KIDMORE END PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held in the Diamond Jubilee Pavilion, Gallowstree Common Recreation Ground on Wednesday 17 April 2024 at 7.30pm and concluded at 8.25pm.

Present: Dr C D Aldridge (Chairman), D P Malaperiman (Vice-Chairman), A P Bowley, Ms D V C Page, G J Readings, N A E Room.

Also present: P H Dragonetti (district councillor).

Apologies for absence were received from A P Harland, Ms J P M Mather, I G C Pearson.

11.01 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 25 March 2024 were taken as read, confirmed and signed as a correct record.

11.02 REPORT OF COUNTY COUNCILLOR

A report by Mr K Bulmer, the county councillor for the Goring Division, had been circulated prior to the meeting, covering

- draft revised statutory guidance from Government on low traffic neighbourhoods and setting 20mph speed limits;
- the revenue generated by charges and fines in the Oxford City Zero Emission pilot scheme;
- the planned introduction of workplace parking charge for businesses etc in the City of Oxford;
- a Government grant of £2.4m for active travel (walking, wheeling and cycling) investment;
- the ending of late-night opening of the waste recycling centres in the County;
- plans to expand a school for children from the County with special educational needs and disabilities;
- Government funding for additional public electric vehicle chargers;
- an international recruitment system for the care sector, developed by his Council;
- the provision of housing for adults with learning disabilities and autism.

11.03 REPORT OF DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Mr P H Dragonetti, the district councillor for the Kidmore End & Whitchurch ward, spoke to his previously circulated report, which covered

- changes to the charges at some of his Council's car parks with effect from 1 April 2024;
- his Council's empty homes' policy;
- vacancies for poll clerks at the election for the Thames Valley Police & Crime Commissioner, and the role of the Commissioner;
- how to report instances of fly tipping;
- his Council's waste satisfaction survey;
- additional garden waste collections for subscribers to the service;
- Developing his Council's Corporate Plan.

11.04 KIDMORE END WELL

(cf 10.03/24) The Clerk reported that he had still yet to reach agreement with the relevant County Council officer regarding fencing the structure pending the repair works at the Kidmore End well.

11.05 GALLOWSTREE COMMON PLAY AREA

(cf 10.17/24) It was reported that the toddlers' slide at the Gallowstree Common Play Area had been dismantled and the replacement play train had been installed, by local volunteers, on 13 April 2024.

RESOLVED: That Mr and Mrs D Beddis, and other residents of Gallowstree Common, be thanked for their assistance with the installation of the replacement play train at the Gallowstree Common Play Area.

11.06 VILLAGE "GATES", KIDMORE END

(cf 9.07/24)) Arising from Minute 11.05 above, it was noted that, at variance with the Council's decision at its meeting on 21 February 2024 (see Minute 9.07), the village "gates" in both Chalkhouse Green Road and Wood Lane, Kidmore End, had been dismantled by the contractor.

11.07 THIRD THAMES BRIDGE

(cf 10.20/24) The Chairman reported that she had had raised, at the recent meeting of the Joint Parishes Action Group (seeking the expansion of the Chilterns National Landscape), whether there would be appetite for collaborative work with other parish councils in southern South Oxfordshire to oppose the proposed third bridge over the River Thames in the vicinity of Reading, as shown in the Reading Transport Strategy. She advised that a number of attendees had expressed interest in forming an action group. Ms D V C Page indicated that she might be interested in joining such a group.

11.08 COUNTY COUNCIL DAY

(cf 10.23/24) Arising from her attendance at the Oxfordshire County Council day, as reported at the last meeting, the Chairman referred to her meeting with the local SuperUser, Ms C Brook, who, as a volunteer, was authorised by the County Council to report road defects requiring remedial action. Ms Brook was herself shortly to meet the County Council's highways' contact officer for South Oxfordshire, to show her some of the serious road defects in the Parish.

11.09 FINANCE

(i) Balances

The Clerk reported that balances at the bank totalled £104,878.08.

