

## KIDMORE END PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held at the Church Room, Kidmore End on Wednesday 22 July 2015 at 8.00pm and concluded at 9.15pm.

Present: Dr C D Aldridge (Vice-Chairman, in the Chair), Mrs J E O'Sullivan, I G C Pearson, T M Perchard, J A Swift QC, H Thresher.

Apologies for absence were received from Ms S M Biggs, R Simister (district councillor).

### 3.01 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 17 June 2015 were taken as read, confirmed and signed as a correct record..

### 3.02 REPORT OF COUNTY COUNCILLOR

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

- the review of senior management arrangements resulting from the Chief Executive stepping down;
- the underspend of £195,000 by his Council against its budget of £424m for 2014/15;
- the consultation on supported transport services;
- the recruitment of "Shared Lives" carers;
- a new directory of support services for adults and carers.

### 3.03 REPORT OF AREA BEAT OFFICER

The Council noted the [Police] Henley Sector Neighbourhood Team Newsletters for June and July 2015, supplied by PCSO C Boyes of the Thames Valley Police. Members referred to the arrest of a person or persons believed to have committed some crimes locally.

### 3.04 OPEN SESSION

During the Open Session

- Mr A Packman and Mr T M Perchard of Rokeby Drive, Tokers Green expressed opposition to the planning application for development at Oakdene, Rokeby Drive;
- Mr R Edwards explained the steps he had taken to meet the concerns of neighbours in respect of his planning application for development at Greenways, Horsepond Road, Gallowstree Common.

### 3.05 CHILTERNERS AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY

(cf 2.06/15) In the absence of the Chairman of the Council, it was

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

### 3.06 CHILTERNERS CONSERVATION BOARD

(cf 2.07/15) In an e-mail, the Clerk to the Chilterns Conservation Board advised that 3 nominations had been received for a parish member representing Oxfordshire on the Board – Ms S M Biggs, Mr D Boulton (Lewknor PC), Mr M Reid (Watlington PC). A ballot paper had been enclosed, to be cast by 15 September 2015.

RESOLVED: That the Council's vote for a parish member representing Oxfordshire on the Chilterns Conservation Board be cast in favour of Ms S M Biggs.

### 3.07 PLAY AREAS

(cf 2.08/15) It was reported that the replacement gate for the children's play area at the Gallowstree Common Recreation Ground had been acquired and installed. The erection of the signs, seeking the exclusion of dogs, was in hand.

### 3.08 COMMUNITY PLANS

(cf 2.15/15) The Chairman reported on the community-led planning held on 15 July 2015, which she had found interesting, commenting that such plans were an excellent tool for establishing residents' priorities for future service provision.

### 3.09 THE HEIGHTS FREE SCHOOL, CAVERSHAM

(cf 2.20/15) By e-mail sent on 26 June 2015, the PA to the Chief Executive of the Education Funding Agency acknowledged receipt of the letter sent to the Agency, about the selection of the permanent site for the Heights Free School, Caversham, arising from the decision recorded in Minute 11.08 of the meeting held in April 2015.

### 3.10 TELEPHONE KIOSKS

(cf 2.22/15) Mr H Thresher and Mr T M Perchard reported that they undertaken some works on the former telephone kiosks at Chalkhouse Green and Kidmore End. Both were of the K6 type, and weighed 0.69 tonnes, which would be a consideration if either were to be re-orientated.

The Council again discussed the future use of the kiosks, the most favoured suggestion being as information points.

RESOLVED: That residents again be requested for suggestions about the future use of the kiosks, in the next edition of the Parish Newsletter.

### 3.11 FINANCE

#### (i) Balances

The Clerk reported that balances at the bank totalled £34,638.47.

#### (ii) Accounts for payment

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

Ms S M Biggs – Gate for Gallowstree Common play area	£72.00
Thames Water Utilities Ltd – Water for allotments	£9.48
Ian Kendrick Ltd – Spraying play areas	£156.00
SAS Landscaping Ltd – Additional post at Kidmore End pond	£54.00
R F Penfold - Photocopying agenda papers	£10.50

(iii) Budget monitoring

The Council noted a report of the Clerk showing expenditure, up to 30 June 2015, against the approved budget for 2015/16. The report showed a predicted overspend at year end of £1,230, excluding capital payments and if the Council otherwise spent in accordance with the budget.

