

## KIDMORE END PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held at the Church Room, Kidmore End on Wednesday 18 December 2013 at 8.05pm and concluded at 9.20pm.

Present: Ms S M Biggs (Chairman), Ms C D Aldridge, Mrs S Hall, Mrs J E O'Sullivan, I G C Pearson, T M Perchard, H Thresher.

Also present: R Simister (district councillor).

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs S J Hunter, J A Swift QC, Mrs J M Williams, K Bulmer (county councillor).

### 7.01 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 20 November 2013 were taken as read, confirmed and signed as a correct record, subject to renumbering after Minute 6.07.

### 7.02 REPORT OF COUNTY COUNCILLOR

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

- his Council's approach to the Secretary of State for Communities & Local Government requesting him to mitigate the impact of further cuts in services when considering the local government finance settlement for 2014/15;
- the consultation concerning his Council's proposed changes to home to school transport;
- progress on the "Thriving Families" project, designed to help the most troubled families "turn their lives round";
- National Adoption Week;
- local funding opportunities.

The Chairman reported that Mr Bulmer had indicated that he was prepared to disburse £4,500 from budgets at his disposal, towards the replacement of play equipment at the Gallowstree Common Recreation Ground.

### 7.03 REPORT OF DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Mr R Simister, a district councillor for the Shiplake ward, reported that the statutory instrument concerning the revised electoral arrangements for his Council had been laid before Parliament.

### 7.04 REPORT OF AREA BEAT OFFICER

The Clerk had circulated a report by PCSO C Boyes of the Thames Valley Police for November 2013, covering a theft from a motor vehicle in Tokers Green Lane and the sighting of a suspicious vehicle in that road. PCSO Boyes also referred to letters from parents to the headteacher of Kidmore End School, regarding parking outside the school. He was minded to call a meeting to discuss options to assuage the concerns expressed.

### 7.05 OPEN SESSION

During the open session, Ms A D Thiam of The Hamlet, Gallowstree Common, wished the Council a merry Christmas.

#### 7.06 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

In light of the resignation of Mr R G McQuillan (see Minute 7.11), the Council considered the appointment of Vice-Chairman. There being no nomination, it was

RESOLVED: That consideration of the appointment of Vice-Chairman for the period to the Annual Meeting in 2014 be deferred to the next meeting.

#### 7.07 KIDMORE END PLAY AREA

(cf 6.06/13) The Clerk reported that the grant promised from the LEADER fund, towards the refurbishment of the Kidmore End Play Area, - £2274.81 - had been approved for payment.

The Chairman advised that Wicksteed Leisure Ltd had arranged to return to the site, to complete outstanding works, in January 2014.

#### 7.08 RECREATION GROUND, GALLOWSTREE COMMON

(i) Water supply

(cf 6.07(i)/13) Caversham Solicitors Ltd enclosed, with a letter, the deed of easement for the water supply pipe for the Recreation Ground at Gallowstree Common, together with copies of the Land Registry entries in the Charges' Register.

(ii) Cricket sight screens

(cf 6.07(ii)/13) Members reported that the cricket sight screens had been moved to another position in the Gallowstree Common Recreation Ground. By letter dated 15 December 2013, Mr & Mrs J Maclean of Duart Cottage, The Hamlet, Gallowstree Common, thanked the Council for its help in securing the removal of the screens from immediately behind their property.

(iii) Play equipment

(cf 6.07(iii)/13) Quotations were received for the repair of the play equipment at the Gallowstree Common Recreation Ground, in response to the report by Play Safety Ltd, and following discussion with Members of the Council: the quotations did not appear to be to an identical specification. The quotations were:

Ian Kendrick Ltd - £1210 + VAT  
SAS Landscaping - £910.

RESOLVED: That the Chairman and Mrs J E O'Sullivan review the quotations received, and that they be authorised to award the contract for the work, on behalf of the Council.

#### 7.09 HIGHWAY MATTERS

(i) Winter Plan

(cf 6.08(i)/13) The Chairman reported that the additional salt bins had been delivered and sited. The second bin at Kidmore End pond remained in situ. The additional bags of salt/grit had been delivered to the 2 public houses.

(ii) Horsepond Road, Gallowstree Common - Vehicle Activated Speed Indicator Sign

(cf 6.24/13) It was noted that the vehicle activated speed indicator sign in Horsepond Road,

Gallowstree Common had been repaired, and was functioning correctly.

#### 7.10 KIDMORE END POND

(cf 6.09/13) The Chairman reported that she remained in contact with appropriate officers of the County Council about the clearance of silt from Kidmore End pond and the cleaning of the highway gullies discharging into the pond.

#### 7.11 MEMBERSHIP OF THE COUNCIL

(cf 6.10/13) The Clerk advised that Mr R G McQuillan had, by letter dated 25 November 2013, resigned as a Member of the Council. He had given notice of the vacancy for the office of parish so caused.

RESOLVED: That the Council record in its minutes its thanks to Mr R G McQuillan for his service to the community as a Member of the Council since May 2001, and its Vice-Chairman since June 2012, and as a member of the Playing Fields Committee since May 2001, its Vice-Chairman from July 2001 to July 2012 and its Chairman since then.

#### 7.12 APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS, SUB-COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES

In light of the resignation of Mr R G McQuillan, it was

RESOLVED: That Mr T M Perchard and Mr H Thresher be appointed as a member of the Rights of Way Sub-committee and a representative on the Playing Fields Committee, respectively, for the period to the Annual Meeting in May 2014.