(ii) Accounts for payment

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

Community First Oxfordshire – Membership subscription	£70.00
Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils - Membership subscription	£292.03
Oxfordshire Playing Fields Association – Membership subscription	£47.00
Geoxphere Ltd – Subscription to Parish Online	£108.00
Shield Maintenance Ltd – Emptying dog hygiene bin	£10.39
GFC Tech Ltd – Work to date on website	£500.00
Peachey Landworks - Removal of slide and village gates	£270.00
Heights Tree Care Ltd – Pruning back trees at Cane End allotments	£552.00
Ms S Remenyi – Trappit liquid wasp bait (reimbursement)	£62.50
R F Penfold – Salary net of Income Tax	£174.95
HM Revenue & Customs – Income tax deducted	£116.63

(iii) Budget monitoring

The Council noted a report of the Clerk showing expenditure at year-end, against the approved budget for 2023/24. The report showed an overspend of £1,527.

11.10 CONSULTATION ON PLANNING MATTERS

(i) Decisions

The Council noted that the application for proposed ground mounted photovoltaic panel installation at Summer Cottage, Cane End had been permitted conditionally and that the application for prior approval for conversion of a barn at Halla Farm, Chalkhouse Green Lane, Chalkhouse Green to residential accommodation had been refused.

(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:

one bedroom self-contained ancillary annexe at Stonecliffe House, Tanners Lane, Chalkhouse Green.

(iii) Applications

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

RESOLVED: That the comments set out in Appendix hereto be submitted in respect of the applications for

- new secure fencing alterations to existing landscape and alterations to glazing at The Maples, Dysons Wood, Tokers Green (amended plan);
- proposed extension and internal alterations at St John the Baptist church, Tokers Green Lane, Kidmore End;
- separation of existing site to create a new 3-bedroom dwelling together with amendments to existing stables' building, currently used as residential storage, and adapted to form guest accommodation and part of new curtilage, new access route to serve new dwelling at Fairview, Horsepond Road, Gallowstree Common;
- proposed outbuilding at Summer Cottage, Cane End;
- minor alterations to front façade of house, including new dormer windows, replacement ground floor windows and enlarged porch, new one and a half storey rear extension and replacement single garage at The White House, Rosebery Road, Tokers Green;
- leisure centre building at Oldfield House, Horsepond Road, Gallowstree Common;
- new 4-bedroom 1.5 storey detached house next to existing house at The White House, Rosebery Road, Tokers Green (amended plan);
- new access to public road and track on land at Chambers Copse, Kidmore End Road, Chalkhouse Green.

(Mr N A E Room declared an interest in the planning application for St John the Baptist Church, Kidmore End, as the applicant, and withdrew from the meeting during consideration of that application in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct.)

11.11 OXFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

The Council noted the update for members published by the Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils in March 2024, with particular reference to the paragraphs about the annual audit regime and

the Talking Tables' session on assets.

11.12 HORSE AND RIDER ROAD SAFETY SIGNAGE

By e-mail, Ms R Wilson (address not given) asked the Council to consider installing "horse and rider" road safety signage - solar powered signs that a rider can utilize to indicate when they are passing through the area on horseback, in order to signal to drivers, road users, delivery men etc to increase road safety of both horse and rider.

RESOLVED: That the above suggestion by Ms Wilson be referred to County Council for comment.

11.13 FLOOD MANAGEMENT

In an e-mail, a Flood Mitigation Officer of the County Council drew attention to funding available from his Council in the current financial year for priority action projects to reduce flooding from surface water run-off, ordinary watercourses and groundwater.

In another e-mail, the Vice-Chair of Berrick Salome Parish Council enquired whether other parishes experienced property flooding issues following heavy rainfall, with a view to establishing whether there might be a case for multi-parish co-operation on the subject.

11.14 ENRYCH OXFORDSHIRE

A representative of Enrych Oxfordshire, by e-mail, requested the Council to consider making a financial contribution to the work of the organisation, which sought to pair adults with physical disabilities with volunteers, to facilitate their access to leisure and learning activities.

