

**The Kidlington Annual Parish Meeting
held at Exeter Hall, Oxford Road, Kidlington on Thursday 15 March 2018**

In attendance were members of the Parish Council and over 70 local residents

Welcome by the Chairman of the Council – Cllr Nigel Simpson

Minutes of the Meeting

The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 16 March 2017 were agreed and signed as a true record.

Report from Chairman of Finance

Cllr Alan Mackenzie-Wintle reported that the contribution from Council Tax for Kidlington Parish Council increased by 5.85% which represents £8 per household per annum for a band D property. This increase was required to fund the outsourcing of the management of Stratfield Brake to an outside contractor so that it can be run for the greater good of the community. A number of efficiencies had been introduced to mitigate this increase.

Report from Thames Valley Police

Inspector Steve Hookham and Acting Sergeant Chris Cochran reported on the latest crime statistics for Kidlington. They emphasised that Kidlington has a great community spirit and is a safe place to live. There had been an increase in domestic burglaries largely due to the travelling criminals who access villages and towns close to major roads such as the A34.

The current priorities for TVP included efforts to tackle thefts from dwellings, Child Sexual Exploitation, Domestic Abuse, Child Drugs Exploitation. The police are working closely with schools as they rely on the community to identify vulnerable individuals. A local Community Resilience Group had been formed to replace the old Neighbourhood Action Group model and the police were keen to work more closely with the community to reduce crime.

Report regarding Health Provision

Dr Mark Wallace from the Gosford Hill Medical Practice reported on the future of primary health care. He explained that it was likely that there would be a move to larger practises with additional facilities and it was hoped that Kidlington would become one of the locations for this type of Health Centre. Dr Wallace explained the difficulty in recruiting and retaining doctors in the area and that it was likely that some of the work in local practices would be undertaken by Advanced Nurse Practitioners and Clinical Pharmacists

Dr Wallace said that in the past health professionals had been quite reactive in dealing with patients and that they wanted to change that focus to try and be pre-emptive in helping to keep people healthy and promoting healthy living initiatives.

Kidlington is part of the Clinical Commissioning Group North East Locality which incorporates Yarnton, Begbroke, Woodstock, Islip and Bicester.

Dr Wallace reported that the Gosford Practice was keen to combine onto one site with the Key Medical Practice. The current premises are not adequate for this so they are working towards a new facility.

London Oxford Airport

The Head of Business Development, James Dillon-Godfrey reported to residents about the activities at Oxford Airport. He informed the meeting that the airport housed 25 businesses with over 1000 employees.

The airport is the 5th busiest airport in the country for business aviation with over 40,000 movements annually.

He reassured residents that, despite media speculation, they do not intend to extend the runway. They can currently accommodate 130 seat aircraft although 78 seaters are the largest they tend to see. He reported that the airport is currently the quietest it has been in its history, where it used to be used primarily for pilot training it is now more private use for business as it is the best located for businesses in the Thames Valley.

Mr Dillon-Godfrey explained that the airport did not have a masterplan for expansion but reacted to approaches as they arose. He told residents of plans for a new hangar on Langford Lane.

The airport has been in discussion with the County Council regarding the use of some land by the Bladon roundabout for use as a Park and Ride site

Cherwell District Council

Cllr Barry Wood, Leader of CDC advised residents that he was happy to answer any questions put to him as he felt that residents had heard the reasons why CDC had been asked to find allocations for 4,400 homes to meet Oxford's unmet need. Cllr Woods was asked if he personally supported the plans. He said that he felt it was important that people had somewhere to live and that it made sense to locate houses close to Oxford if the intention was to home people who worked in the city. When asked about affordable housing, Cllr Woods said that the Partial Review proposed that 50% of the housing would be classified as affordable housing some of which may be Shared Ownership or rental through Housing Associations.

Cllr Woods stressed that the whole proposal would be in the hands of the Planning Inspector who would decide whether the circumstances were exceptional enough to allow building on the Green Belt.

Cllr Woods was asked about the parking problems in Kidlington. He explained that the Council is looking at decriminalised parking or civil enforcement which may help to alleviate some of the problems of illegal parking.

Questions from the Public

Question from resident regarding improved cycle ways in the village.

The chairman explained that the County Council is responsible for providing cycle paths and the Parish Council would work with them and local residents to look for solutions.

Question from resident regarding accessibility at Exeter Hall.

The chairman explained that the longer term plans for Exeter Hall had not yet been made. The Council accepted that as the building was now 40 years old it did not meet modern standards in some areas and would be addressing these in the context of the overall development of the site.

Question from resident regarding outsourcing of management at Stratfield Brake.

The chairman explained that the Council had spent a lot of money over the years on the facility although a relatively small number of groups used it. The intention of our sourcing was to encourage more community use.