

## KIDMORE END PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held at the Church Room, Kidmore End on Wednesday 21 May 2014 at 8.00pm and concluded at 9.35pm.

Present: Ms C D Aldridge, Ms S M Biggs, Mrs S Hall, Mrs S J Hunter, Mrs J E O'Sullivan, I G C Pearson, T M Perchard, J A Swift QC.

Also present: R Simister (district councillor).

Apologies for absence were received from H Thresher, Mrs J M Williams, K Bulmer (county councillor).

The outgoing Chairman, Ms S M Biggs, took the Chair.

### 1.01 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED: That Ms S M Biggs be elected Chairman of the Council for the ensuing year.

(Ms Biggs thereupon signed a declaration of acceptance of office.)

### 1.02 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED: That Ms C D Aldridge be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Council for the ensuing year.

### 1.03 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 23 April 2014 were taken as read, confirmed and signed as a correct record.

### 1.04 REPORT OF DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Mr R Simister, a district councillor for the Shiplake ward, reported on further discussions with officers of his Council concerning the path from Tokers Green Lane to the cemetery at Kidmore End. It seemed that Brakspears (the former brewers) might have an interest in the land traversed by the path, and officers of his Council had contacted the Company about this. The officers were also obtaining quotations for the repair of the path's surface, and might well approach the Parish Council, seeking a contribution towards the cost of the works, given that the District Council's officers were of the view that responsibility for the path did not fall on their Council.

### 1.05 RECREATION GROUND, GALLOWSTREE COMMON - PLAY EQUIPMENT

(cf 11/07/14) It was reported that Playsafety Ltd had submitted a report, following an inspection of the play equipment at the Gallowstree Common Recreation Ground. The Vice-Chairman and Mrs J E O'Sullivan had gone through the report, on site.

Of the low score recommendations raised, the Vice-Chairman and Mrs O'Sullivan felt that they could be monitored on a monthly basis, which Mrs O'Sullivan would undertake. Some might need action to secure a long term remedy at a later date, when more funds become available.

The Vice-Chairman and Mrs O'Sullivan recommended that works were undertaken to address some of the medium scored issues, as follows:

- the centre play piece needed the pole removed and the whole length of plank replaced securely;

- the screws supporting the upper balustrade needed removing and replacing with countersunk screws;
- the top plank on the little slide needed replacing;
- the small swings needed the bolts tightening.

Provision would be sought in the budget for 2015/16 for topping up the bark in the equipment pits, while the mowing contractor would be requested to weed the pits and trim the hedge. Signs, as recommended in the report, were being produced and Wicksteed Leisure Ltd had been requested to repair one item of the new equipment.

RESOLVED: 1 That authority be given for the works identified above to be executed.

2 That Mrs J E O'Sullivan seek quotations for the works in accordance with the Council's Financial Regulations, and that she be authorised to award the contract of the works, subject to prior circulation to all Members of the quotations received.

#### 1.06 RIGHTS OF WAY MANAGEMENT PLAN

(cf 11.08/14) Mrs J E O'Sullivan advised that she had submitted comments, electronically, on the County Council's draft Rights of Way Management Plan, on behalf of the Rights of Way Committee and the Council.

#### 1.07 TELEPHONE KIOSKS

(cf 11.11/14) The Council considered the future use and management of the former telephone kiosks, observing that suggestions for use had been sought via the website. It was noted that the hedge adjacent to the Kidmore End kiosk had been cut back.

RESOLVED: That Mrs S Hall be appointed as Member responsible for the former telephone kiosks.

#### 1.08 TOKERS GREEN POND

(cf 11.12/14) In e-mails, Mr F Mesbah and Mr D Saunders of Tokers Green Lane, Tokers Green reported that contractors employed by the County Council had siphoned water and silt from the Tokers Green pond on 7 May 2014. The sludge removed from the pond had been discharged onto land owned by Mr N Ronaldson of Dysons Wood Farm, Tokers Green. Mr Saunders had subsequently enquired whether the Council would meet the cost of water to refill the pond. Members felt that it would be better for the pond to refill "naturally", from highway run-off, after rainfall.

