

KIDLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Exeter Hall, Oxford Road, Kidlington, OX5 1AB

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Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Kidlington Parish Council

held at Exeter Hall and on Zoom at 7.30pm on Thursday 18 May 2023

Present: Cllr David Robey (Chair), Cllr Lesley McLean, Cllr Alison Street, Cllr David Betts, Cllr Danny Wright, Cllr Linda Ward, Cllr Melanie Moorhouse, Cllr Doug Williamson, Cllr William Easdown, Cllr Fiona Mawson, Cllr Ian Middleton, Cllr Alan Graham, Cllr Phil Wyse, Cllr Neil Prestidge, Cllr David Thurling

County Councillor Nigel Simpson

In Attendance: Acting Clerk – Allison Leigh, One member of the public

Absent: Clerk – Rachel Faulkner

On Line: Five attendees

1. The Council **RESOLVED** to appoint Allison Leigh as Acting Clerk for the meeting. The Council sends their best wishes to Rachel.
2. To elect a Chair for 2023-24: David Betts nominated David Robey as Chair. Alan Graham seconded him. The Council **RESOLVED** to elect David Robey as Chair for the coming year. David Robey accepted for one year only.
3. To elect a Vice Chair for 2023/24: David Robey proposed Lesley McLean as Vice-Chair. Alison Street seconded her. The Council **RESOLVED** to elect Lesley McLean as Vice-Chair.
4. To receive apologies for absence: None
5. The Council **RESOLVED** to co-opt Neil Prestidge, David Thurling and Phil Wyse to the Council due to vacancies following the election.
6. Declarations of Acceptance of Office were signed by all councillors.
7. To receive disclosures of personal and prejudicial interests from Councillors on matters to be considered at the meeting: Cllr Linda Ward reported she has spoken to the Monitoring Officer (MO) as she is a member of Kidlington Development Watch. The MO reported this membership does not preclude Cllr Ward from participating on matters relating to Oxford United Football Club.
8. Public Participation - a member of the public was in attendance to speak on the issue of the recent Parish Poll.

A resident asked the Council to reconsider its stance of neutrality with regards to Oxford United Football Club's stadium plans. She noted the poll response was significant: out of over 3000 responses, 2073 were against the Football Club coming to Kidlington. She also noted other reasons for which Council should reconsider its stance.

9. The Council **RESOLVED** to sign the minutes of the 23 March 2023 as a correct record of the meeting.

10. The Council **RESOLVED** to accept the amended meeting dates for May 2023 to April 2024.
11. The Council **RESOLVED** to accept the Terms of Reference for committees.
12. The Council appointed members to Committees and Working Parties and elected Chairs and Vice-Chairs for each:

COMMITTEES

- Community Committee (9)
 1. William Easdown
 2. Fiona Mawson
 3. Lesley McLean
 4. Melanie Moorhouse (Vice-Chair)
 5. Neil Prestidge
 6. David Robey
 7. Alison Street (Chair)
 8. Doug Williamson
 9. Phil Wyse
- Policy and Finance Committee (9)
 1. David Betts (Vice-Chair)
 2. Alan Graham
 3. Lesley McLean (Chair)
 4. Ian Middleton
 5. David Robey
 6. Alison Street
 7. David Thurling
 8. Linda Ward
 9. Danny Wright
- Planning Committee (7)
 1. David Betts
 2. Alan Graham (Chair)
 3. Lesley McLean
 4. Melanie Moorhouse
 5. David Thurling (Vice Chair)
 6. Linda Ward
 7. Doug Williamson
- Personnel Committee (Chairs and Vice-Chairs of all committees)

WORKING PARTIES

- **Complaints and Appeals:** Chair and Vice-Chair of Council
- **Allotments:** Fiona Mawson, Doug Williamson
- **Local Plan:** David Robey (Chair), Alan Graham, Lesley McLean, David Betts, Neil Prestidge, Linda Ward
- **Cherwell Collective:** David Robey (Chair), Alison Street, Lesley McLean, Melanie Moorhouse
- **Exeter Close:** David Robey (Chair), Lesley McLean, David Betts, Ian Middleton, Alison Street, Doug Williamson

13. To appoint members to external bodies: Members were appointed as follows.

- **Kidlington Recreational Trust:** Neil Prestidge (Danny Wright to shadow)
- **Kidlington Eco Group (KEG):** Alison Street and Fiona Mawson
- **Kidlington Voice Committee:** Lesley McLean
- **Oxford Airport Consultative Committee:** David Thurling and Ian Middleton
- **Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils:** David Robey
- **Parish Transport Representative:** Alan Graham
- **Police Community Forum:** Neil Prestige
- **St Mary's Fields Management Committee:** David Thurling and Doug Williamson
- **Stratfield Brake Liaison:** Alan Graham, David Betts, David Robey
- **Traffic Advisory Committee:** Alan Graham, David Betts, David Thurling and Danny Wright

It was agreed to refer to Policy and Finance Committee the possibility of setting up working parties on communications and sports and recreational provision.

