

KIDMORE END PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held at the Church Room, Kidmore End on Wednesday 18 June 2014 at 8.00pm and concluded at 9.15pm.

Present: Ms S M Biggs (Chairman), Ms C D Aldridge (Vice-Chairman), Mrs S Hall, Mrs S J Hunter, I G C Pearson, T M Perchard, J A Swift QC, H Thresher.

Also present: R Simister (district councillor).

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs J E O'Sullivan, Mrs J M Williams.

2.01 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 21 May 2014 were taken as read, confirmed and signed as a correct record, subject to the substitution, in Minute 1.10, of "Observers to Sonning Common Neighbourhood Development Plan Working Group" for "Representatives on Sonning ..."

2.02 REPORT OF COUNTY COUNCILLOR

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

- the Connecting Oxfordshire meetings, concerning the next iteration of the Local Transport Plan;
- a grant of £459,000 from the Government to his Council, for the expansion and development of adult social care;
- local projects in his division;
- the "Thriving Families" scheme, which had "turned round" the lives more than 400 families in the County;
- Armed Forces Day.

2.03 OPEN SESSION

During the Open Session,

- Mrs J Duckworth of Wood Lane, Kidmore End, an allotment holder, asked the Council to apply to Thames Water Utilities Ltd for a water supply to the Cane End allotments; and
- Mr L Fairlea of Kidmore End reported that the M2 bus service had not run in Kidmore End on the previous Saturday, Tuesday and Wednesday, a matter he had reported to the County Council.

2.04 BUS SERVICE

(cf 10.04/14) In the light of the observations made in Minute 2.03 above, it was

RESOLVED: That the recent non-operation of the service M2 be drawn to the attention of the County Council.

2.05 REPORT OF DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

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

- on the transport needs' meetings being organised by the County Council;
- that 35,000 persons had voted in the European Parliament election in the District;

- that his Council was progressing its “Fit for the Future” programme, which had already led to savings of £9m since 2008;
- that the Strategic Housing Market Assessment had estimated that an extra 5,000 housing units would be required in the District, and that one of the possible options to address such demand was a new town near Thames.

Mr Simister advised that he had no further information regarding the cemetery path in Kidmore End.

2.06 RECREATION GROUND, GALLOWSTREE COMMON - PLAY EQUIPMENT

(cf 1.05/14) The Chairman reported that Wicksteed Leisure Ltd had yet to undertake the requested remedial works to the play equipment at the Gallowstree Common Recreation Ground. In presenting her apologies for absence, Mrs J E O’Sullivan had indicated that she was seeking quotations for the requisite works to the older equipment at the Recreation Ground.

2.07 TELEPHONE KIOSKS

(cf 1.07/14) Mrs G Malaperiman of Kidmore End had suggested, in an e-mail, that a defibrillator could be installed in the former telephone kiosks, and noted such structures being used as “book exchanges” in other parts of the country.

2.08 AFFORDABLE HOUSING, GALLOWSTREE COMMON

(cf 1.16/14) It was noted that work had yet to start on the affordable housing in Horsepond Road, Gallowstree Common.

2.09 FINANCE

(i) Balances

The Clerk reported that balances at the bank totalled £16,026.97.

(ii) Accounts for payment

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

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| Kidmore End Parish Room – Hire of accommodation for meetings | £192.00 |
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2.10 CONSULTATION ON PLANNING MATTERS

(i) Decisions

The Council noted that the applications for

demolition of bungalow and erection of 2-storey 5-bedroom replacement at Beechwood, Tokers Green Lane, Tokers Green;
 2 storey rear extension and roof conversion raising the ridge and single storey side extension over garage at Wyebury, Rokeby Drive, Tokers Green;
 2 storey side extension and single storey rear extension at Redholme, Tanners Lane, Chalkhouse Green;
 new detached 2-bay garage with loft store/studio at Field View Barn, Tanners Lane, Chalkhouse Green;
 replacement of existing summer house in rear garden at Hilbre, Chalkhouse Green Road, Kidmore End

rear single storey and 2-storey extensions together with a loft conversion at 24 Kennylands Road, Sonning Common (Parish of Sonning Common);

had been permitted conditionally.

(ii) Applications

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

RESOLVED: That no strong views be submitted on the application for demolition of existing side garage and workshop and erection of 2-storey side and rear extension at Scarletts, Tokers Green Lane, Tokers Green for Mr & Mrs M Knowles.

(iii) Sonning Common Neighbourhood Plan

(cf 1.13(v)/14) The Sonning Common Parish Neighbourhood Plan Working Party had, via the Clerk to Sonning Common Parish Council, requested comments on a draft proposal for the Chiltern Edge School site – site SON15A as identified in the draft Neighbourhood Plan. Copies of the draft proposal had been circulated to each Member.

The Chairman had circulated a note from Mrs J M Williams concerning the meeting of the Working Party she had attended with Mr I G C Pearson, earlier in the month. The feedback on the consultation meeting about site SON 15A had been good. The Working Party had sought the comments of the Council on the scoping report for the Neighbourhood Plan. In addition, the Working Party wished to make a presentation to the Council to explain progress with the Plan and to invite questions from Members of Council and other attendees of the meeting.

In the circumstances, Members felt it inappropriate to comment on the draft proposals for site SON15A, pending the presentation.

