

## KIDMORE END PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held at the Church Room, Kidmore End on Wednesday 16 May 2007 at 8.00 pm and concluded at 10.10pm.

Present: Mrs S Hall, R G McQuillan (from Minute 1.02), A K Martin, Prof T R Morris (from Minute 1.02), R M Naish (from Minute 1.02), Mrs M S Rowland, Mrs C Toms (from Minute 1.02), R S Young,

Also present: R A H Peasgood (district councillor).

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs J A Appleton, Dr J D M McNie, Mrs C Y Viney (county councillor).

The outgoing Chairman, Mr A K Martin, 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 RETURNING OFFICER

The Returning Officer of the District Council had given notice on 23 April 2007 that the following had been elected parish councillors for the Parish of Kidmore End, without contest:

Mrs S Hall	Dr J D M McNie	Mr R S Young
Mr A K Martin	Mrs M S Rowland	

The Council decided to co-opt 5 persons who had previously served as parish councillors, and had expressed a willingness to serve again in that office.

Later in the meeting, the Council considered whether to fill the final 2 vacancies. Members felt that there was benefit in the Council continuing to have 12 Members.

RESOLVED: 1 That Mrs J A Appleton, Mr R G McQuillan, Prof T R Morris, Mr R M Naish and Mrs C Toms be co-opted, pursuant to Section 21 of the Representation of the People Act 1985, to fill vacancies for the office of parish councillor.

(Mr McQuillan, Prof Morris, Mr Naish and Mrs Toms thereupon signed declarations of acceptance of office.)

2 That, pursuant to Section 83(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, Mrs J A Appleton and Dr J D M MacNie be permitted to make their declarations of acceptance of office at or before the next meeting.

3 That consideration of co-opting 2 further suitably qualified person to serve as parish councillors be deferred to the next meeting, following notice being given of the vacancies.

### 1.02 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED: That Mr A K Martin be elected Chairman of the Council for the ensuing year.

(Mr Martin thereupon signed a declaration of acceptance of office.)

### 1.03 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED: That Mr R S Young be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Council for the ensuing year.

#### 1.04 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 18 April 2007 were taken as read, confirmed and signed as a correct record, subject to the following amendments:

- (a) the title of Minute 11.14 reading "GALLOWSTREE COMMON WELL"
- (b) the substitution of "where" for "were" in the final sentence of Minute 11.18.

#### 1.05 REPORT OF COUNTY COUNCILLOR

In presenting her apologies for absence, Mrs C Y Viney, the county councillor for the Sonning Common division, had submitted a report, copies of which were circulated to those present. The report covered:

- the possible imposition of 40mph speed limits on stretches of the A4074 road;
- a campaign by her Council for changes to rules about lighting traffic signs;
- her Council's minerals site proposals and policies;
- her Council's procurement process for new waste treatment facilities.

#### 1.06 REPORT OF DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

The Chairman congratulated Mr R A H Peasgood on his election as a district councillor for the Shiplake ward. Mr Peasgood reported on the results of the elections, which had led to the Conservative Group having a majority of 28 seats on the District Council. The turn out at the elections had been higher than that recorded in 2003.

Members enquired of Mr Peasgood as to whether his Council had any proposals for changing domestic refuse collection arrangements and whether bigger receptacles for domestic recycling were envisaged. Mr Peasgood undertook to look into these matters.

#### 1.07 KIDMORE END POND

(cf 11.05/07) The County Council's Deputy Area Engineer, by letter, pointed out that it was his Council's policy to encourage parish councils to fund the provision of salt bins. Once a bin had been obtained and sited, Oxfordshire Highways would keep it stocked, and be responsible for its upkeep, and, if necessary, replacement. Oxfordshire Highways could supply bins at £130. The Clerk observed that such expenditure would need to be set against the Council's S.137 "allowance".

Members discussed again the provision of a salt bin near Kidmore End pond, presuming that local residents would assume responsibility for the spreading of the salt, as required.

RESOLVED: that consideration of the provision of a salt bin near Kidmore End pond be deferred to the next meeting, pending discussions with local residents, including Mrs S Biggs of Kidmore End, about responsibility for treating the roads.

#### 1.08 GALLOWSTREE COMMON RECREATION GROUND

(cf 11.06/07) The Chairman advised that he and Vice-Chairman had inspected the Gallowstree Common Recreation Ground, and, more particularly, the Pavilion. He commented that whilst the Ground looked to be in good order, the front, north-western, face of the Pavilion would benefit from repainting.

RESOLVED: That quotations be obtained, in accordance with the Financial Regulations, for the repainting of the woodwork on the front, north western, face of the Pavilion.