14. The Council **RESOLVED** to continue to receive the Councillors Allowance (1 voted against and 1 abstained). It was noted that Councillors can choose to opt out and that co-opted Councillors cannot claim.
15. To receive Minutes of Committees and consider recommendations:
 - a. Planning Committee on 13 April (minutes on website for review) – Cllr Graham moved the minutes of the 13 April and departed the meeting at this time.
 - b. Community Committee on 20 April – Cllr Street moved the minutes of 20 April.
 - Coronation Garden – It was reported that this is going ahead.
 - Dogs at St Mary's and Stratfield Brake – New signage is still being considered. The issue of dogs being kept on leads in St Mary's will be looked into with the St Mary's Fields committee. Stratfield Brake could do with more signs in relation to dogs. This will be followed up with Liam Didcock. The Community Committee will review and then come to Council with recommendations.
 - Trees at Ron Groves – 3 trees opposite residents' houses have been removed and planted elsewhere. A letter of thanks from a resident had been received.
 - Seating at Lyne Road bus shelter – No update.
 - c. Policy and Finance Committee on 27 April – Cllr Betts moved the minutes of 27 April.
 - S137 Grants – Two grants were made to Cherwell Theatre Company and (subject to further clarification) North Oxfordshire Foodbank.
 - Playing Pitch Strategy.
 - Co-options following elections.
16. To review and adopt Statutory Documents:
 - a. Standing Orders – The Council **RESOLVED** to adopt the Standing Orders.
 - b. Financial Regulations - The Council **RESOLVED** to adopt the Financial Regulations.
 - c. Scheme of Delegation (to be referred to P&F) – The Clerk will be creating a draft for P&F.
 - d. Publication Scheme – The Council **RESOLVED** to adopt the Publication Scheme.
17. To discuss the outcome of the Parish Poll regarding Oxford United Football Club.
 The Parish Council agreed that this was a significant result, although it did not support the calling of the poll. However, for the time being, for the same reasons as before, it **RESOLVED** to remain neutral on the stadium issue until detailed plans for the stadium are available. It was noted that the County Council plans a further consultation with residents and more widely after the detailed plans are available, and could still decide to proceed with the proposal, whatever the Council and residents might think.

It was noted that a position of neutrality is the best one from which to engage with the County Council and the Club on

- Mitigating the potential adverse effects of the development
- Maximizing the potential benefits to residents
- The sustainability of any agreements reached
- Ensuring that the next consultation process is as fair and robust as possible.

It was further agreed that residents should be thanked for turning out to vote, and that a note should be placed on the website inviting further comments from residents.

The Council RESOLVED to suspend Standing Orders and extend the time of the meeting.

18. To discuss the potential redevelopment of Exeter Close (**oral report**). – David Robey and the Clerk will have a further informal meeting with a developer on this and more reports will be circulated.
19. Botley West Solar Farm (**oral report**). The Council will be sending a letter to the MP with regards to Botley Solar Farm. The Chair had made further enquiries about fire risk, and amended the text of the Council's position accordingly.
20. To receive reports from County and District Councillors.
 - a. **Cherwell District Council:** District councillors reported on the current state of negotiations on the Council leadership.
 - b. **County Council:** Nigel Simpson reported the following:
 - A special education needs review is needed and being worked on.
 - Yellow lines: It is down to the Parish Council to push any new yellow lines needs to the next level as these would be paid for by the Parish Council. Cllr Betts noted that enforcement is an issue as the current lines aren't clear. It was noted that P&F and the Traffic Advisory Committee would need to be involved in this matter.
 - 20mph Speed limit comes into effect on 22nd May. It was noted that some signage isn't yet up.
 - There will be a Guide dogs tea party at the Methodist Church on 31st May from 2-4pm.

The meeting closed at 9:45pm

Kidlington Parish Council – Committee Membership 2023-2024

COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

1. David Robey (Chair)
2. Lesley McLean (Vice Chair)
3. Melanie Moorhouse
4. Fiona Mawson
5. Neil Prestidge
6. Alison Street
7. Doug Williamson
8. Will Easedown
9. Phil Wyse

POLICY & FINANCE COMMITTEE

1. Lesley Mclean (Chair)
2. David Betts (Vice Chair)
3. David Robey
4. Alan Graham
5. Alison Street
6. Ian Middleton
7. Linda Ward
8. David Thurling
9. Danny Wright

PLANNING COMMITTEE

1. David Betts
2. Alan Graham
3. Lesley Mclean
4. Doug Williamson
5. David Thurling
6. Linda Ward
7. Melanie Moorhouse

SUB-COMMITTEES

- **Personnel:** Chairs and Vice Chairs of Council and all standing committees
- **Exeter Close Sub-Committee:** David Robey (Chair) David Betts, Alan Graham, Ian Middleton, Lesley Mclean, Alison Street, Doug Williamson

WORKING PARTIES

- **Complaints and Appeals:** Chair and Vice Chair of Council
- **Allotments:** Fiona Mawson, Doug Williamson
- **Local Plan:** David Robey (Chair), Alan Graham, Lesley Mclean, David Betts, Neil Prestidge, Linda Ward
- **Future relations with Cherwell Collective:** David Robey, Alison Street, Lesley Mclean, Melanie Moorhouse

REPRESENTATIVES ON EXTERNAL BODIES

- **Kidlington Recreational Trust:** Neil Prestidge (Danny Wright to shadow)
- **Kidlington Eco Group (KEG):** Alison Street and Fiona Mawson
- **Kidlington Voice Committee:** Lesley Mclean
- **No-Expressway/ARC Alliance:** David Robey, David Betts
- **Oxford Airport Consultative Committee:** David Thurling and Ian Middleton
- **Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils:** David Robey
- **Parish Transport Representative:** Alan Graham
- **Police Community Forum:** Neil Prestidge
- **St Mary's Fields Management Committee:** David Thurling and Doug Williamson
- **Stratfield Brake Liaison:** Alan Graham, David Betts, David Robey
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