

# KIDLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

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## Minutes of the Meeting of Kidlington Parish Council held at Exeter Hall at 7.30pm on Thursday 24 June 2021

**Present:** Cllr David Betts, Cllr Cheryl Foulsham, Cllr Lucy Loveridge, Cllr Fiona Mawson, Cllr Ian Middleton, Cllr Neil Prestidge, Cllr David Robey (Chair), Cllr Alison Street, Cllr David Thurling, Cllr Doug Williamson.

**In Attendance:** District Councillor – Cllr Dorothy Walker  
Clerk – Rachel Faulkner, RFO – Alyson Bateman

**Apologies:** Cllr Alan Graham, Cllr Carolyn Sampson, Cllr Katherine Tyson, Cllr Conrad Copeland, Cllr Chris Pack  
Apologies received from County Cllr Nigel Simpson.  
Given the current rules regarding the pandemic non-attendance at this meeting would not be included in the six-month rule on attendance. It was agreed that this would not apply once Covid restrictions are lifted.

**21/040** **Declaration of Interest** – none disclosed

**21/041** The minutes of the Council meeting of 13 May 2021 were approved for accuracy and signed by the Chairman.

**21/042** The Council received reports from Oxfordshire County Councillor, Ian Middleton and Cherwell District Councillor, Dorothy Walker.  
Cllr Walker explained the proposed new system for waste collection in Cherwell.  
Councillors asked that residents are given reasonable advance notice of the changes.

**21/043** The minutes of the Planning Committee held on 10 June 2021 were moved by Cllr Williamson. The recommendations were approved by the Council.

**21/044** The minutes of the Policy and Finance Committee were moved by Cllr Betts. The Council considered the recommendations and **RESOLVED:**

- i. To accept the Internal Auditor's report
- ii. To contract Council HR and Governance Support for three years at a cost of £1500 per annum
- iii. To approve S137 grant to the Royal British Legion for the use of Exeter Hall.
- iv. To pay Councillor's Allowance of £900 per annum to those councillors who wish to claim. Councillors not wishing to take the allowance to inform the Clerk in writing.
- v. To accept the changes to the Terms of Reference for committees.
- vi. To sign the Deed of Surrender for the CDC offices at Exeter Hall.

**21/045** The minutes of the Community Committee were moved by Cllr Street. The Council considered the recommendations and **RESOLVED:**

- i. To accept the proposal for the hire of Christmas Lights from LITE at a cost of circa £22k. Members agreed to reduce the use of real trees but retain the one in the High Street.

- ii. To accept the proposal for an outdoor gym at Ron Groves Play Area from Fresh Air Fitness and a basketball net and hard standing from HAGS. The council agreed to use Playground Reserves to top up the balance if required.

- 21/046** The Council reviewed and approved the Annual Governance and Accountability Return which was signed by the Chairman and Clerk at the meeting. The Chairman thanked the RFO for her work and congratulated the team on closing the year with a £25k surplus despite the challenges presented.
- 21/047** The Council agreed that, in line with current legislation, all future meetings of the Council and its committees would be held physically, unless circumstances and/or regulations change. In case it becomes necessary to revert to virtual meetings, the following modified version of the emergency delegation powers agreed at the meeting on 13 May 2021 was approved.
- When circumstances require, Council allows the delegation of its activities to an Emergency Delegation Panel (EDP) of the Clerk in consultation with the Chair, Vice-Chair, and the Chairs of Standing Committees. The EDP will come into force when either (1) Council meetings have to be suspended due to circumstances outside of the Council's control, or (2) an urgent decision is needed and timescales do not allow an emergency Council meeting.*
- The EDP will itself decide when its powers need to be invoked. It will consult all councillors as far as possible before doing so, and notify them of any decisions taken. When its powers are invoked under (1), the regular Calendar of meetings will as far as possible continue on-line, on an advisory basis.*
- 21/048** The Council agreed to reduce the numbers of the Community Committee following Cllr Foulsham's withdrawal.
- 21/049** The Council received and considered the Clerk's report. The Council received an update on the activities of the Cherwell Collective. Cllr Middleton agreed to follow up with the County Council regarding the future use of Glebe House.
- 21/050** The Council **RESOLVED** to allow the Animation Station to carry over their unused days to August 2021. It was agreed to clarify the rules regarding the award of Section 137 grants as follows:  
Applications will only be considered from voluntary organisations, registered charities or registered community groups.
- 21/051** The Council discussed the expansion of the Bicester Road Cemetery. Members reviewed the plans developed by Cemetery Development Services to prepare the rest of the site. The Council agreed to seek estimates for the work from CDS and if appropriate invite tenders. Decisions on further spending will be brought back to Council for discussion.
- 21/052** The Council discussed the proposed closure of the Sandy Lane level crossing. The Council remains opposed to the closure of the crossing.
- 21/053** The Council discussed the changes at Stratfield Brake with CDC to take over operation of the premises. KPC aimed to agree to a funding agreement with CDC which should fix the KPC operating costs to £140k per annum for the next two years. The Council agreed to the proposed arrangements and to this figure, but delegated any further negotiations on funding to the Stratfield Brake representatives.

**21/054** Cllr Middleton gave a report from the Airport Consultative Committee.  
Cllr Robey gave a report from the Cherwell Parish Liaison Meeting.

**21/055** The Council agreed to send a letter objecting to the Great Wolf Development in Chesterton.

**The meeting closed at: 9.30pm**