## 1.09 CODE OF CONDUCT

(cf 11.07/07) The Council considered a report (07/08 – 1) of the Clerk, submitting the new Model Code of Conduct for adoption by the Council.

RESOLVED: 1 That the mandatory provisions in the Model Code of Conduct set out in Statutory Instrument 2007/1159 be adopted as the Kidmore End Parish Council Code of Conduct, to be effective from 1 July 2007, subject to:

- a the inclusion of the "general principles" as an Annex to the Code, with a footnote to explain that it is not a part of the Code but is included as an Annex because of the requirement in paragraph 1(2) of the Code for members to have regard to the principles; and
- b the addition of paragraph 12(2) of the Model Code, but excluding the words in brackets each as recommended by the Standards Board for England and South Oxfordshire District Council.

2 That the District Council be notified of the above resolution.

## 1.10 MAP OF FOOTPATHS AND BRIDLEWAYS

(cf 11.09/07) In the absence of Dr J D M McNie, it was

RESOLVED: That consideration of the provision of a display map of the rights of way in the Parish be deferred to the next meeting.

## 1.11 REGIONAL HOUSING STRATEGY REVIEW 2007

(cf 11.10/07) Mr R G McQuillan reported fully on the draft review of the Regional Housing Strategy. He pointed out the strong focus on affordable housing and the use of "brownfield" sites for development. The results of a housing market survey had suggested that there was unmet demand for family-usable social housing units. Some 10,100 units of affordable housing needed to be provided in the region each year. The draft Strategy observed that, in response to the Regional Economic Strategy, there would need to be housing growth. Interestingly, according to surveys, some 28% of houses in the private sector failed tests about suitability.

Mr McQuillan advised that he had responded to the consultation, on behalf of the Council, indicating broad support for the targets for house building, with a bias towards affordable housing.

## 1.12 HORSEPOND ROAD, GALLOWSTREE COMMON – SPEED LIMIT

(cf 11.11/07) By letter, a Senior Traffic Technician of Oxfordshire Highways advised that the speed limit signs in Horsepond Road, Gallowstree Common were subject to specific approval from the Department for Transport. Accordingly, the signs were correct and the speed limit enforceable.

RESOLVED: That the above advice be forwarded to Mr C Duckworth of Wood Lane, Kidmore End.

## 1.13 FOOTPATH MATTERS

- (i) Footpath 15

(cf 11.13/07) The Clerk advised that the County Council had paid the promised grant of £324.38 towards the cost of the replacement of the stile, with a hunting gate, where footpath 15 met Tanners Lane, Chalkhouse Green.

(ii) Footpath 5

The Council received a copy of a letter sent by Mr D Ramm of Woodley to the County Council about the newly installed fence and gate at the junction of footpath 5 with the A4074 road at Cane End. Mr Ramm expressed concern about the dangers posed by the fence, in particular, to walkers leaving footpath 5 at that point, and seeking to join other paths or roads to the south. Members shared Mr Ramm's concerns.

RESOLVED: That the concerns expressed by Mr D Ramm be endorsed to the County Council.

1.14 APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS, SUB-COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES

RESOLVED: 1 That the following appointments be made for the period to the Annual Meeting in 2008:

Allotments Manager Plans Sub-Committee	Mrs M S Rowland Mrs S Hall, Dr J D M McNie, Mr R G McQuillan, Mr A K Martin, Mrs M S Rowland, Mr R S Young
Rights of Way Committee	Dr J D M McNie, Mr R G McQuillan, Mrs C Toms
Traffic Calming Sub-Committee Editorial Board of Newsletter	Mrs J A Appleton, Mrs C Toms Mr D Brown*, Mr A Miros*, Prof T R Morris, Mrs M S Rowland
Representatives on Playing Fields Committee	Mr R G McQuillan, Mr R M Naish, Mr R S Young
Representative on Chiltern Edge Community Association	Mr R M Naish
Representative on Oxfordshire Association Local Councils	Mrs S Hall

\* Not a member of the Council

2 That consideration of the appointment of Wells Manager, Transport Representative and Website Liaison Councillor be deferred to the next meeting.

1.15 FINANCE

(i) Balances

The Clerk reported that balances at the bank totalled £12,959.52.

(ii) Accounts for payment

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

Oxfordshire Rural Community Council – Subscription	£20.00
Thames Water Utilities Ltd – Water for allotments	£8.65
Staysure Ltd – Supply and fit tube for tractor	£104.58
Ian Kendrick Ltd – Works at Kidmore End Play Area	£593.38

1.16 ACCOUNTS 2006/7

The Council considered a report (07/08 – 2) of the Clerk, being the summary income and expenditure account for the year ended 31 March 2007 and the balance sheet as at 31 March 2007.

