DRAFT

To be confirmed at the meeting to be held on 18 November 2026

KIDMORE END PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held in the Diamond Jubilee Pavilion, Gallowstree Common Recreation Ground on Monday 19 October 2026 at 7.30pm and concluded at 8.35 pm.

Present: Dr C D Aldridge (Chairman), A P Harland, D P Malaperiman, Ms J P M Mather, I G C Pearson.

Apologies for absence were received from A P Bowley, N A E Room, Dr C L Sharples.

5.01 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 23 September 2026 were taken as read, confirmed and signed as a correct record.

5.02 MEMBERSHIP OF THE COUNCIL

(cf 4.05/26) The Council was reminded that there were 2 vacancies for the office of parish councillor.

5.03 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

(cf 4.06/26) In view, again, of the low attendance at the meeting, it was

RESOLVED: That the appointment of Vice-Chairman of the Council for the period to the next Annual Meeting be deferred pro tem.

5.04 WITHY COPSE, GALLOWSTREE COMMON

(cf 4.07/26) Mr B Johnson of Horsepond Road, Cane End had asked, by e-mail, if the Council held details of ownership of the various parcels of land comprising Withy Copse, Gallowstree Common. He had been advised that the Council did not hold that information. However, Ms J PM Mather had had an informal conversation with Mr Johnson on the subject.

5.05 KIDMORE END WELL

(cf 4.09/26) The Chairman advised that around 70 persons had attended the celebration of the renovation of the Kidmore End well head structure held at the well on 10 October 2026. The Chairman also referred to an event about the renovation in the “Henley Standard”.

Arising from the report of the Amenities Sub-Committee (see Minute 5.16 below), it was

RESOPLVED: That, subject to there being no objections from the Listed Buildings’ Officer of the District Council, reflectors be fixed to the sarsen stones, installed on the plinth of the well at Kidmore End to protect the wellhead structure against vehicle impact damage.

5.06 TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT MATTERS

(i) <u>Tokers Green Lane, Tokers Green – use by heavy goods vehicles</u>

(cf 4.16(i)/26) The Chairman advised that she attended the weekly update sessions with SGN, about the gas main renewal on the A4074 road in Chazey Heath. 130m o pipeline had been laid so far. The restrictions on the highway, to protect the workforce, were moving towards Caversham, and south of the junction with Rokeby Drive.

(ii) 20 mph speed limits

(cf 4.16(ii)/26) As the closing date for comments on the consultation was after the next meeting, it was

RESOLVED: That consideration of a response to the survey on how the 20mph speed limits were working be deferred to the next meeting.

5.07 COMMUNITY FIRST OXFORDSHIRE

(cf 4.17/26)The Chairman reported that she had attended the Annual General Meeting of Community First Oxfordshire, the main speaker at which had been the Chair of the Oxford Growth Commission. The Commission commenced work in May 2025, and would report in November 2026. Its remit was to accelerate sustainable economic, housing and infrastructure growth in Oxford and the surrounding areas. The next stage would be the creation of a Greater Oxford Development Corporation. However, there were a number of infrastructure issues, viz insufficient foul water treatment capacity, land banking, insufficient NHS capacity, and pressure for more AI capacity. Transport was the greatest generator of emissions in Oxfordshire.

5.08 GALLOWSTREE COMMON RECREATION GROUND – DRIVEWAY

(cf 4.18/26) It was reported that one option for the installation to 2 speed bumps on the entrance drive to the Gallowstree Common Recreation Ground was estimated to cost £1,800. Further research was being undertaken by the Playing Fields Committee, and alternative methods of reducing vehicle speeds at that location were mooted.

5.09 CHILTERNS NATIONAL LANDSCAPE

(cf 4.27/26) The Chairman reported orally on the Joint Parishes Group (JPAG), who had been seeking an expansion of the Chilterns National Landscape to include the whole of the riverside parishes, and Kidmore End, between Mapledurham and Henley. JPAG was concerned that the review draft - 'Chilterns AONB Boundary Review Natural Beauty Assessment Final Report 2026, Natural England Report NECR691 by LUC', created as a result of the now-abandoned review of the Chilterns National Landscape - was being used by District Council planning officers. This document had not been consulted on, and JPAG wanted to argue that this document should not be used to evaluate planning applications. Terra firma, a consultancy firm, had been commissioned to compare the 2026 draft report with the consultancy's Landscape Value Study 2022, submitted to LUC to be used as part of the consultation.

5.10 FINANCE

(i) Balances

The Clerk reported that balances at the bank totalled £71,363.61. This included £346.66 of allotment rents.

