

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 at Exeter Hall at 7.30pm on Thursday 31 March 2022

Present: Cllr David Betts, Cllr Conrad Copeland, Cllr Alan Graham, Cllr Fiona Mawson, Cllr Ian Middleton, Cllr Chris Pack, Cllr Neil Prestidge, Cllr David Robey (Chair), Cllr Alison Street, Cllr Katherine Tyson, Cllr Dorothy Walker

In Attendance: Oxfordshire County Councillor Nigel Simpson,
Clerk – Rachel Faulkner
Nicholas Tonks – Kidlington Voice
Two members of the public

Apologies: Cllr Lucy Loveridge, Cllr David Thurling, Cllr Doug Williamson

22/016 Declaration of Interest – None declared

22/017 Co-option
The Council **RESOLVED** to co-opt Lesley McClean to the Council. She was appointed to the Community Committee.

22/018 Nicholas Tonks was introduced as the new Chairman of Kidlington Voice. He explained that a new steering group was being set up for the Voice and asked that a member of the Council join the group. It was agreed that a member would be allocated to this position at the Annual Meeting of the Council in May.

22/019 Public Participation
Two members of the public spoke against the proposals to build a stadium and ancillary facilities for Oxford United at Stratfield Brake.

22/020 In light of the public participation, the Chairman brought forward Item 9 Stratfield Brake.
The Chairman stated that the Council's position related only to how the proposals affect Kidlington residents, not the interests of Oxford United, although the Council understands the Club's stated position.
It was understood that opinions in the village are very divided. The recent engagement exercise conducted by OCC suggested that although there was support for the proposal across the county, 58% of the 818 local residents who had responded were against the proposal. There was no way of knowing how representative this response was.
Councillors discussed how best to engage with Kidlington residents to seek their views on the proposals which are still subject to change. OUFC is also keen to seek views from residents about what ancillary facilities might be beneficial for the community.
It was agreed that it would not be appropriate to seek the views of residents on the proposals until and unless OUFC's plans for the site have been made as clear, as reliable and as detailed as feasible. This would include the plans they develop with OCC for traffic management including parking.

Members agreed that an article would be included in the annual newsletter to be distributed in early May setting out the current position. This may also include asking residents what facilities and amenities they feel Kidlington needs. Members agreed that when plans are fully developed there should be an exhibition at Exeter Hall which should seek to inform residents and allow them the opportunity to ask questions. Kidlington Development Watch should also be given the opportunity to display material at the exhibition to explain and illustrate the implications of the proposed development. The Council's position in the exhibition would be neutral.

The Council agreed that either a Parish Poll or a Household Survey should take place once the proposals are clear and residents can make an informed decision. The exhibition would be mounted in conjunction with the poll/survey in order to help residents decide on their responses. Any poll or survey would only be advisory, not binding.

It was agreed that the Chair and Vice-Chair would represent the Council in the discussions to be held between the Club, the County Councils, and the leaseholder councils. The aim of these discussions is to clarify the proposals taking into account the concerns of residents. Taking part in these discussions in no way committed the Council to agreeing to the proposals that result from them.

Following these discussions and opportunities for residents to comment, the council should have a better understanding of the views of Kidlington residents to help inform their decision.

It was agreed that although the proposals are in the very early stages it was likely that residents would wish to discuss it at the Annual Parish Meeting in May. Therefore, the Council would invite Cllr Callum Miller to the APM to present and answer questions from an OCC perspective. It was felt it was not appropriate to invite OUFC to be represented at this meeting.

22/021 The minutes of the Council meeting of 27 January 2022 were approved for accuracy and signed by the Chairman.

Cllrs Copeland, Pack and Tyson left the meeting

22/022 The Council received reports from Oxfordshire County Councillors Ian Middleton and Nigel Simpson. It was reported that the bridge over the railway at Sandy Lane that was proposed to be a foot and cycle bridge would in fact have to carry farm and emergency vehicles. Therefore there was an argument for it to carry normal traffic, although the Council was still reserving its position on this issue.

22/023 The minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 10 February and 10 March 2022 were moved by Cllr Graham. Members were reminded that all councillors are invited to attend Planning Committee on 14 April at 6:30 pm in Exeter Hall, where the application for site PR7a Land at Gosford will be discussed. GWE and the developer are to be invited to attend.

22/024 The minutes of the Community Committee held on 10 March 2022 were moved by Cllr Street and all recommendations approved. The Council **RESOLVED** to accept the increased charges for allotments and burials. It was agreed that the cost of full burials in principle should be double that of cremated remains. The Council **RESOLVED** to increase the budget by £4000 for the firework display to enable a lower-volume more environmentally friendly display. The additional costs to be taken from the Climate Change budget.

The Council **RESOLVED** to purchase commemorative mugs for all the school children in Kidlington and Gosford.

The Council **AGREED** to add a figure of £150,000 to the list of potential capital projects for the renovation of recreation facilities at Park Hill. This was not a formal commitment to the expenditure,

22/025

The minutes of the Policy and Finance Committee held on 17 March 2022 were moved by Cllr Betts and all recommendations were approved.

The Chairman reported that the office was investigating ways to hold hybrid meetings in the future.

It was noted that the County Council was proceeding with the Council's preferred scheme for a 20 mph speed limit on all residential roads in the Village, the only exceptions being the main Oxford-Banbury Road and the North-South Bicester Road. There will also be a 20 mph limit on the Oxford-Banbury Road between Benmead Road and Yarnton Road, and a 30 mph limit between Yarnton Road and the Sainsburys roundabout.

Bicester Road Cemetery – the Council is waiting for further information from the developers of site PR7a before deciding how to proceed with the extension.

22/026

The Council received the Clerk's Report and were updated on personnel, jubilee celebrations, use of Exeter Hall by Barclays Bank and funds received from the Welcome Back Fund.

22/027

The Council discussed content for the annual newsletter to be distributed in early May ahead of the Annual Parish Meeting. Members discussed the APM and agreed to invite speakers – Emily Connally from Cherwell Collective/WISH, County Councillor Callum Miller and the local representative for Thames Valley Police.

22/028

The Council discussed the calendar of meetings for 22/23 and agreed to change the Policy and Finance meeting from 23 to 16 June 2022. To be confirmed at the annual meeting of the Council in May.

22/029

Representation on Outside Bodies

Cllr David Robey reported from the Four Parishes meeting with representatives from Gosford & Water Eaton, Yarnton and Begbroke parishes. The last meeting had been attended by Andy Bateson from CDC who is overseeing the developments around Kidlington.

Cllr David Thurling and Cllr Dorothy Walker reported from the Airport Consultative Committee. It was agreed that councillors should continue to monitor the issue of aircraft noise.

The meeting closed at: 9.35pm