RESOLVED: 1 That the accounts presented be approved.

2 That £1,000 be transferred from the general fund balance to the fund for the replacement of the Pavilion.

#### 1.17 CONSULTATION ON PLANNING MATTERS

##### (i) Decisions

The Council noted that the following applications had been permitted conditionally

new detached garage at Crispins Way, Tanners Lane, Chalkhouse Green;  
single storey and 2-storey additions to existing thatched cottage at Well Cottage, Reading Road, Cane End;

erection of timber storage sheds at The Elms, Tokers Green Lane, Tokers Green (retrospective);

and that the following applications had been refused

construction of detached 2 storey building providing double garage, storage, studio/darkroom and additional bedroom at Lavender Cottage, Cane End.

##### (ii) Action of Plans Sub-Committee

RESOLVED: 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 first floor extension to include raising the roof to provide first floor accommodation, storey rear extension and front porch at Beautieport, Reades Lane, Gallowstree Common.

##### (iii) Planning appeal

(cf 7.11(ii)/06) A copy letter from the Planning Inspectorate indicated that the Inspector, appointed by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, had dismissed the appeal against the refusal of the District Council to grant planning permission for 2-storey rear extension at Collegewood Farm, Cane End.

##### (iv) Land at Collegewood Farm, Cane End

The Chairman pointed out to Members that land at Collegewood Farm, Cane End was being offered for sale in plots of c405m<sup>2</sup>, by the owners, FR Land Investments Ltd. The marketing was being undertaken by Land Futures UK Ltd. Details could be found on that Company's website, [www.lfuk.co.uk](http://www.lfuk.co.uk).

Members, noting that there was nothing illicit in the proposed sales, expressed concerns about possible developments on the land in the longer term.

RESOLVED: That the above concerns be conveyed to the District Council, as local planning authority.

##### (v) Oxfordshire Minerals & Waste Development Framework

(cf 11.17(v)/07) The County Council's Director for Environment & Economy, with a letter, enclosed a copy of his Council's Minerals Sites Proposals and Policies Development Plan Development Plan Documents and Options Consultation Paper, another document which would form part of the Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Development Framework. Comments on the draft were requested by 15 June 2007.

RESOLVED: That the Oxfordshire Minerals Sites Proposals and Policies Development Plan Development Plan Documents and Options Consultation Paper be referred to Mr R M Naish for consideration and report.

#### 1.18 VICTIM SUPPORT

The Chief Executive Officer of Victim Support Oxfordshire & Buckinghamshire, in a letter, invited the Council to give her organisation financial support. 75% of the organisation's costs were met by Government grant. Members observed that the budget for the current financial year contained no provision for a grant to the organisation.

RESOLVED: That no grant be made to Victim Support Oxfordshire & Buckinghamshire in the financial year 2007/8.

#### 1.19 THAMES VALLEY POLICE AUTHORITY

By letter, the Chairman of the Thames Valley Police Authority and the Chief Constable invited representation at the Authority's Stakeholder Forum at Drayton on 5 June 2007. The purpose of the Forum was to assist the Authority prepare its Three Year Strategic Policing Plan for 2008 – 2011.

RESOLVED: That, subject to her availability, Mrs M S Rowland be appointed to represent the Council at the Thames Valley Police Authority's Stakeholder Forum, and that attendance be an approved duty for the purposes of allowances.

#### 1.20 DISTRICT COUNCIL'S STANDARDS COMMITTEE

The Council noted that there was a vacancy for a parish council deputy representative on the District Council's Standards Committee.

#### 1.21 PLAYING FIELDS COMMITTEE

The Chairman of the Playing Fields Committee advised that the Committee had met 9 May 2007, when it had reviewed progress towards the grant of planning permission for the proposed replacement Pavilion at the Gallowstree Common Recreation Ground, the funding of that project and works at the play areas. In general terms, the Recreation Ground at Gallowstree Common and the Play Area at Kidmore End were in good order.

#### 1.22 DATES OF MEETINGS

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

27 June 2007	21 November 2007	20 February 2008
18 July 2007	12 December 2007	19 March 2008
19 September 2007	23 January 2008	23 April 2008
24 October 2007		

2 That the Annual Meeting of the Council be held on 21 May 2008 at 8pm.

#### 1.23 QUESTIONS TO CHAIRMAN

In answer to a question, the Chairman reported the recent swift repair of a pothole in Wyfold Road, Gallowstree Common.