### 3.12 CONSULTATION ON PLANNING MATTERS

(i) Decisions

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

extension to existing stable block and relocation of gate at Kidmore Farm, Tanners Lane, Chalkhouse Green;  
demolition of existing dwelling and erection of replacement dwelling and garage at Eriskay, Tanners Lane, Chalkhouse Green;  
front, rear and first floor extension to bungalow at Magnolia Cottage, Reades Lane, Gallowstree Common;  
installation of an air source heat pump at Leawood, Tanners Lane, Chalkhouse Green;  
single storey home office building at end of garden at Cobnar, Chalkhouse Green Road, Kidmore End;  
replacement building to provide 2 classrooms at Kidmore End Primary School, Chalkhouse Green Road, Kidmore End;

that the application for construction of 3 detached houses with parking following demolition of existing house at Chippendale Lodge, Tokers Green Lane, Tokers Green had been refused and that the application for demolition of existing rear extension and shed, erection of part 2-storey, part single storey rear extensions at Merville, Hazelmoor Lane, Gallowstree Common had been withdrawn.

By letter, the District Council's Head of Planning had invited the Council to make representations, orally, at the meeting of the District Council's Planning Committee to be held on 1 July 2015, about the above application relating to Chippendale Lodge, Tokers Green Lane, Tokers Green. The opportunity had arisen because the Council had recommended refusal of the application while the District Council's officers had recommended approval. Mr T M Perchard, as the "local" member of the Plans Sub-Committee, had declined the invitation to speak at the meeting.

(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 building to provide 2 classrooms at Kidmore End Primary School, Chalkhouse Green Road, Kidmore End;  
erection of 2 storey rear extension, single storey garden room and outbuilding for storage with room in roof space and associated external alterations including remodelled bay window at Myrtle Cottage, Wood Lane, Kidmore End;  
change of use of redundant barn to dwelling at Whitewood Heath Barn, Hook End;  
variation of condition 2 and removal of condition 6 of planning permission for replacement dwelling at Clive Cottage, Tokers Green Lane, Kidmore End;  
erection of detached chalet bungalow, replacement garage for Greenways and alterations to existing access at Greenways, Horsepond Road, Gallowstree Common.

(iii) Applications

The Council considered applications referred to it since the last meeting.

RESOLVED: 1 That the following comments be made on the amended application for 2-storey rear extension and roof conversion raising the ridge height and single storey side extension for Mr D Townsend: "Refuse – size and bulk of extension will reduce light to neighbours (St Aubin) and cause overlooking".

2 That no strong views be submitted on the amended application for erection of detached chalet bungalow, replacement garage for Greenways and alterations to existing access at Greenways, Horsepond Road, Gallowstree Common for Mr R Edwards.

*(Mr T M Perchard disclosed a pecuniary interest in respect of the application in respect of Oakdene, Rokeby Drive, Tokers Green, under the Code of Conduct, by virtue of his ownership of an adjacent property, and withdrew from the meeting.)*

(iv) Land off Gravel Hill, Emmer Green – Vehicular access

Ms S Brent of Gravel Hill, Emmer Green drew attention, by e-mail, to the creation of a vehicular access on the north side of Gravel Hill, into land in the Parish, and questioned whether the access had planning permission or whether the removal of the hedge, to create the access, conformed to the Hedgerows Regulations 1997. The Clerk advised that he had referred the enquiry to the District Council, as planning authority.

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

(v) Neighbourhood planning conference

(cf 9.12(v)/15) By letter, the Head of Planning of the District Council gave details of the neighbourhood planning conference to be held in Didcot on 2 September 2015.

RESOLVED: That Mr I G C Pearson be appointed to represent the Council at the conference on neighbourhood planning and that his attendance be an approved duty for the purposes of expenses.

### 3.13 HOUSING AT PADDICK CLOSE, GALLOWSTREE COMMON

(cf 11.11/15) The Director of Customer Services and Operations of Soha Housing Ltd acknowledged that the housing at Paddick Close, Gallowstree Common was subject to a Section 106 agreement which required the occupiers of the housing should be from the nominated parish, which was defined as

- the Parish of Kidmore End, but if there was no eligible person, then
- the parishes of Sonning Common and Mapledurham, followed by
- any parish within the District.

