, and from Caversham Solicitors Ltd, acting on behalf of the Council, about the proposed revision to the easement for the water supply pipe to the Recreation Ground, Gallowstree

Common. The Council acquiesced to the proposed revised route for the supply pipe through land to be sold by the Estate to Soha Housing Ltd.