

KIDLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Exeter Hall, Oxford Road, Kidlington, OX5 1AB

01865 372143

Email: clerk@kidlington-pc.gov.uk

Minutes of the Meeting of Kidlington Parish Council held via Zoom at 7.30pm on Thursday 21 January 2021

Present: Cllr David Robey, Cllr David Betts, Cllr Alison Street, Cllr Alan Graham, Cllr Conrad Copeland, Cllr Katherine Tyson, Cllr Ian Middleton, Cllr Fiona Mawson, Cllr Neil Prestidge, Cllr Doug Williamson, Cllr David Thurling, Cllr Cheryl Foulsham, Cllr Carolyn Sampson

In Attendance: County Councillor Carmen Griffiths, Clerk – Rachel Faulkner, RFO – Aly Bateman

Apologies: Cllr Chris Pack

21/001 Declaration of Interest: None disclosed.

21/002 Following the sad death of Cllr Carole Pack, the Council advertised the vacancy. Since no election was requested, the Council voted to co-opt Lucy Loveridge to the Council.

21/003 The minutes of the meeting of 3 December 2020 were agreed and to be signed at the next physical meeting of the Council.

21/004 The Council received reports from County and District Councillors. County Cllr Carmen Griffiths reported that works to fix the drainage problems at the Kidlington (Rosie's) Roundabout are in motion. She confirmed that she had approved a grant to KPC for £2500 to help with refurbishment of the barn for use by the Cherwell Larder. Councillors requested that Cllr Griffiths share information about planned highway works.

The District Councillors raised concerns about the level of financial support required by CDC for Castle Quays Shopping Centre. Cllr Betts proposed that KPC contact the District Council to ask what the impact of this support would be on Kidlington residents. Clerk to action.

Cllr Tyson suggested that, as cases of Covid 19 are rising across Cherwell, KPC should consider reinforcing the message to stay at home.

21/005 The minutes of committees were moved by Chairs:
Planning Committee: 10 December 2020 and 14 January 2021 – moved by Cllr Graham
Policy and Finance Committee: 17 December 2020 – moved by Cllr Betts
Community Committee: 7 January 2021 – moved by Cllr Street
Personnel Committee: 13 January 2021 – moved by Cllr Robey
Exeter Close Sub-Committee (now Working Group) – oral report by Cllr Robey

Recommendations approved:

The Council approved the budget and that a precept of £728,300 would be requested.

The Council approved the salary increase for the RFO.

The Council approved the use of furlough where necessary for staff who are paid through hall hire income. The current system of training and staff development was noted.

The council noted the current list of general and earmarked reserves, and that it may be necessary to significantly increase the provision for the Bicester Road cemetery with a view to preparing new areas for burial in good time.

The Council discussed their policy regarding disposal of amenity land. It was agreed that, in principle, the Council is not willing to lose green spaces in the village and the Clerk would advise on that policy to any enquirers. However, it was agreed that exceptions may be considered if a case is made on the basis of public benefit.

The Council agreed to support the 20 is Plenty for Oxfordshire campaign – to be referred to Policy and Finance for further discussion about how to take forward speed limits of 20 mph in Kidlington. It was agreed that this could include stretches of the main roads, particularly the Oxford Road in front of Exeter Hall, in line with the Council's aim to integrate the two sides of the Village Centre.

21/006 The Council discussed the transfer of funds to the long term investment account. It was agreed that, in line with the current policy, the return received on the investment would be reinvested in the Property Fund. It was agreed to review the Council's investments due to the changing financial landscape. To be referred to Policy and Finance committee.

21/007 The Council received the Clerk's Report.
Stratfield Brake – KPC in talks with CDC officers regarding the future of Stratfield Brake.
Exeter Hall – although the Council had received a few complaints from residents about having to travel to Islip for vaccinations, the doctors have reported that the centre in Islip is working well. They have confirmed that if Kidlington residents have problems with access, alternative arrangements are being made.

The Council agreed to suspend Standing Orders to allow the meeting to continue beyond 9.30pm.

21/008 The Council **RESOLVED** to hold the Annual Parish Meeting via Zoom on Thursday 29 April as previously agreed. Agenda to be discussed.

21/009 The Council **RESOLVED** to publish and distribute a newsletter informing residents about the Annual Parish Meeting as well as the usual content about Council activity and other issues and advice related to the current Covid 19 pandemic.

21/010 Cllr Graham reported that the minutes of the Traffic Advisory Committee would be brought to the next Policy and Finance meeting for discussion.
Cllr Robey reported that following a meeting with senior CDC officers, KPC had been asked to provide a list of priorities where contact officers in CDC could assist. A further meeting is arranged to discuss these priorities.

21/011 The Council considered the open letter from the Chairman of NALC regarding pledges for Councils to consider.

The meeting closed at: 9.46pm