

Kidlington Parish Council

Exeter Hall, Oxford Road, Kidlington OX5 1AB

Tel: 01865 372143 www.kidlington-pc.gov.uk



Minutes of Kidlington Parish Council

Held at Exeter Hall on Thursday 26 June 2025 from 7.30pm

Councillor Present: Cllr Lesley McLean – Chair, Cllr Naveed Barakzai Pace, Cllr Ian Middleton, Cllr Melanie Moorhouse, Cllr Doug Williamson, Cllr Dave Kanonuwa, Cllr Fiona Mawson, Cllr David Betts, Cllr Nik Soheili, and Cllr Phil Wyse

In Attendance: Sarah Kearney (Parish Clerk) and District Councillor – Dorothy Walker

Residents: 1 - Resident attended the meeting but didn't speak

Apologies: Cllr William Easdown Babb, Cllr Alison Street, and Cllr Linda Ward

25/45 To receive Councillor's Apologies for Absence

The Council received and accepted apologies from Cllr William Easdown Babb, Cllr Alison Street, and Cllr Linda Ward

25/46 To Record Members' Declarations of Interest regarding the Agenda Items

To receive any requests for Dispensations or Declarations of Interest from Councillors relating to items on the agenda, in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct, and to note any gifts and hospitality (please refer to the notes at the end of the agenda).

Cllr David Betts - Declared an interest in the application [25/01346/OUT](#) Part OS Parcel 0006 North Of The Moors Kidlington.

Cllr Lesley Mclean – Declared that she wouldn't take part in any discussion regarding the OUFC

25/47 To facilitate public participation with regard to items on the agenda – Public participation is limited to 10 minutes in total. Members of the public may make only one address to the Council of no more than five minutes' duration and only concerning topics on the agenda.

1 – Resident attended the meeting but didn't speak - No Participation from the public, even online

25/48 To Approve and Sign the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting of [29 May 2025](#)

The Council unanimously **RESOLVED** that the minutes be accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting and were signed by the Chair, Cllr Lesley Mclean

25/49 Governance:

25/49.1

New Councillor Position – verbal report from the Clerk – update

The Clerk confirmed that no applications were received during the official notice period, and Cherwell District Council (CDC) has confirmed that no election will be called. As a result, the vacancy will now be advertised for co-option on the Parish Council's website and Facebook page. Once all

applications have been received, they will be presented to Full Council for consideration and approval.

25/49.2

Policies – to consider and agree to re-adopt or adopt:

25/49.3

Complaints Procedure – adopt SLCC version, to consider para 7

The Council unanimously **RESOLVED** and agreed to adopt this procedure, with amendment to remove reference to a complaints committee.

25/49.4

Publication Scheme – re-adopt.

The Council unanimously **RESOLVED** and agreed to re-adopt this publication scheme.

It was agreed that a review and clarification of the availability of the public before meetings of meeting papers and working documents should also be agreed.

Clerk: To review and bring forward at the next Full Council.

25/50

Finance:

25/50.1

CCLA – to discuss the performance of this account.

The performance of the CCLA investment was discussed at length. After thorough consideration, it was unanimously agreed by all Council members that the matter should be referred to the Finance & Assets Committee and independent financial advice should be sought.

ACTION: The Clerk to include this item on the Finance & Assets Committee agenda for the meeting on 12 July.

25/50.2

Budget Monitoring Report – verbal update, clerk

A Budget Monitoring Report was circulated to all members prior to the meeting. The Clerk provided an overview and highlighted specific areas of concern, explaining the reasons for any variances and the actions being taken to address them.

The Council noted the report.

25/50.3

Financial Report – on bank accounts, income, and expenditure to date, Clerk.

The Council noted the report.

25/50.4

External Audit Report – Verbal update from, Clerk.

The Clerk explained that the External Audit is currently in progress and that a few queries have been raised, which have so far been addressed. The Clerk and the RFO are currently investigating a possible issue relating to a VAT amount that may have been incorrectly claimed.

25/60

Update on Progress from the Committee Minutes - updates

25/60.1

Development and Strategy Committee – to consider the draft minutes of the meeting held on [8 May](#), and to note any recommendations or actions.

25/60.2

Personnel Committee – No further meetings have occurred since May 9, which Full Council has seen the minutes for.

25/60.3

Finance & Assets Committee – to consider the draft minutes of the meeting held on [12 June](#) and to note any recommendations or actions.

25/60.4

Community Committee – to consider the draft minutes of the meeting held on **19 June** and to note any recommendations or actions.

Cllr Moorhouse went through the Actions as minutes hadn't been circulated

The Council unanimously **RESOLVED** and acknowledged these recommendations or actions

25/61 To receive a report from KPC Working Groups:

25/61.1 Exeter Close Working Group – verbal update

There is no further update currently, as the Council is currently awaiting further information from the architects. Additionally, the Facilities Manager is reviewing the number of parking spaces that will be allocated to Kidlington Parish Council (KPC). Once confirmed, this information will be shared with the Waitrose Group.

