

KIDLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Exeter Hall, Oxford Road, Kidlington, OX5 1AB

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Minutes of the Meeting of Kidlington Parish Council

held at Exeter Hall and on Zoom at 7.30pm on Thursday 23 March 2023

Present: Cllr Alan Graham, Cllr Lucy Loveridge, Cllr Fiona Mawson, Cllr Lesley Mclean, Cllr Ian Middleton, Cllr Melanie Moorhouse, Cllr Neil Prestidge, Cllr David Robey (Chair), Cllr David Thurling, Cllr Alison Street, Cllr Linda Ward, Cllr Dorothy Walker, Cllr Doug Williamson.

In Attendance: Clerk – Rachel Faulkner and two members of the public

Apologies: Cllr David Betts

On Line: Cllr Katherine Tyson, 2 members of the public

23/019 Declaration of interests – none received.

23/020 Public Participation

A member of the public raised concerns about the lack of consultation regarding the proposals for the football stadium.

Mr Tom Lewis from the Campaign against the Botley West Solar Farm spoke to the Council and explained how the campaign is working and why the neighbouring villages affected by the proposal are objecting. The Council confirmed that it would be objecting to the proposal.

The Council agreed with the statement of KPC's position provided by Cllr Betts with the proviso that the statement regarding solar panels being highly combustible to be fact-checked with Professor Rogers before sending to the Secretary of State. It was agreed that Cllrs Middleton and Mawson attend the Stop Botley group meetings to represent Kidlington Parish Council.

23/021 The Council **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 26 January 2022 were a true and correct record and they were signed by the Chairman

23/022 The minutes of committees were moved by Chairs:

a) **Planning Committee:** 9 February and 9 March – moved by Cllr Graham.

b) **Community Committee:** 2 March 23 – moved by Cllr Street.

- The Council **RESOLVED** to form a working group to consider the future relationship with and needs of Cherwell Collective. The group to comprise Cllrs Robey, Betts, Street and McLean.
- The Council **RESOLVED** that if sponsorship could not be secured for the Coronation Garden on the corner of High St/Home Close an additional £5k of general reserves could be used.
- The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the purchase of additional microphones and upgrade of the PA system.
- The Council agreed that the Osier Willows should be relocated to Bicester Road Cemetery from the allotments. Cllr Street given delegated authority to decide on position.

c) Policy and Finance Committee: 9 March 23 – moved by Cllr Betts

- The Council discussed its position regarding vehicular access across the railway at Yarnton Road and reiterated its position to retain access for lightweight traffic. It was confirmed that Network Rail and Oxford University Development (OUD) are both in favour of a vehicle bridge although it is CDC policy to reduce car movements and therefore not support the bridge.
- It was RESOLVED to form a working group to consider flood defences in the village. The group to comprise Cllrs Prestidge, Middleton, Mawson, McLean, Betts, Ward and resident Carl Smith.
- It was RESOLVED to ask Cllr Robey to sign the letter from Layla Moran MP objecting to the reopening of Campsfield Hose.

23/023 The Council discussed the current situation regarding OUFC's proposal to build a football stadium in Kidlington. The chairman informed the Council that Cherwell's Playing Pitch Strategy was soon to be published. Following extensive research and consultation with local clubs, the strategy informs the council of the current and future requirements of the sports clubs located in the village. If OCC/KPC are to discuss potential benefits to the village if the stadium is built then the PPS provides a good framework to understand their needs. It was agreed that developing or upgrading the Stratfield Brake pavilion could also be a potential benefit.

With regard to consultation the Council has been assured that OCC are building in a 6-week public consultation after the detailed plans have been produced by OUFC. The Council still believe that consultation before detailed plans have been produced would not be useful. However, if KPC feels that OCC are not consulting adequately they may decide to undertake their own consultation later.

23/024 The Council agreed to the proposal from the insurance broker to proceed with three-year cover at a cost of £11,331.43 from Hiscox Insurance.

23/025 The Clerk reported that the lease with the Bowls Club had been signed that morning and commenced with immediate effect.

23/026 The Council was informed that CDC's draft local plan was expected to be approved at their meeting in July. Cllr Prestidge said that he felt the Council should support the proposal for development north of The Moors which could include a new cricket pitch as it would free up space to install new football pitches at Stratfield Brake.

23/027 The Council agreed that the Annual Parish Meeting to be held on 30 March be streamed on Zoom for those who could not attend in person.

23/028 A resident brought to the attention of the council the possible impact of the pharmacy closing at Sainsburys. Cllr Middleton to refer the matter to the Health and Scrutiny Committee at CDC and the Head of Public Health at Oxfordshire County Council. Cllr Robey to contact the local MP.

23/029 Reports were received from Kidlington's County and District Councillors. Cllr Middleton reported that he was continuing to discuss the possible use of ANPR for the rising bollard on the High Street.

The meeting closed at: 9.30pm