RESOLVED: That consideration of the request be deferred to later in the financial year.

11.15 KIDMORE END PLAYING FIELDS COMMITTEE

The Council received, and noted, the draft minutes of the meeting of the Kidmore End Playing Fields Committee held on 11 March 2024 (report 23/24 - 17).

11.16 AMENITIES SUB-COMMITTEE

Members noted that the pallets, on which the play train had been delivered, remained in situ at the Gallowstree Common Recreation Ground (see Minute 11.05, above). The Chairman observed that one of the posts at Kidmore End pond had decayed, and required replacement, an issue which she would pursue.

11.17 TENURE OF THE CRICKET CLUB WORKING PARTY

The Vice-Chairman advised that draft heads of terms of a lease of the Gallowstree Common Recreation Ground to Kidmore End Cricket Club had been sent to the Club, and the Club's response was awaited. He reported that the application for an assessment of the Diamond Jubilee Pavilion under the Voluntary Community and Social Enterprise Energy Efficient Scheme grant had been unsuccessful.

11.18 MEETINGS, CONFERENCES ETC

The Chairman reported on the recent meeting of the Joint Parishes Action Group, concerning the proposed extension of the Chilterns Natural Landscape to cover the whole of the parishes north of the Thames from Reading to Henley. The landscape study had been completed by consultants and sent to Natural England, the body which would advise the Government whether to extend the National Landscape area. While there would consultation in connection with expected review of the boundary, at

this stage there was no indication of its format or timing. In the meantime, JPAG intended to ask for further funds from the participating councils.

APPENDIX

Comments on planning applications

New secure fencing alterations to existing landscape and alterations to glazing at The Maples, Dysons Wood, Tokers Green (amended plan)

No objections, provided that the hedge screening is effectively implemented and maintained, once the fence has been erected.

Proposed extension and internal alterations at St John the Baptist Church, Tokers Green Lane, Kidmore End

The Council supports this application. The proposals are sympathetic to the Grade 2 listed building, and will enable accessible and sustainable future use, not only for an ageing population, but for the whole community.

Separation of existing site to create a new 3-bedroom dwelling together with amendments to existing stables' building, currently used as residential storage, and adapted to form guest accommodation and part of new curtilage, new access route to serve new dwelling at Fairview, Horsepond Road, Gallowstree Common

While the Council has no strong views on the proposed new build, it has concerns about the additional vehicle movements associated with a holiday let.

Proposed outbuilding at Summer Cottage, Cane End

The Council is opposed to the proliferation of outbuildings on this property. - the application should be refused.

Minor alterations to front façade of house, including new dormer windows, replacement ground floor windows and enlarged porch, new one and a half storey rear extension and replacement single garage at The White House, Rosebery Road, Tokers Green (amended plan)

The Council has no objection to this proposal. However, if the site is split into 2, this would be overdevelopment of the plot, with insufficient vehicle parking for the existing property.

Leisure centre building at Oldfield House, Horsepond Road, Gallowstree Common

The Council has no strong views on this application, provided that there is adherence to condition 4 of the permission granted for application P19/S0186/HH.

New 4-bedroom 1.5 storey detached house next to existing house at The White House, Rosebery Road, Tokers Green (amended plan)

The amendments do not affect the Council's view of this application. It should be refused. The new property would be overdevelopment and unneighbourly, and block light from Furrows. There is no room for adequate vehicle parking, and no room for a fence to divide the new property from the existing property.

New access to public road and track on land at Chambers Copse, Kidmore End Road, Chalkhouse Green

This application should be refused. The proposed access track is contrary to policies in the Kidmore End Neighbourhood Development Plan and out of keeping in a Valued Landscape. It would detract from the

conservation of this Conservation Target Area. The loss of hedgerow and the landscaping of the new track damages the character of Kidmore End Road. This development has not been justified, with no mention of why the current access track cannot be improved.