Minutes of the Meeting of Kidlington Parish Council
Held at Exeter Hall, Oxford Road, Kidlington on Thursday 21 November 2019

Present: Cllr David Betts, Cllr Conrad Copeland, Cllr Alan Graham, Cllr Ian Middleton, Cllr Carole Pack, Cllr Chris Pack, Cllr Neil Prestidge, Cllr David Robey (Chair), Cllr Katherine Tyson, Cllr Alison Street, Cllr Doug Williamson, Cllr Tracey Wyse

Co-opted: Cllr Daniel Clacher, Cllr Fiona Mawson

Apologies: None received

In attendance: Clerk to the Council – Rachel Faulkner
County Councillor – Carmen Griffiths
Deputy Lord Lieutenant Robert Buckledee

19/039 No declarations of personal or prejudicial interests were received.

19/040 The minutes of the Council Meeting held on 3 October 2019 were signed as a correct record.

19/041 The Council received presentations from three candidates for the two vacancies on the Parish Council following the resignations of Maurice Billington and Jacqueline Garlick. The Council voted and RESOLVED to co-opt Daniel Clacher and Fiona Mawson. Cllr Ian Middleton abstained from voting.

19/042 The Council received a presentation from Deputy Lord Lieutenant Robert Buckledee who explained his role as the Queen’s representative in the County.

19/043 The Council received the minutes of Committees and RESOLVED to accept the recommendations:

- Planning Committee on 10 October, 14 November 2019 – moved by Cllrs Williamson and Graham

- Community Committee on 7 November 2019 – moved by Cllr Chris Pack

  Recommendations:
  To set up a Healthy Place Shaping working group chaired by Alison Street.
  To replace damaged dog waste bins in various locations – circa £300 per bin
  To replace litter bins in the 4 locations – circa £300 per bin
  To purchase shingle to resurface paths at Bicester Road cemetery - £652.50
  To purchase benches for St Mary’s Garden of Remembrance - £1000 approx

- Policy and Finance Committee on 14 November 2019 – moved by Cllr Betts

  Recommendations:
  To upgrade emails to minimise scam emails.
  That Deirdre Wells be asked to produce a response for the Partial Review, Main Modifications stating that the Parish Council objects to the expansion of development in the Kidlington Gap and the loss of sports pitch provision. To be reviewed at Policy and Finance meeting on 11 December.
  Grants to Kidlington Recreational Trust (£2932,93) Oxfordshire Association for the Blind (£1000) and the Kidlington Hub at St Johns (£2,500)
To change the date of the Policy and Finance committee to Wednesday 11 December to avoid clash with General Election.

Budget – the P&F committee has reviewed the draft budget and would be finalising it at the next meeting. All councillors to be invited to attend.

19/044 Clerk’s Report
The Clerk informed the Council about personnel changes.
The Council were advised that work has begun to install the new play area at Ron Groves park.
Benches have been installed by two bus shelters in the village and the internal fitted benches would be installed in the coming weeks by the contractor.

19/045 Bicester Road Cemetery
Cllr David Betts explained the background to the purchase of the cemetery land. When the cemetery at St Mary’s was reaching capacity, the Council started to research potential sites across the village. 10 sites were considered, most of which were considered unsuitable by the Environment Agency or would have required a compulsory purchase order. Since acquiring the land, the council has put in two swales and drainage channels to mitigate the problems with water run off. The Council planted trees around the perimeter that are starting to establish themselves. Recently the Council decided to cease digging double depth graves and to use the land on the higher parts of the cemetery. Having taken professional advice from Cemetery Development Services, the Council is clearing the ditches on the northern perimeter. Work beginning w/c 25 November. It was agreed that once the ditch clearance work is complete the Council will review what further steps may be required to improve the drainage. Cllr Robey emphasised that a large budget has been set aside for drainage and environmental improvements to the cemetery and that money was not a factor in decision making. It was agreed to set up a Working Party to include representation from Gosford and Water Eaton Parish.

19/046 In accordance with the Local Authorities (Members’ Allowances) Regulations 2003, the Council discussed a proposal to pay councillors the Basic Annual Allowance recommended by CDC’s Parish Remuneration Panel of £876 per annum. The Council RESOLVED to pay allowances. Any members who wish to do so to inform the Clerk before 30 November for budgeting purposes.

19/047 Kidlington Masterplan – the Community Committee and Policy and Finance committee have reviewed the actions on the Masterplan and will be working with other agencies to implement the action plan.

19/048 The Council resolved to declare a Climate Change Emergency and committed to:
1. Declare a ‘Climate Emergency’ that requires urgent action.
2. Work to make the Council’s activities net-zero carbon by 2030
3. Achieve 100% clean energy across the Council’s full range of functions by 2030
4. Ensure that all strategic decisions, budgets and approaches to planning decisions are in line with a shift to zero carbon by 2030.
5. Support and work with all other relevant agencies towards making the entire area zero carbon within the same timescale
6. Work with, influence and inspire partners across the district, county and region to help deliver this goal through all relevant strategies, plans and shared resources
7. Take steps to proactively include young people in the process, ensuring that they have a voice in shaping the future
8. Call on the UK Government to provide the powers, resources and help with funding to make this possible, and ask local MPs to do likewise
9. Consider other actions that could be implemented, including (but not restricted to): renewable energy generation and storage, providing electric vehicle infrastructure and encouraging alternatives to private car use
19/049 The Chairman proposed to suspend Standing Orders so that the meeting could continue beyond 9.30pm

19/050 The Council received a report from OCC Councillor Carmen Griffiths. She reported that OCC has declared a Climate Change Emergency.

Expressway – Cllr Griffiths reported that following a free vote at OCC, councillors voted against the Oxford to Cambridge Expressway.

Cllr Robey asked that thanks are passed to the staff for organising and attending the Fireworks Event.

Cllr Robey reported that the Council did not intend to hold a public meeting about the Expressway until more is known about the consultation timetable. He explained that the Council is a member of the No Expressway Alliance and NAWPEG.

Dates of future meetings:

Wednesday 11 December: Policy and Finance Committee at 6.30pm
Followed by meeting regarding Bicester Cemetery

Thursday 12 December: Planning Committee at 6.30pm

Thursday 9 January: Planning Committee at 6.30pm
Community at 7.30pm

Thursday 16 January: Council at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 9.40pm