#### 7.13 OXFORDSHIRE SOUTH & VALE CITIZENS' ADVICE BUREAU

(cf 6.12(ii)/13) The Director of Oxfordshire South & Vale Citizens' Advice Bureau, by letter, thanked the Council for its grant.

#### 7.14 CLUB SC

(cf 6.12(ii)/13) In a letter, Mrs C Viney, the Chairman of the Club SC's Management Committee, thanked the Council for its grant to the Club.

#### 7.15 OXFORDSHIRE CLINICAL COMMISSIONING GROUP

The Communication and Engagement Co-Ordinator of the Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group, by e-mail, advised that the final element of the Group's consultation on its Strategic Direction 2013-2016 would be a public meeting in Oxford on 7 January 2014.

#### 7.16 FINANCE - BALANCES

The Clerk reported that balances at the bank totalled £11,994.52.

#### 7.17 ESTIMATES, 2013/14

The Council considered a report (13/14 - 3) of the Responsible Financial Officer, being draft estimates for the financial year 2014/15. The Responsible Financial Officer answered questions about the draft estimates.

RESOLVED: 1 That the base estimates for 2014/15 be adopted

2 That budgetary provision be made for the following :

Installation of water supply at Cane End allotments	£2,500
Replacement of play equipment at Gallowstree Common Recreation Ground	£4,940

3 That a precept be issued for the sum of £34,450 in 2014/15.

4 That the base estimates and additional provision in resolution 2 above be confirmed as the Council's budget for 2014/15 for the purposes of Financial Regulation 3.2.

#### 7.18 CONSULTATION ON PLANNING MATTERS

##### (i) Decisions

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

erection of garden room to replace shed at Strathfillan, Kidmore End;  
ground and first floor side and rear extension to form dining room and granny annex at Astwell, Butlers Orchard, Kidmore End;  
erection of part single storey, part 2 –storey extension and first floor extension at Glebe Cottage, Wood Lane, Kidmore End.

##### (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:

demolition of existing dwelling and erection of replacement 2-storey 4-bed dwelling incorporating integral double garage at Haytor, Chlakhouse Green Road, Kidmore End;  
erection of a front porch, single storey rear extension and first floor side dormer at Mieders, Wood Lane, Kidmore End;  
replacement of windows at The Coach House, Tokers Green Lane, Kidmore End.

##### (iii) South Oxfordshire Local Plan

(cf 6.14(iv)/13) In a letter, the District Council's Head of Planning addressed the question as to whether his Council had a local plan, in terms recognised by the National Planning Policy Framework.

The Head of Planning acknowledged that some planning authorities had had difficulties with their core strategies/local plans because they did not reflect up-to-date evidence of housing need. He pointed out that his Council had an adopted Core Strategy (originally for its Local Development Framework). The housing requirement in the Strategy was based on the now revoked Regional Spatial Strategy, the most up-to-date evidence available at the time. The Strategic Housing Market Assessment, presently being undertaken by the Oxfordshire authorities, would provide further evidence, and might lead to a review of the Core Strategy.

##### (iv) Sonning Common Neighbourhood Plan

(cf 6.14(v)/13) The Clerk reported that Mr G Riggott, a resident of Reades Lane, Sonning Common (and of the Parish of Sonning Common) had made an objection to Sonning Common Parish Council about the inclusion of the site of Chiltern Edge School in the designated area of the Sonning Common Neighbourhood Plan and had complained to that Council about the process of consultation regarding the School site.

#### 7.19 OXFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

The Council noted an update for members published by the Oxfordshire Association of Local

Councils in November 2013.

#### 7.20 STREET LIGHTING

In an e-mail, the Street Lighting Maintenance Contract/Administration Manager of the County Council indicated that her Council's records showed that there was a policy in the Parish not to have street lights, and enquired whether this was still the case.

Members acknowledged that there was presently no street or footway lighting in the Parish, and that there had been no such facility since April 1977, when suburban parts of the then Parish had been transferred into Berkshire and Reading. However, Members were not aware that the Council had a policy, as suggested in the e-mail, not to have street lights.

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

#### 7.21 HOUSENAMING

By letter, the District Council's Head of HR, IT & Customer Services advised that the property known as Beautieport, Reades Lane, Gallowstree Common had been renamed Magnolia Cottage.

#### 7.22 OXFORDSHIRE EUROPEAN STRUCTURAL INVESTMENT FUND STRATEGY

The Economic Development Strategy Officer of Oxfordshire County Council advised, by e-mail, that the Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership was consulting on its European Structural Investment Strategy, for use of the c £17.2m European funds awarded to Oxfordshire for the period 2014-2020. The consultation was to close on 7 January 2014.

#### 7.23 PLAYING FIELDS COMMITTEE

It was noted that the Playing Fields Committee had not met since the last meeting of the Council.

#### 7.24 RIGHTS OF WAY COMMITTEE

Reference was made to the field on the west side of Hazelmoor Lane, Gallowstree Common, just to the north of Coldnorton Shaw, in which field some residents had habitually walked their dogs. The owners had fenced the field, there being no rights of way recorded in the field. It was noted that, if they believed a right of way had been established, the residents concerned would need to make a claim to that effect, supported by witness statements.

#### 7.25 MOWING CONTRACT

The Council considered a report (13/14 – 4) of the Clerk, to enable the Council to take steps to relet the contract for general mowing within the Parish.

RESOLVED: That the specification for the mowing contract circulated with the report be adopted and that Ian Kendrick Ltd, Portman Garden Services and SAS Landscapes be invited to provide quotations for the contract.

#### 7.26 BROADBAND

Mr H Thresher reported on progress with the delivery of faster Broadband to the Parish.