

**Minutes of the Meeting of Kidlington Parish Council**  
**Held at Exeter Hall, Oxford Road, Kidlington on Thursday 10 January 2019**

**Present:** Cllr David Betts, Cllr Andy Dyer, Cllr Alan Graham, Cllr Carmen Griffiths, Cllr Gill Hopcroft, Cllr Helen Kingsley, Cllr Alan Mackenzie-Wintle, Cllr Carole Pack, Cllr Chris Pack, Cllr Neil Prestidge, Cllr Sandra Rhodes, Cllr Nigel Simpson (Chairman)

**Apologies:** Cllr Maurice Billington

**In attendance:** Clerk to the Council and 36 members of the public

19/071 Declarations of interest – none declared

19/072 It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 8 November 2018 were signed as a true record.

19/073 The Council received a presentation from Manor Oak Homes regarding their proposals for the land allocated by Cherwell District Council at Stratfield Farm (PR7b). The site allocation is for 100 homes although the developers are proposing an increase to 175 homes with 50% affordable housing.

The Chairman explained to members of the public that the allocations have yet to be approved and they will be examined by the government appointed inspector during the enquiry commencing 5 February. Kidlington Parish Council have consistently objected to the housing numbers, reduction of the Kidlington Gap and development on the Green Belt.

19/074 The Council received and **RESOLVED** to move the minutes of committee meetings and to adopt the recommendations:

- Planning Committee – 8 November, 13 December 2018
- Community – 6 December 2018
- Policy and Finance – 13 December 2018

19/075 The Council considered a motion ‘This Council will only accept invitations from speakers acting on behalf of six sites allocated for housing development that are in the Partial Review of the Cherwell Local Plan Par 1 to address Oxford’s Unmet Housing Needs. Specifically, these sites are PR6a, PR6b, PR7a, PR7b, PR8, PR9 and PR10’.

There were concerns that allowing potential developers to present their proposals gave them credence and some councillors felt that we should await the Inspector’s report on the allocations. However, other councillors felt that it is important the public are given opportunities to engage with the process and understand how and where the decisions are made. They felt that it is better for the Council and public to be told about modifications to the developers’ plans and this did not mean the Council supports them. It was stressed that it is important the public know that the Parish Council has objected to the proposals at every stage.

The council voted against the motion and felt that decisions should be made on a case by case basis.

19/076 The Council discussed representation at the Examination in Public (EIP) and **RESOLVED** to employ the services of Deirdre Wells to attend for all four days accompanied by the Chairman, Cllr Simpson and/or Cllr Betts.

10/077 The Council reviewed the budget and proposed increase of the precept previously recommended for approval by the Policy and Finance Committee on 13 December 2018. The Council **RESOLVED** to approved the budget and increase to the precept.

19/078 The Council ratified authorisation of payments between 1 October and 31 December 2018.

19/079 The council received the Clerk's report on current matters:

**Personnel:** Graham Kearney started on 2 January as Facilities Manager and has hit the ground running. Graham has direct management of Groundsmen (Dave and Ben), Caretakers (Bert, Jimmy and Mark) and Catering Staff (Sue and Jo).

The clerk reported that the contract with DCK Accounting is working well and they are attending approximately twice a month. The Clerk has taken over many of the RFO functions and it was recommended by the Policy and Finance committee that she be appointed Section 151 officer. *(An officer appointed under section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972 which requires every local authority to appoint a suitably qualified officer responsible for the proper administration of its affairs)*

The Clerk reported that payroll had been outsourced to DCK Accounting and in doing so KPC has terminated the arrangement with Gosford & Water Eaton PC so that their Clerk will now be employed by them not through KPC.

**Finance:** Staff are working through the historic bad debt with some success with the intention of clearing the backlog before the end of the financial year.

It remains a priority to switch to electronic banking which DCK will be working on.

**Morton Close:** The Clerk reported on a meeting with Jonathan and Daniel Ede (father and son owners of Ede Homes) who own the land at the end of Morton Close. They have no plans for it and would be happy to consider transferring it to KPC at a nominal cost probably with a covenant that would prevent any housing development. The Clerk confirmed that KPC are no longer maintaining the land and are not responsible for the brick wall or play equipment.

**Exeter Hall:** The clerk reported that the work to repair the roof was underway.

A small working group has been formed to look at minor refurbishments to the bar room.

**Exeter Close Play Area:** The outdoor lighting has been installed along the path from the main car park to the pavilion. This has been very well received by local residents.

**Bicester Road cemetery:** No further updates from Cemetery Development Services.

**Burial Charges:** The Policy and Finance committee recommended an increase to charges at both cemeteries from 1 April. Funeral Directors will be informed in early February.

**Hall Hire Charges:** The Policy and Finance committee recommended an increase to charges at Exeter Hall and the Pavilion from 1 April.

**Exeter Close redevelopment:** The Council is awaiting news regarding the One Public Estate funding. In the meantime, the council will need to consider an approach by neighbouring landowner regarding access or purchase.

**Newsletter:** Councillors, in particular committee chairs were asked to consider articles for the newsletter which needs to be compiled in the next few weeks.

19/080 The Council considered meeting dates for 2019/20.

19/081 The Council considered agenda items for the Annual Parish Meeting.

After consideration, due to the elections in May, the Annual Parish Meeting has been moved from March to Thursday 23 May 2019.

19/082 The Council discussed items for the annual newsletter.

19/083 District Cllr Prestidge reported that Civil Enforcement, formerly referred to as decriminalised parking, is being actively pursued by the District Council.

The meeting closed at 9.25pm