RESOLVED: 1 That the Sonning Common Neighbourhood Development Plan Working Party be invited to be represented at the next meeting, to explain progress with the Plan.

2 That consideration of the draft proposals for site SON15A in the Neighbourhood Development Plan be deferred pending the presentation on behalf of the Working Party.

(iv) South Oxfordshire Local Plan 2031

By letter, the District Council's Head of Planning advised that his Council has launched a consultation exercise in connection with its Local Plan 2031, and enclosed a copy of the issues and scope report. His Council had started the process of preparing a new plan because of the demand for housing estimated in the Strategic Housing Market Assessment. Leaflets about the consultation had been circulated to each Member. Comments were sought, by 23 July 2014, on what the plan should contain and on some options for where the additional homes, jobs and infrastructure could go.

RESOLVED: That the Plans Sub-Committee be authorised to respond, on behalf of the Council, to the consultation on the South Oxfordshire Local Plan 2031.

2.11 COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

(cf 11.13/14) The Clerk reminded the Council that it had previously decided to make representations jointly with Sonning Common Parish Council, to the District Council; concerning the proposed adjustment to the parish boundary in the vicinity of Chiltern Edge School. Around the time of the last meeting, it was noted that Sonning Common Parish Council had already submitted comments to the District Council about the proposed change to the boundary. That Council had stated

“We understand that Kidmore End Parish Council has expressed a wish that the change should leave the western part of the school grounds in that parish by making the change coincident with the boundary of the AONBThis we fully support”.

As a result, the Chairman had decided, as a matter of urgency, that the Council should itself make representations to the District Council about the proposed boundary change, in accordance with its decision in March 2014, pointing out that both councils had previously indicated their support for the transfer of part of the school from Kidmore End to Sonning Common, agreeing that most casual observers would see the school buildings as being in the Sonning Common community. However, neither council supported the District Council’s proposal, for the transfer of the whole, present, school site, including the playing fields to the west of the original school premises.

In addition, it was observed that the Council, like Sonning Common Parish Council, had resolved to point out the inconsistency between the present proposal and previously imposed boundaries, first for the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and then by the District Council with regard to the Neighbourhood Plan. The Council urged the District Council to adopt one or other of these pre-existing boundaries as the boundary between the parishes, arising from the Community Governance Review.

The Chief Executive of the District Council had acknowledged the Council’s representations, and indicated that his Council would take a final decision on the matter at its meeting on 17 July 2014.

The Council noted copies of letters from Mrs J Williams and from Mr G Martin of Tokers Green Lane, Kidmore End, to the District Council, in support of the limited boundary adjustment sought by the Council.

RESOLVED: That the action of the Chairman be approved and confirmed.

2.12 OXFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

The Council noted an update for members published by the Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils in May 2014.

2.13 NON-EMERGENCY PATIENT TRAVEL

The NHS Central Southern Commissioning Support Unit, in an e-mail, gave details of a consultation exercise on the eligibility criteria for non-emergency patient transport services in Oxfordshire.

RESOLVED: That the Chairman and Mrs J E O’Sullivan be authorised to respond to the consultation on the eligibility criteria for non-emergency patient transport services, on behalf of the Council

2.14 CANE END ALLOTMENTS – WATER SUPPLY

The Clerk reported on an exchange of e-mails between Ms M Toomey, an allotment holder at Cane End, and the Senior Project Manager for Developer Services of Thames Water Utilities Ltd, about the provision of a water supply to those allotments. This correspondence had revealed that

- there was a water supply pipe on the east side of Park Lane, to which a connection could be made;
- given its narrow width, it would probably be necessary to close the road to lay in a supply: a road closure was likely to cost £2,500;
- a quotation could be sought from the Company as to the cost of laying in a supply.

Members noted that the budget for 2014/15 contained provision of £2,500 for such a project.

RESOLVED: That a quotation be sought from Thames Water Utilities Ltd for the provision of a water supply to the allotments at Cane End.

2.15 TANNERS LANE, CHALKHOUSE GREEN

By e-mail, an officer from Environment & Economy at the County Council gave notice of the temporary closure, under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, of Tanners Lane, Chalkhouse Green on 30 June 2014, for up to 3 days, to enable BT to undertake overhead cabling work.

2.16 RURAL HOUSING POLICY

The Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils circulated, by e-mail, a questionnaire for the Rural Housing Policy Review Group, for parish councils, concerning the delivery of rural affordable housing.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk complete the questionnaire for the Rural Housing Policy Review Group.

2.17 THAMES VALLEY POLICE

A communication officer of the Thames Valley Police enclosed, with a letter, material about the Open Day at the Police Training Centre, Sulhamstead on 2 August 2014.

2.18 PLAYING FIELDS COMMITTEE

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

2.19 RIGHTS OF WAY COMMITTEE

The Council noted an invitation to be represented at the Chilterns Access Conference at Lane End on 19 June 2014.

Reference was made to the condition of the extension of footpath 13, in the Parish of Sonning Common.

2.20 TRANSPORT SUB-COMMITTEE

Details of the "Connecting Oxfordshire" events, organised by the County Council in connection with the drafting of the next Local Transport Plan, had been provided to members of the Transport Sub-Committee. Sessions were arranged at Didcot on 15 July and Henley on 16 July 2014.