

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 at Exeter Hall at 6.30pm on Thursday 1 September 2022

Present: Cllr Alison Street (Chair) Cllr Fiona Mawson
Cllr David Robey Cllr Doug Williamson
Cllr Neil Prestidge

In Attendance: FM – Graham Kearney, CPO – Les Dent

Non-Attendance: Cllr Victoria Campbell

Apologies: Cllr Lesley McLean, Cllr Lucy Loveridge, Cllr Dorothy Walker, Clerk – Rachel Faulkner

22/CO/286 Declaration of Interest: None

22/CO/287 Minutes: the minutes of the meeting held on 9 June 2022 were reviewed, agreed and signed.

22/CO/288 Matters Arising from previous meeting:

- **Honor Close** –OCC have been chased again for a conclusion as to a management plan. The Clerk to raise concern with regard to lack of response from OCC and to continue chasing prior to any consideration from KPC to manage Honor Close.
- **Update from Fire Safety Officer:** Following the officer's risk assessment and recent inspection, Exeter Hall was considered adequate with recommendations for small adjustments to the building. **Action:** FM to organise these works
- **Update on Kidlington in Bloom:** the working group proposed not to enter for 2023, to continue with local environmental motivations in enhancing Kidlington's biodiversity and continue with more community engagement for both new and already planned projects.

22/CO/289 Facilities Manager's Report

- Members were updated with reference to the key points of the FM's report.
- The decking area between the doctor's hub and Exeter Hall needs a rethink and better design and cost-effective landscaping options, as opposed to regular annual costly reparation works. **Action:** FM/CPO to liaise with a landscape designer to obtain options and present to members.
- After install of the new gym at Ron Groves the footpath leading from the patio/clubhouse needs the footpath for those less able to access the adapted pieces of gym equipment installed for their use **Action:** Cllr Prestidge to chase with KRT on these works
- Additional outside table tennis tables to be considered for other park areas.
- Bridge 227 Grovelands: **Action:** FM/CPO to further chase Canal & River Trust to confirm it is their asset before any remedial works are undertaken.
- BRC update: FM **recommended** four additional benches, to match existing, to be placed along the hedge line which abuts the old allotments side. This seating is for families who have loved ones buried in the new sections. **Action:** Members **Agreed**

22/CO/290 Update on KPC Events:

Gala Day at Exeter Close was a very successful event with great attendance. **Action:** To discuss with the Clerk a possible increase to the budget for next year to accommodate doubling the more popular attractions (eg climbing wall) to save queuing times, and to research possibility of local sponsorship.

Fireworks: CPO/FM to chase up with firework provider on how the plans are progressing. **Action:** CPO to circulate an update to members and KEG group to promote this event as a “low noise” show so residents are prepared for a different style of event.

Christmas Light Switch on/1.12.2022: nothing to report

Date for Gala Day 2023: Members agreed the proposed date of **22.7.2023**.

22/CO/291 Kidlington Environment Group (KEG) Update:

Lyne Road Green: Members were updated on the meeting and change of date for this Action Day to **1 October**. Scarifiers/rakes are needed for volunteers on the day. Seeds have been ordered in preparation. CPO to contact allotment holders to check if they can loan equipment for this event. A contractor meeting is planned to discuss scarifying the larger area of the green plus the transplanting of an oak sapling from within the green as a ‘community tree’. A temporary noticeboard informing residents of the management plan will be put in place.

Ron Groves: This is now a planting project and not an event, after response from Garden City FC, Subsequent to the recent leaflet drop in this area, three residents fed back suggestions and concerns of which were addressed at an additional meeting with the CDC/Tree Officer, to consider small changes to the original plan and plant smaller height trees and species. He also agreed to crown 3 of the mature trees in this location. Thought and agreement was given to a separate plan to plant new trees close to the recently installed gym and playground areas to create shade. Members confirmed Garden City was at the initial meeting and had been advised on the project.

Foxdown Close: previously discussed, will be considered as a later project.

High Street: After a recent meeting ref concerns raised on trees, a replacement tree (outside Costa) is needed. At this meeting, CDC commented on the need to check budget restraints with a possibility for consideration in next year’s budget. It was suggested that KPC may contribute partly.

Action: It was agreed to wait for next year.

Home Close: this area has been assessed as unregistered and in need of major tree maintenance plus future upkeep. Consideration is needed on how best to proceed before KPC undertake responsibility for this with members being reminded of a situation at Exeter Road. **Action:** To be further discussed by KPC environment group.

KEG Notes 9.6.2022 & 7.7.2022: The notes of both meetings were circulated

Car Sharing Scheme: Members considered the use of the KPC logo being added to the leaflet with comment for more specifics required and change to a correct QR Code. **Action:** It was recommended this item to be further discussed at Full Council. The next KEG meeting will be held on 8 September @ 1.30pm in the small hall.

Allotments/KEG: Information was circulated to members on “Work with nature and love your soils” plus offer for a design project from Amey Roadstone, for reproduction of it from Cllr Prestidge.

Action: It was agreed to discuss this further at the Allotment meeting on 28/9/2022 for a recommendation from this group, plus the need to check copyright or any other permissions required.

Swift Boxes/Commercial Buildings: This was highlighted as a possibility for further discussion at the next KEG meeting and contact being made with the local Swift Group for guidance.

22/CO/292 Playground Improvement Programme:

- **Orchard Recreation Ground** – FM reported the contractor is presently struggling to recruit an installer but hopeful for a start date towards the end of September.

The meeting closed at: 8.10pm

Date of Next Meeting: 27 October 2022 @ 6.30pm