RESOLVED: 1 That Mr D Saunders be advised that the Council would be reluctant to pay for water from Thames Water Utilities Ltd to refill the Tokers Green pond.

2 That Mr N Ronaldson be thanked for his assistance with the clearance of silt from Tokers Green pond.

#### 1.09 KIDMORE END POND

(CF 11.23/14) Members noted the clearance of silt etc from Kidmore End pond. The removed material had been deposited on land forming part of Vines Farm.

RESOLVED: That Mr & Mrs A Adams be thanked for their assistance with the clearance of silt from Kidmore End pond.

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

RESOLVED: That the following appointments be made for the period to the Annual Meeting in

2015:

Allotments Manager	Mrs S G Hall
Wells Manager	Mrs J E O'Sullivan
Finance Sub-Committee	Ms S M Biggs, Mr I G C Pearson, Mr J A Swift
Plans Sub-Committee	Ms S M Biggs, Mrs S G Hall, Mrs J E O'Sullivan, Mr T M Perchard, Mrs J M Williams ( <i>covering Cane End</i> )
Rights of Way Sub-Committee	Mrs S J Hunter, Mrs J E O'Sullivan, Mr T M Perchard
Transport Sub-Committee (and Transport Representatives)	Ms S M Biggs, Mr J A Swift
Editorial Board of Newsletter	Dr B J Knapp*, Mr A Miros*, Mrs J Russell*, Mrs J M Williams
Representatives on Playing Fields Committee	Mrs J E O'Sullivan, Mr I G C Pearson, Mr H Thresher
Representative on Chiltern Edge Community Association	Mr H Thresher
Representative on Oxfordshire Association Local Councils	Mrs S G Hall
Observers to Sonning Common Neighbour hood Development Plan Working Group	Mr I G C Pearson, Mrs J M Williams
Website Liaison Councillor	Mrs J E O'Sullivan
BroadBand Champion	Mr H Thresher

\* Not a member of the Council

#### 1.11 FINANCE

##### (i) Balances

The Clerk reported that balances at the bank totalled £27,071.54.

##### (ii) Accounts for payment

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

SAS Landscaping – Repairs to play equipment, Gallowstree Common Recreation Ground	£1,092.00
Broker Network Ltd – Insurance premium	£2,412.55
Public Works Loan Board – Loan repayment	£7,450.62
Play Safety Ltd – Inspection of play equipment, Gallowstree Common Recreation Ground	£92.40

#### 1.12 FINANCE SUB-COMMITTEE

The Council received the minutes of the meeting of the Finance Sub-Committee held on 8 May 2014.

The Responsible Financial Officer pointed out the discrepancy in the figures in boxes 7 and 8 in Section of 1 of the Annual Return, caused by roundings in calculations. Members acknowledged the discrepancy, but felt that there was no alternative presentation which was arithmetically correct.

RESOLVED: 1 That the summary receipts and payments accounts for the year ended on 31

March 2014, as set out in Appendix 1 of the report of the Finance Sub-Committee, be received, subject to the insertion of the correct maximum figure at note 7.

2 That sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2014, as set out in Appendix 2 of the report of the Finance Sub-Committee, be approved and confirmed.

#### 1.13 CONSULTATION ON PLANNING MATTERS

(i) Decisions

The Council noted that the applications for

demolition of existing garage and erection of single storey extension to south elevation, consisting of garden room and garage at Glen Cottage, Chalkhouse Green Road, Kidmore End;  
infill extension between house and games room to create small boot/coats room at Collegewood Farmhouse, Cane End

had been permitted conditionally.

(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:

replacement of existing summer house in rear garden at Hilbre, Chalkhouse Green Road, Kidmore End;  
rear single storey and 2 storey extensions together with loft conversion at 24 Kennylands Road, Sonning Common (Parish of Sonning Common);  
repairs and replacement of windows at Old Well Cottage, Kidmore Lane, Kidmore End.

(iii) Possible unauthorised development

(cf 11.16(iii)/14) By letter, the Senior Enforcement Officer (Planning) of the District Council advised that he had visited Sundown, Horsepond Road, Gallowstree Common and had decided that the bakery business there did not constitute a breach of planning control, because the operation was small scale and that there were no outward signs of the activity taking place.