The Director confirmed that all current residents of the housing met the first or second criteria.

### 3.14 HOMELESSNESS

By e-mail, the District Council's Housing Needs Manager invited comments on the draft strategy being developed by his Council and the Vale of the White Horse District Council, which proposed measures to prevent and relieve homelessness across the districts. Comments had been invited by 14 July 2015.

### 3.15 SUBSIDISED BUSES AND DIAL-A-RIDE SERVICES

In e-mails, both the Cabinet Member for Environment of the County Council and the Secretary of the Oxfordshire Rural Community Council drew attention to the public consultation by the County Council on possible changes to the subsidised bus and Dial-a-Ride services in the County, against a background

of the need for that Council to reduce expenditure. There had been a series of public meetings about the consultation across the County: the consultation closed on 14 September 2015.

It was noted that the only subsidised bus service operating in the Parish, M1 from Watlington to Reading, which was described as “fully supported” in terms of subsidy, was categorised as “high risk”.

RESOLVED: That the Transport Sub-Committee be authorised to respond to the consultation on possible changes to the subsidised bus and Dial-a-Ride services, on behalf of the Council.

### 3.16 HIGHWAY ISSUES

#### (i) Park Lane, Cane End – Trees

An Arboricultural Officer of the County Council, in an e-mail, gave notice of works to 2 decaying or dead trees on the highway in Park Lane, Cane End, north of the entrance to Weekend Warriors – an oak and a beech.

In this connection, Members drew attention to apparently dead limbs on an oak tree overhanging the highway in Chalkhouse Green Road, near Kidmore House.

RESOLVED: That the condition of the oak tree overhanging Chalkhouse Green Road, near Kidmore House, be drawn to the attention of the County Council.

#### (ii) Hazelmoor Lane, Gallowstree Common – Drainage

(cf 9.07/15) Ms F Ives of Hazelmoor Lane, Gallowstree Common reminded the Council, by e-mail, of the flooding incidents she suffered at her property, despite the clearing of the highway ditch, by the County Council, opposite to her home. The County Council had suggested to Ms Ives that the issue might be solved by the provision of a soakaway. Ms Ives asked whether the Council would permit the provision of a soakaway in the allotments in Gallowstree Common.

Members recalled that the site of Ms Ives’ home had, unfortunately, long been prone to flooding. Indeed, the Council had pointed out the history of poor drainage on the site when commenting on the planning applications submitted in 1994 and 1995 for the housing development there.

RESOLVED: That Ms Ives be advised that careful consideration would be given to a request from the County Council to establish a highway run-off soakaway on the allotments at Gallowstree Common, provided that no cost fell upon the Council, and that there was no detriment to any allotment holders.

### 3.17 STREET NAMEPLATE

The Data Monitoring Manager of the District Council reported, in an e-mail, that a replacement had been ordered for the damaged street nameplate in Horsepond Road, at its junction with the A4074 road, Cane End.

### 3.18 OXFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

The Council noted an update for members published by the Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils in June 2015.

### 3.19 PLAYING FIELDS COMMITTEE

It was reported that the meeting of the Playing Fields Committee arranged for 15 July 2015 had been cancelled, in the face of many apologies for absence. It was noted that carpet had been laid in the main room at the Diamond Jubilee Pavilion and that there were, during school term time, regular hirings of the Pavilion on every weekday.

### 3.20 TRANSPORT SUB-COMMITTEE

Members referred to the repair of some potholes in the highway, eg in Wood Lane, Kidmore End, and the cutting back of vegetation at the junction of Wood Lane and Horsepond Road, Gallowstree Common, about which sundry complaints had been made to the County Council. The Clerk mentioned complaints he had received about vegetation impeding the footway in Horsepond Road, and obscuring vegetation at the 2 junctions with The Hamlet, which complaints he had forwarded to the County Council.

In general terms, Members observed that the frequency of highway verge cutting at junctions had reduced to dangerous levels.

### 3.21 QUESTIONS TO CHAIRMAN

In answer to a question, the Chairman asked the Clerk to alert the Diocesan Board of Finance to the infestation of ragwort on the glebe land in Wood Lane, Kidmore End.