

KIDLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Exeter Hall, Oxford Road, Kidlington, OX5 1AB

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Minutes of the Meeting of Kidlington Parish Council Community Committee held via Zoom at 6.30pm on Thursday 17 June 2021

Present: Cllr Alison Street (Chair) Cllr Chris Pack
Cllr Fiona Mason Cllr Doug Williamson
Cllr David Robey Cllr David Thurling
Cllr Neil Prestidge

In Attendance: Clerk – Rachel Faulkner, Facilities Manager – Graham Kearney,
Community Projects Officer – Les Dent

Apologies: Cllr Lucy Loveridge. Cllr Cheryl Foulsham

21/CO/220 Declaration of Interest: None disclosed.

21/CO/221 The minutes of the meeting of **15 April 2021** were agreed and to be signed at the next physical Community Committee meeting.

21/CO/222 Facilities Manager Report:

FM reported that the trampoline has been fixed and the climbing frame bridge at the Exeter Close park has been replaced following safety concerns.

The CDC offices at Exeter Hall have now been cleared and returned in acceptable condition.

Cllr Williamson and FM to conduct tour of allotments after 19 July.

CDC advise that they will not be introducing joint dog/waste bins as WODC have done.

FM confirmed fly tipping at Exeter hall was an ongoing problem and large items left not suitable for recycling. **Action:** to install clear signage stating CCTV in operation.

The committee thanked FM and team for their hard work during the busy cutting season.

21/CO/223 Christmas Lights Scheme:

The committee reviewed proposals from three providers for Christmas Lights for 2021.

They agreed with the recommendation of the FM and CPO to contract Lite at the price agreed.

The committee recommended that only one real Christmas Tree would be installed this year at the top of the High Street. In Exeter Close and the Broadway the existing trees will be decorated.

21/CO/224 K5 Wayfinding Animal trails:

The committee was updated on progress with the K5 project to create and promote Animal Trail Walking routes around the village. KPC to install benches and bins in locations to suit and to investigate further suitable equipment to make the walks more interesting for a range of age groups, such as monkey bars and exercise installations.

The Clerk informed members that there would be further S106 funds available that may be used for play equipment along the trails particularly near the canal.

21/CO/225 Community Collective:

The Clerk reported that the larder was operating at the Barn and Exeter Hall twice a week and the group are now providing lunch for the regular Thursday Lunch club. Cycling Without Age attended the lunch club recently to encourage and promote rides for the elderly.

21/CO/226 Photographic Panels

The Clerk has been working with local resident James Hamilton on this project and six panels have been approved to be sited on the panels outside the public toilets in the Piazza. These will be installed by CDC staff in August when James is available to oversee. There are plans to extend the project and the Clerk has sought funding from CDC to do so. She suggested a working group be formed to work on this project once the funding has been secured. The project will be run by the Council with involvement from James Hamilton. **Action:** Clerk to liaise with AS, Community Chair to develop a small working group

21/CO/227 Ron Groves Gym Proposal:

The council has access to £37k in S106 funds to be used for improvements at Ron Groves Park.

Members had previously agreed to install an outdoor gym and a free standing basketball net with hard standing area.

Members reviewed proposals and agreed with the FM and CPO's recommendation of using Fresh Air Fitness who provided the gym at Exeter Close.

The Clerk advised that there may be a requirement for a top up of funds of around £2-3k and the committee recommended these came from Playground Earmarked Reserve.

21/CO/228 Playground Improvements:

The committee discussed priorities for improvement of other play areas and it was agreed that Cllr Street, Williamson and Prestidge would visit all sites with FM and report to committee in September. **Action:** AS to set up visit.

21/CO/229 Environment Group:

The committee received and reviewed the minutes of the Environment Working Group.

Cllr Street explained that KPC would be a key partner in a week of Green Activity in the autumn which would include events at Exeter Hall as well as the Lyne Road Green Activity Day on 30 October.

Cllr Prestidge advised that they would be looking for interested parties to join a Kidlington Climate Change group at the Gala Day and would then plan a meeting of the Climate Emergency Forum in the autumn to discuss actions.

Weed Killer: Concern was raised on the use of weed killer on the streets.

Action: contact Tim Green/CDC to ask what policy there is for the control of weed killer.

Queens Canopy/Jubilee Celebrations: Members were asked for ideas for planting trees to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee. Cllr Williamson had suggested a line of cherry trees at Exeter Close but there are concerns about utilities. **Action:** Cllr Williamson to work with Tree Officer to check.

Lyne Green Project: Members were updated on a meeting with Roselle Chapman/Wild Oxfordshire who had secured a grant from CPRE to cover her time and some of the required plants. The Tree Officer has expressed concern that 30 October is at the beginning of the planting season and if it is dry they will need a lot of care when first planted. **Action:** The Clerk to follow up with Tree Officer.

21/CO/230 Bicester Road Cemetery:

The committee reviewed the proposals for the expansion of the BRC, and approved the main features of the plans. Details, eg landscaping and final layout will be subject to tendering and timing.

The meeting closed at: 8.20pm

Date of Next Meeting: 2 September 2021