(ii) Accounts for payment

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

W J Hatt Ltd – Installation of 2-headed standpipe at Cane End allotments	£992.40
Shield Maintenance Ltd – Emptying dog hygiene bin (including underpayment)	£16.60
UK Traffic Management Services Ltd – Signage etc re Well renovation	£864.00

R F Penfold – Ink cartridge (reimbursement)	£47.97
Turtle Engineering Ltd – Supply and installation of defibrillator	£2,268.00
GpetoAI Ltd – Subscription	£30.00
Signs of Cheshire Ltd – Deposit for noticeboard	£1,345.80
Dr C D Aldridge – Printing Parish Newsletter (reimbursement)	£46.00
The terra firma Consultancy Ltd – Landscape consultancy services (NDP)	£1,764.91
EDF – Electricity for Pavilion (KEPFC)	£310.56*
M Makower & Co – Management etc of works at Diamond Jubilee Pavilion	£300.00
R F Penfold – Salary net of Income Tax (including arrears)	£194.90
HM Revenue & Customs – Income tax deducted	£129.93

* *To be paid by direct debit*

(iii) Budget monitoring

The Council noted a report of the Clerk showing expenditure, up to 30 September 2026, against the approved budget for 2026/27. The report showed a predicted underspend at year end of £2,320, excluding capital payments and if the Council otherwise spent in accordance with the budget.

(iv) Interim external audit report

The Council received the interim internal audit report and certificate 2025/26 (report 26/27 - 22), which Moore, the external auditor, required to be published on the Council's website.

5.11 CONSULTATION ON PLANNING MATTERS

(i) 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:

proposed erection of 2 to 3 dwelling houses on land north west of Horsepond Road, Gallowstree Common (amended plan);
replacement of conservatory with new garden room at Common Farm, Wyfold Road, Gallowstree Common;
erection of a single storey annex building at Kidmore Farm, Tanners Lane, Chalkhouse Green (amended plan).

(ii) Proposed development of land forming part of the former Reading Golf Club course

(cf 3.15(iii)/26) It was reported that, in the High Court, the Honourable Sir Peter Lane had, on 1 October 2026, refused the application of Fairfax (Reading) Ltd for permission to apply for statutory of the decision of the planning inspector on the Company's appeal against the refusal of planning permission for the proposed development of 70 hoses on land in the Parish forming part of the former Reading Golf Club course. Fairfax had requested that the Judge's decision was reconsidered at a hearing in open court and that hearing had been scheduled for 27 February 2027.

The Chairman referred to a press release which she had drafted and released to the media: copies had been sent to all Members, prior to the meeting.

(iii) Reading Local Plan

(cf 4.14(vii)/26) It was reported that the Plans Sub-Committee had suggested that a comment on the following lines be made on the modifications made by Reading Borough Council to the Plan: "Kidmore

End Parish Council supports the provision of high quality housing with zero carbon homes".

5.12 OXFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

The Council noted the update for members published by the Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils in September 2026, with particular reference to the paragraph about Climate Action.

5.13 REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

A churchwarden of the Parish of Kidmore End & Sonning Common had enquired, by e-mail, whether the Council would be represented formally at Remembrance Sunday at the Church of St John the Baptist, Kidmore End, on 8 November 2026 and whether the Council would require a wreath. Following a conversation with the Chairman, the Clerk advised the churchwarden that a wreath would be laid, as was customary.

RESOLVED: That Mr A P Harland be appointed to represent the Council at the war memorial at the Church of St John the Baptist on Remembrance Sunday, 8 November 2026.

5.14 "THE PEOPLE'S EMERGENCY BRIEFING"

(cf 4.24/26) By e-mail, an administrator for Sonning Common Parish Council invited the Council to be represented at a special community event hosted by that Council and EcoSoCo on 9 November 2026, the event to include a showing of the "The People's Emergency Briefing".

RESOLVED: That the invitation be forwarded to the Kidmore End Neighbourhood Development Plan Review Steering Group.

5.15 KIDMORE END NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN REVIEW STEERING GROUP

The Chairman reported orally on the work of the Kidmore End Neighbourhood Development Plan (KENDP) Review Steering Group, with particular reference to ecological updating being undertaken by the terra firma Consultancy, and to positioning the revised plan with version 2 of the Joint Local Plan and the recently revised National Planning Policy Framework.

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5.16 AMENITIES SUB-COMMITTEE

The Council considered the report (26/27- 23) of the Amenities Sub-Committee.

RESOLVED: 1 That quotations be sought for surveys of the safety of the trees in and adjacent to the play areas at Gallowstree Common and Kidmore End.

2 That self closure springs be fitted to the entrance gates to the play areas, the work to be undertaken by Mr R Butler at a cost of £180.

5.17 TENURE OF THE CRICKET CLUB WORKING PARTY

Ms J P M Mather reported orally on further discussions with the Kidmore End Cricket Club concerning the proposed lease of the Gallowstree Common Recreation Ground to the Club. The Club had raised 4 questions of detail, to which the Tenure of the Cricket Club Working Party were drafting answers. Ms Mather commented that there had been a positive mood to the discussions with the Club, and that she was confident that the lease would be in place by 1 April 2027.

5.18 WEBSITE MANAGER

The Council considered a report (26/27- 24) by the Website Manager.

RESOLVED: That, subject to minor adjustments, the website procedure and operational policy attached to the report be adopted, and published.

5.19 REPORTS OF MEETINGS, CONFERENCES ETC

The Chairman advised that the County Council's Waste and Recycling Team was holding a public session at Henley Town Hall on 29 October 2026.