(iv) Nakhon Thai Restaurant, Cane End – Enforcement action

(cf 11.16(iv)/14) It was noted that the additional porch at the Nakhon Thai Restaurant, Cane End, had been removed.

(v) Sonning Common Neighbourhood Plan

(cf 11.16(iv)/14) In presenting her apologies for absence, Mrs J M Williams had advised that a meeting about site SON15A in the draft Sonning Common Neighbourhood Plan (Chiltern Edge School) had been arranged on 7 June 2014. Residents of Kidmore Lane would be invited to the meeting, the purpose of which was to update affected parties as to the current position regarding the site and to seek views and concerns. Mr I G C Pearson indicated that he would attend the meeting.

(vi) Chilterns Conservation Board

The Planning Officer of the Chilterns Conservation Board, by e-mail, advised of training arranged for parish councillors by the Board. He sought, by questionnaire, information about possible changes to the state of the environment monitoring indicators relating to the Chilterns AONB Management Plan 2014-19. The Chairman advised that she had completed and returned the questionnaire.

(vii) Culham Science Centre supplementary planning document

By e-mail, the Head of the District Council's Planning Services advised that his Council was consulting on the Culham Science Centre supplementary planning document, linked to the South Oxfordshire Core Strategy. Comments were invited until 14 July 2014.

1.14 HIGHWAY HEDGES

The Clerk reported receipt of an e-mail from Mr R Butters [address unknown] concerning the overgrown condition of hedges in Tokers Green Lane and other roads in the Parish, which hedges had become a hazard for pedestrians and cyclists. The Clerk had suggested that Mr Butters report the hedges in question to the County Council, as highways' authority.

1.15 COMMUNITY INFORMATION NETWORK

The Chairman reported on a meeting she had attended, organised by Oxfordshire Age (UK), concerning the development the Community Information Network. She had met a person prepared to act as the co-ordinator for a local network. That person was intending to circulate a questionnaire.

1.16 PLAYING FIELDS COMMITTEE

The Vice-Chairman of the Playing Fields Committee advised that the Committee had met on 12 March 2014, when it had

- discussed the proposed service level agreement, primarily about use of the Diamond Jubilee Pavilion, with the Cricket and Football Clubs;
- noted the imminent erection of signs at the Gallowstree Common Recreation Ground requesting that dogs be kept on leads;
- addressed a cleaning problem at the Pavilion;
- discussed the possible solution of difficulties with the operation of the heating and hot water systems in the Pavilion;
- agreed a revised formula for the sharing of mowing costs in respect of the playing pitches at the Recreation Ground.

1.17 AFFORDABLE HOUSING SUB-COMMITTEE

It was reported that work on the affordable housing in Horsepond Road, Gallowstree Common was due to start in June 2014, with completion in February 2015.

1.18 TRANSPORT SUB-COMMITTEE

The Chairman advised that the Transport Sub-Committee would explore again the possibility of the introduction of speed limits below 30mph in the vicinity of schools.

1.19 DATES OF MEETINGS

RESOLVED: 1 That meetings of the Council be held on the following Wednesdays at 8pm:

18 June 2014	19 November 2014	18 February 2015
23 July 2014	17 December 2014	18 March 2015
17 September 2014	21 January 2015	22 April 2015
22 October 2014		

2 That the Annual Meeting of the Council be held on 20 May 2015 at 8pm.

#### 1.20 MEETINGS, CONFERENCES ETC

The Vice-Chairman reported on the Sonning Common Annual Parish Meeting, at which the main issue had been a possible third vehicular crossing of the River Thames in the vicinity of Reading. The meeting had been addressed by Cllr T Page of Reading Borough Council, an advocate of a third crossing. Opinion at the meeting had been divided on the issue, although there had a clear message from those present that their county and district councillors should represent the views and aspirations of their constituents.

#### 1.21 QUESTIONS TO CHAIRMAN

The Chairman asked the Clerk to answer a question concerning the powers of local authorities regarding rats. The Clerk explained that, under the public health legislation, district councils could serve notice on the owners or occupiers of land to tackle rat infestations. Those councils had no responsibility themselves to provide pest control services.