

KIDMORE END PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held at the Church Room, Kidmore End on Wednesday 20 May 2015 at 8.00pm and concluded at 9.05pm.

Present: Dr C D Aldridge, Mrs S Hall (from Minute 1.02), Mrs S Hunter (from Minute 1.02), Mrs J E O'Sullivan, 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 Ms S M Biggs, Ms S L Forde.

The outgoing Vice-Chairman, Dr C D Aldridge, took the Chair.

With the consent of the Council, the Chairman varied the order of the agenda, to take the report of the Returning Officer as first business.

1.01 REPORT OF THE RETURNING OFFICER

The Returning Officer of the District Council had given notice that the following had been elected as parish councillors for the Parish of Kidmore End on 7 May 2015, without contest:

Dr C D Aldridge	Ms S L Forde	Mr I G C Pearson	Mr J Swift
Ms S Biggs	Mrs J E O'Sullivan	Mr T M Perchard	Mr H Thresher

The Council noted that were 4 vacancies to be filled, by co-option, before 26 June 2015. In this connection, it was reported that Mrs S G Hall and Mrs S Hunter had indicated that they wished to serve again as parish councillors.

RESOLVED: 1 That Mrs S G Hall and Mrs S Hunter be co-opted, pursuant to Section 21 of the Representation of the People Act 1985, to fill vacancies for the office of parish councillor.

2 That, pursuant to Section 83(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, Ms S M Biggs and Mrs S L Forde be permitted to make their declarations of acceptance of office at or before the next meeting.

1.02 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED: 1 That Ms S M Biggs be elected Chairman of the Council for the ensuing year.

2 That, pursuant to Section 83(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, Ms S M Biggs be permitted to make her declaration of acceptance of office at or before the next meeting.

1.03 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

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

(Dr Aldridge in the Chair.)

1.04 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 22 April 2015 were taken as read, confirmed and signed as a correct record.

1.05 REPORT OF DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Mr R Simister, the district councillor for the Kidmore End & Whitchurch ward, thanked residents for re-electing him on 7 May 2015.

Mr Simister gave a brief review of the past year, touching on

- the Local Plan, the Strategic Housing Market Assessment and housing numbers;
- the continued reduction of his Council's element of the Council Tax, year on year, and the continued search for economies of operation, many now in association with other local authorities;
- the contribution of £2m made by his Council to the County Council's fund for extending the availability of fast Broadband;
- the recovery of his Council from the fire at its headquarters' building and the arrangements for a temporary headquarters at Milton Park;
- the deaths of prominent members of his Council – Mrs A Ducker and Mr M Whelby.

Mr Simister sought to answer questions from Members about housing numbers and the outcome of the planning appeal for development at Thames Farm, Shiplake.

1.06 OPEN SESSION

During the Open Session, Mr C Stansbury of Hazelmoor Lane, Gallowstree Common enquired about the Council's reaction to the planning application he had submitted for extensions at his home.

1.07 CHILTERNES AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY

(cf 11.07/15) In the absence of the Chairman of the Council, it was

RESOLVED: That consideration of the review of the boundary of the Chilternes Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty in the Parish be deferred to the next meeting.

1.08 CHILTERNES CONSERVATION BOARD

(cf 11.17/15) The Clerk to the Chilternes Conservation Board, in a letter, confirmed that a vacancy had arisen for a parish member representing Oxfordshire on the Board, and that the closing date for nominations to fill the vacancy was 25 June 2015.

1.09 DIAMOND JUBILEE PAVILION, GALLOWSTREE COMMON RECREATION GROUND

(cf 11.19/15) It was reported that the Playing Fields Committee had considered, at its meeting earlier in the month, the proposal by the Cricket Club to lay carpet in the main room at the Diamond Jubilee Pavilion: the Council recalled that consideration of the matter had been deferred at the last meeting of the Council.

The Playing Fields Committee took the view that carpet would provide the best solution to the noise issue in the main room, and, therefore, it recommended the Council to agree to the request of the Cricket Club to arrange the contract for the carpet, to which the Cricket Club would make a significant contribution.

RESOLVED: That carpet, to the specification and colour agreed by the Playing Fields Committee, be laid in the main room of the Diamond Jubilee Pavilion.

1.10 PLAY AREAS

(cf 11.20/15) The Council noted that the inspection reports in respect of the play areas at the

Gallowstree Common Recreation Ground and in Kidmore End had been received and that plans were being made for the execution of appropriate remedial works identified in the reports.

1.11 APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS, SUB-COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES

As the Clerk had been unable to circulate the customary report in time, it was

RESOLVED: That consideration of the various annual appointments be deferred to the next meeting and that, where possible, existing appointments be extended to the meeting in June 2015.

1.12 FINANCE

(i) Balances

The Clerk reported that balances at the bank totalled £46,178.84.

(ii) Accounts for payment

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

South Oxfordshire District Council – Contribution towards cost of cemetery path	£500.00
NALC – Subscription to “Local Council Review”	£17.00
Playsafety Ltd – Inspection fees for play areas	£188.40
Kidmore End Parish Room – Hire of accommodation for meetings	£190.00
R F Penfold - Photocopying agenda papers etc	£10.50
Public Works Loan Board – Loan repayment	£7,317.78*

* To be paid by direct debit.

