

# KIDLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

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## Minutes of the Meeting of Kidlington Parish Council Community Committee held on zoom at 6.30pm on Thursday 13 January 2022

**Present:** Cllr Alison Street (Chair)                      Cllr Chris Pack  
Cllr Lucy Loveridge                                      Cllr Fiona Mawson  
Cllr Neil Prestidge                                        Cllr David Robey  
Cllr Doug Williamson                                  Cllr David Thurling

**In Attendance:** Clerk – Rachel Faulkner, Cllr Katherine Tyson

**Apologies:** None received

**22/CO/252 Declaration of Interest:** None disclosed.

**22/CO/253 Minutes:** the minutes of the meeting of 4 November 2021 were agreed and will be signed at next physical meeting.

**22/CO/254 Stratfield Brake** – the committee discussed the proposal from Oxford United to Oxfordshire County Council to build a new stadium and other facilities on the site. The committee was asked to approve a statement stating the Parish Council’s position.

*Kidlington Parish Council is approaching the OUFC Stratfield Brake proposal with an open mind. Before deciding whether or not to support it, and whether to relinquish our lease on the site, we will want to see how far the proposals can be modified or developed to meet the needs and concerns of Kidlington residents, particularly with regard to traffic and parking, green spaces, biodiversity and use of the Green Belt. Before deciding we also (1) expect to be fully involved in negotiations between OCC and OUFC, (2) intend to hold some form of public consultation, form and timing to be decided in due course, (3) will in due course require firm reassurances, for example in the form of covenants, as to the security of any agreements reached, and OUFC’s financial capacity deliver and maintain them.*

Discussion ensued ranging over arguments both for; future employment, putting Kidlington ‘on the map’, leverage to ensure improved sports facilities – and against; loss of green belt and green space, fear of inadequate parking provision, potential noise and light pollution, reduced potential for biodiversity.

The Community Committee accepted the above statement of KPC’s position.

### **22/CO/255 Action Points from previous meeting**

- Cherwell Collective is now included in the options appraisal for redevelopment of Exeter Close
- Photographic panels now installed around the Public Toilets in the Piazza.
- No further information about the felling and pollarding of infected ash trees at Yarnton Road – FM to follow up with CDC Tree Officer on his return.
- No further information regarding the trees to be planted in Garden City to replace trees removed from Honor Close – Clerk to follow up with OCC Tree Officer. To chase OCC for their management plan for the copse.
- FM reports that fly tipping continues to be a constant problem at Exeter Close and may result in the Council removing the recycling bins which seem to attract misuse.

**22/CO/256 Facilities Manager Report:**

FM reported on repairs needed following ROSPA playground inspections.

FM and Clerk to confirm quotes for the Outdoor Gym and new Football area at Ron Groves.

Compost bins have been installed in the allotment sites and noticeboards due for installation.

Bollards to be installed at Bicester Road cemetery to discourage fly tipping at the back of the site.

Fixed electrical testing completed at Exeter Close.

**22/CO/257 Ear Marked Reserves & Revenue Budget Review:**

It was confirmed that the Community Committee had requested and funding has been approved for £130k for improvements to Orchard Recreation Play Area and £3000 for commemorative mugs for the Queen's Jubilee

**22/CO/258 Allotments:**

Cllr Williamson reported that the new tenancy agreements had been approved which now includes a deposit that will be withheld if tenants leave their plot in a poor condition. One allotment holder at Blenheim Rd to circulate advice and information on natural alternatives to commercial pesticides and weedkiller; Cllrs Williamson and Mawson to follow up at next meeting 30 March.

**22/CO/259 KPC Events:**

The committee congratulated the team for the successful organisation of the Stratfield Brake fireworks and the Christmas Lights Switch on.

Members felt that the new lighting scheme across the village had been very effective. The decision to use artificial trees in place of real trees in some locations had worked well.

**Gala Day:** Date confirmed as 23 July 2022.

**Queen's Jubilee 4 June 2022:** Cherwell Collective to host a Jubilee Big Lunch over the weekend.

**22/CO/260 Environment Group Update:**

**Lyne Rd Green:** hedge planting day attracted many volunteers who organised themselves constructively. One local resident agreed to water trees. KPC outdoor team provided support spreading compost. Roselle Chapman from Wild Oxfordshire advised throughout on distribution of a range of native species (220 whips), following Cllr Williamson's plan.

**Orchard Rec:** Harvest @ Home working with Sea Scouts planted 110 native fruit and nut hedging plants in mid Dec 21. C100 still available. **Action** consider alternative sites.

**Queen's Green Canopy** count: Total of trees to date which may count towards this scheme: 330 hedging whips and 11 mature trees. At Ron Grove rec a further 14 are planned. Cllr Williamson to follow up with Clerk and CDC Tree Officer regarding timing and ordering for planting Nov 22.

**Action:** to inform local residents by mail drop, as for Lyne Rd Green, and invite support (Cllrs Street & Williamson with CPO).

**KEG (Kidlington Eco Group)** scheduled to meet first Thurs every month at Exeter Hall 1pm after Cherwell Collective lunch. Notice to go in Feb Kidlington News. KEG talks to be held bi-monthly: starting Thurs 24 March at 7.30. Open invitation.

**22/CO/261 Playground Improvements Programme:**

**Ron Groves:** S106 money being used to install new Outdoor Gym and Football area.

**Orchard Rec Project:** Budget approved for new play area at Orchard Rec – FM and CPO to follow up.

**Park Hill.** Cllr Street to convene a visit to review provision/opportunities for development at Park Hill with FM, Cllr Prestidge, Cllr Pack and Cllr Loveridge.

**22/CO/262 Bicester Road Cemetery:**

The Council has now been informed that the suggested location for the expansion of the cemetery is to the north of the site which is the least favoured option as there are large trees and a ditch between the two areas which will make them difficult to connect. Further discussions needed with CDC and the developers before implementing the plans for further development of the site.

**The meeting closed at: 8pm**

**Date of Next Meeting: 10 March 2022 @ 6.30pm**