# KIDLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

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## Minutes of the Meeting of Kidlington Parish Council

held at Exeter Hall and on Zoom at 7.30pm on Thursday 25 January 2024

**Present:** Cllr David Betts, Cllr William Easdown Babb, Cllr Alan Graham, Cllr Fiona Mawson, Cllr Lesley Mclean Cllr Ian Middleton, Cllr Melanie Moorhouse, Cllr David Robey (Chair), Cllr David Thurling, Cllr Alison Street, Cllr Linda Ward, Cllr Doug Williamson, Cllr Phil Wyse.

**In Attendance:** Clerk – Rachel Faulkner, CDC Cllr Dorothy Walker, OCC Cllr Nigel Simpson and 5 members of the public.
**Apologies**: None received.
**On Line:** 2 members of the public for part of the meeting.

**24/001** Declaration of interests – Cllr Betts declared an interest on Item 10 of the agenda regarding the proposed development north of The Moors because his home is next to the proposed access.

**24/002** The Council **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Council Meeting on 9 November 2023 were a true and correct record and they were signed by the Chair.

**24/003** The Council considered four applicants for co-option and **RESOLVED** to co-opt Naveed Barakzai Pace and Nik Soheili on to Kidlington Parish Council. The new councillors were invited to join the Council for the meeting and take part in discussions.

**24/004** Public Participation – the Council discussed rules of participation at meetings with regard to written communications. The Council wants to make it as easy as possible for residents to communicate with the Council. It was agreed that residents would be encouraged to contact their ward member if they wished to comment on items on the agenda but were unable to attend the meeting.

**24/005** Members discussed committee membership and agreed that Cllr Phil Wyse would represent KPC on Kidlington Recreational Trust and also join the Stratfield Brake Liaison Group. It was agreed that Cllr Alison Street would join the Local Plan Working Group. The Council agreed that Cllr Robey would discuss the standing committees with the newly co-opted councillors and appoint as appropriate. Cllr Nik Soheili also agreed to join the Planning Committee.

**24/006** The minutes of committees were moved by Chairs:

a) **Planning Committee**: 14 December and 11 January 2024 – moved by Cllr Graham.
b) **Policy and Finance Committee**: 23 November 2023 and 18 January 2024 – moved by Cllr McLean.
   - The committee agreed to review the capital funds every 6 months and consider the use of the funds invested in the Property Fund.
c) **Community Committee**: 11 January 2024 – moved by Cllr Street.
   - The Council **RESOLVED** to accept the recommendation of the Community Committee to progress with the aspiration to install a Wheeled Sport/Skate Park at Park Hill and to

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consider whether the project could also encompass a new community building to replace the temporary hut. The project may also include refurbishment of the Play Area which the Council has already identified as a possible capital project at a cost of £100k. The Council did not wish to commit any funds to the project at this stage and intend to pursue other options including grants and developer contributions. It was understood by members that in order to access these external funds a fully worked up plan would be required including costings and planning permission. The Working Group would be meeting to progress the project and report back to Community Committee.

**24/007** **Botley West Solar Farm –** Cllr Betts explained that the proposal was a national infrastructure project and so did not fit in to the normal planning process. WODC are leading the opposition to the proposal. The Council agreed to resubmit its objection ensuring any new points are covered and send to WODC and BWSF.

**24/008** The Council were updated on the meeting between representatives from OUFC and the Four Parishes most directly affected by the stadium proposals (Kidlington, Gosford & Water Eaton, Yarnton and Begbroke). The meeting considered the community pledges made by the club and are awaiting further details from them about how they will fulfil them. It was confirmed that planning permission has not yet been submitted and that the club was looking for solutions for getting supporters from the train station/park & ride to the stadium without closing the main Oxford road. It was noted that many residents think the present roundabout works are linked to the stadium proposal and suggested that it should be made clear that is not the case.

Cllr Betts left the meeting due to his interest in the item regarding Land North of the Moors.

**24/009** The Council discussed the meeting held with Bloombridge and others involved in the proposals to develop land North of the Moors. KPC continue to object to the proposal but are keen to understand the plans and potential benefits for the community. Councillors have commented on the size of the proposed cricket pavilion and expressed concerns about access to the site suggesting that an access point, possibly additional, nearer the top of the Moors may create less disruption. They are also discussing the provision of other sport and recreational facilities. The Council agreed to a further meeting with Bloombridge.

Cllr Betts returned to the meeting.

**24/010** The Council discussed content for the spring newsletter. Members were asked to submit items for inclusion.

**24/011** The Council discussed speakers for the Annual Parish Meeting to be held on 23 May. The Police have already confirmed attendance to give a short report. Other suggestions were Gosford Hill School and Wild Kidlington project.

**24/012** Cllr David Thurling gave a report from the St Mary's Fields Group

**24/013** The Council received reports from District and County Councillors.

**The meeting closed at: 9.30pm**

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