1.13 FINANCE SUB-COMMITTEE

The Council received the minutes of the meeting of the Finance Sub-Committee held on 11 May 2015.

RESOLVED: 1 That the summary receipts and payments accounts for the year ended on 31 March 2015, as set out in Appendix 1 to the Sub-Committee minutes, be received.

2 That sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2015, as set out in Appendix 2 to the Sub-Committee minutes, be approved and confirmed.

1.14 NOTICE OF AUDIT

By letter, BDO Stoy Hayward LLP gave notice that they had appointed 27 July 2015 as the day when local government electors could question the external auditor on the Council's accounts for the year ended 31 March 2015.

1.15 CONSULTATION ON PLANNING MATTERS

(i) Decisions

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

proposed single storey rear and front extension, including raising the roof to facilitate accommodation in the loft and internal alterations at New Barn, Tokers Green Lane, Tokers Green;

raising front roof and constructing new rooms in roof space in Tokers, Tokers Green Lane, Tokers Green;
change of use of rear field from golf driving range to equestrian use, with the retention of existing access, at Kidmore Farm, Tanners Lane, Chalkhouse Green;
creation of new access off Tanners Lane to serve paddocks and rear field at Kidmore Farm, Tanners Lane, Chalkhouse Green

and that the outline application for erection of 33 dwellings on land at Kennylands Road, Sonning Common [Parish of Sonning Common] had been refused.

(ii) Action of Plans Sub-Committee

The Council noted copies of letters from Mr R Bonnett and Mr & Mrs D Kitchen, both of Tanners Lane, Chalkhouse Green, expressing opposition to the application for development at Eriskay, Tanners Lane, Chalkhouse Green.

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 rear extension, side garage and front porch and erection of 2-storey extensions to front and side and single storey extension in rear at Chylowen, Rokeby Drive, Tokers Green;
replace existing windows to the front elevation at Old Well Cottage, Kidmore Lane, Kidmore End;
demolition of existing dwelling and erection of replacement dwelling and garage at Eriskay, Tanners Lane, Chalkhouse Green;
extension to existing stable block and relocation of gate at Kidmore Farm, Tanners Lane, Chalkhouse Green.

(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 front, rear and first floor extension at Magnolia Cottage, Reades Lane, Gallowstree Common for Mr & Mrs N Dudding.

(iv) Sonning Common Neighbourhood Development Plan

(cf 10.12(iv)/15) In an e-mail, the Chairman of the Sonning Common Neighbourhood Development Plan Working Party advised that the consultation period for the pre-submission plan had been extended to 12 June 2015. The Chairman of the Working Party also thanked the Council, by letter, for its support for the neighbourhood development plan process and endorsement of the pre-submission plan.

1.16 INTER-PARISH COLLABORATION

In a letter, the Chairman of Rotherfield Peppard Parish Council suggested that there would be value in the parish councils in southern South Oxfordshire working together on matters of mutual interest, arguing that a combined voice would carry greater weight with principal councils etc. To that end, he proposed an exploratory meeting of representatives of the councils concerned.

RESOLVED: That Rotherfield Peppard Parish Council be advised that the concept of inter-parish collaboration was supported.

1.17 OXFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

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

Councils in April 2015.

1.18 BUS SERVICES

(cf 7.14/14) In e-mails, Transport Planners from the County Council gave details of changes to subsidised bus services with effect from 31 May 2015. The service M1/M2 would continue to be operated by the County Council's ITU, but only on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. The bus would continue to serve Gallowstree Common and Kidmore End, but not Chalkhouse Green.

1.19 MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE

(cf 5.16/14) The County Council's Library Service Manager, by e-mail, advised of decisions taken following the consultation about the mobile library service. New routes and timetables were to be introduced with effect from 6 July 2015. From that date, there would be only one mobile library stop in the Parish, at Tokers Green.

1.20 TOWNLANDS HOSPITAL, HENLEY

The consultation document, from the Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group, on proposals for future services at Townlands Hospital, Henley-on-Thames had been circulated to all members. The consultation would close on 15 June 2015, ie before the next meeting of the Council.

RESOLVED: That the Chairman and Mrs J E O'Sullivan be authorised to respond, on behalf of the Council, to the consultation paper about future services at Townlands Hospital.

1.21 BROADBAND

By e-mail, Mr A Hartup of Wood Lane, Kidmore End urged the Council to press for better Broadband in Kidmore End, as "the current offering is totally unacceptable in 2015".

Mr H Thresher advised the Council of information he had obtained informally from British Telecommunications plc, that the infrastructure to support faster Broadband would be available in Kidmore End and settlements in the south of the Parish by the Spring on 2017.

RESOLVED: That Mr Hartup be advised of the above information.

1.22 PLAYING FIELDS COMMITTEE

It was reported that the Playing Fields Committee had met on 13 May 2015, when the clubs had agreed with terms of the proposed service level agreement relating to their use of the Recreation Ground and the Diamond Jubilee Pavilion. A number of small maintenance items had been addressed. Further regular hirings had been agreed.

1.23 DATES OF MEETINGS

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

17 June 2015	18 November 2015	17 February 2016
22 July 2015	16 December 2015	23 March 2016
23 September 2015	20 January 2016	20 April 2016
21 October 2015		

2 That the Annual Meeting of the Council be held on 18 May 2016 at 8pm.