

KIDLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Exeter Hall, Oxford Road, Kidlington, OX5 1AB

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Minutes of the Virtual Meeting of the Policy and Finance Committee held via Zoom on Thursday 4 March 2021 at 6.30pm

PRESENT: Cllr David Betts (Chair), Cllr David Robey, Cllr Neil Prestidge, Cllr Alison Street, Cllr Ian Middleton, Cllr Katharine Tyson, Cllr Conrad Copeland

IN ATTENDANCE: Rachel Faulkner, Clerk to the Council, Alyson Bateman, RFO

APOLOGIES: Cllr David Thurling.

21/PF128 **Declarations of Interest:** None declared.

21/PF129 The minutes of the meeting of 17 December were approved to be signed at future physical meeting, subject to amendment of minute PF/122 to clarify funding as follows:

20/PF122 The committee considered the OCC Funding Agreement to transfer funds remaining from monies held in relation to S106 payments. The agreement restricts KPC from spending the funds on anything other than highway related items.

21/PF130 The committee reviewed the KPC Risk Assessment Register. The Clerk explained that there were other detailed subordinate Risk Assessments dealing with specific areas such as COVID-19 and Events. The Committee agreed to amend the finance section to compare Income and Expenditure with budgets four times per year. It also agreed that it should review the Council's Investments annually. Subject to these amendments the Committee agreed to **recommend** the Risk Assessments to Council for approval.

21/PF131 The committee were advised that the insurance quotations had arrived too late for consideration for this meeting. To be considered at full Council meeting on 18 March.

21/PF132 The committee noted the favourable Internal Audit report and thanked the RFO, Clerk and finance team.

21/PF133 The committee approved the change to Financial Regulations to allow the deposit of cash received to Petty Cash when required.

21/PF134 The Committee reviewed the Finance report monitoring the comparison of Income and Expenditure against Budgets.

The committee noted that the appendix detailing the schedule of Capital and reserves was not the latest version. **ACTION:** The RFO to distribute the current version.

The committee approved moving £45k from General Reserves to the Bicester Road Cemetery Earmarked Reserve in view of the work that will be required for the next phase of the cemetery.

21/PF135 **Grants (Section 137):**

The Committee approved a grant of £1200 for the Kidlington Recreational Trust for a grant to support the staff costs.

The committee approved a grant of £500 to Citizen's Advice Volunteer Drivers towards running costs.

21/PF136 The Committee discussed the Traffic Advisory Committee report from Cllr Graham and agreed the identification of “Champions”
Cllr Alan Graham - Buses/Transport
Cllr Neil Prestidge – Cycling
Cllr David Betts – 20 is Plenty, Rising Bollard and decriminalised parking

The committee received a report setting out the criteria that needed to be met to proceed with any 20mph scheme. One of the key issues was public engagement. The committee agreed that they supported a change to 20mph limits in residential streets across Kidlington as the first priority and as second long-term priority the length of Oxford Road between High Street and Yarnton Road. It was agreed that the Highways Reserve fund of £29,495 could be used to support this initiative. Residents to be consulted via the Spring newsletter initially. It was suggested that contact be made with Gosford and Water Eaton PC as the scheme should encompass both parishes. The Clerk was asked to action this

Decriminalised parking. The committee received and noted a report from Cherwell District Council concerning the implementation of civil parking enforcement. The committee noted that this scheme is expected to be implemented by the end of the year. There was some discussion about public consultation which should have been commenced.

21/PF137 The Clerk, Cllr Betts, Cllr Middleton, Cllr Sampson and Cllr Foulsham had attended a meeting with CDC regarding the reopening the High Street Safety Fund following the most recent lock down. The Clerk to contact CDC to understand the details of the Meanwhile Scheme which aims to find temporary occupants for vacant retail property. The latter was of more interest to the committee and the Clerk was asked to pursue any opportunities to bid within this fund as Kidlington has a number of vacant shops

21/PF138 The committee suggested amendments to the Finance calendar **ACTION** RFO to make the changes

21/PF139 The date of next meeting was confirmed as Thursday 22 April 2021 at 6.30pm

The meeting closed at 8pm