25/61.2 Communications & IT Working Group – verbal update

The Clerk reported that the specifications for the new website had been sent to all shortlisted website providers. Quotes have been received from most companies, and the Council is currently awaiting one final response. Once all quotes have been received, a meeting will be arranged to review the submissions and determine which provider will be awarded the contract

25/61.3 Flooding Defence Working Group – verbal update

There is no further update at this stage, aside from the confirmation that £25,000 in funding has been granted to Kidlington Parish Council to support flooding mitigation works. Discussions are ongoing between Oxfordshire County Council (OCC), Cherwell District Council (CDC), and KPC to determine how the funding will be allocated and progressed.

25/61.4 Stratfield Brake Liaison Working Group – No new operational issues to report.
Investigations continue into identifying the most appropriate management and operational model post-CDC exit on March 26.

25/61.5 Funding and Grants Working Group – update of Action Plan

An Action Plan is currently being developed, along with a list of priority projects that the Council intends to progress in the near future. This will help guide strategic decision-making and ensure alignment with the Council's long-term objectives.

25/62 To receive a report from KPC members representing the Council on outside bodies:

25/62.1 Kidlington Recreational Trust – verbal update

25/62.2 Kidlington Connections – No updates to be brought forward

25/62.3 Traffic Advisory Committee – No further meetings have occurred since the last Full Council meeting.

25/62.4 Police Liaison – No further meetings have occurred since the last Full Council meeting.

25/62.5 ANPR – update from Cllr Middleton

Cllr Middleton confirmed that this matter has been ongoing for the past three years, and has previously stated in correspondence that he would like clear confirmation of when the installation will take place.

25/62.6 Natural Environment Working Group – report attached
No further update since the circulated report went out

25/63 Parish Matters

25/63.1 LRG - Local Government Reorganisation – Cllr Robey provided an update and to consider what action KPC needs to take.

Cllr Robey reported that he attended the Parish Liaison Meeting a couple of weeks ago, where one of the key topics discussed was the Local Government Reorganisation (LGR).

This is currently a major focus for all Parish and Town Councils, with widespread concern about how the proposed changes will impact local governance and service delivery.

Consultations are underway to explore different models for new unitary authorities. The options currently under consideration include:

- **Oxford & Shires Council and Ridgeway** (a two-council model),
- A **single Oxfordshire-wide unitary authority** based on the existing County Council, and
- An **expanded unitary city council** model is being proposed by **Oxford City Council**, which would include boundary extensions to include Kidlington as part of Oxford.

The Parish Council will continue to monitor developments and participate in relevant consultations where possible. It was agreed that while the council had not yet taken a view on the first two options, it was firmly opposed to the third as detrimental to Kidlington's interests.

25/63.1a LGR letter Jim McMahon / Greater Oxford Parishes Letter –

Cllr Robey confirmed that Kidlington Parish Council is in communication with Beckley and the other Parish Councils affected by the proposed City Council model, to whom, with Beckley, he has sent a message asking whether they would support KPC's position on the issue.

**25/64 WI – Poppy display at Exeter Hall – update from Clerk
Remembrance Display Proposal**

The Clerk reported that a meeting had taken place with representatives from the Women's Institute (WI), who asked whether Kidlington Parish Council would consider supporting a display of knitted poppies for Remembrance during the month of November.

The Clerk brought this request to the attention of councillors, and it was discussed whether the archway at the entrance to Exeter Close could serve as the focal point for the display.

The proposed display would include:

- A cascade of knitted poppies over the archway
- Two 'Lest We Forget' soldier silhouettes to be placed on either side of the arch
- A display of names of all those from the local area who lost their lives during the wars, to be fixed along the adjacent fencing

Councillors were supportive of the idea in principle, with the project to be developed further in collaboration with the WI and local groups.

The Council unanimously **RESOLVED** and agreed for this project to go ahead.

25/65 Clerk report

No further update to the Clerk report, which was circulated before the meeting

25/66 To receive reports from Cherwell District Councillors – update

No further update to report, which circulated prior to the meeting

25/67 To receive reports from Oxfordshire County Councillors - update

No further update to report, which circulated prior to the meeting

25/68 Chair's Announcements

Traffic Filter Consultation – see OCC website for more information.

Road naming – The Council had no objection to the naming of the new internal road at the Airport Buccaneer Way.

Trax – Meeting on 24 July

12 July – Kidlington Parish Council has arranged a stall in the market square to connect and engage with residents regarding whether KPC should now change from Parish Council to Town Council and to provide information about local government reorganization.

Blocked gully's - The OCC gully clearance is programmed for our area in February 2026. The Chair suggested that we should have a blocked gully logging event/day closer to the Autumn in an attempt to get any issues resolved prior to heavy rain.

Clerk: To suggest some dates for a gully walk across the area.

OUFC Traffic Consultation Proposal

Cllr Middleton proposed that the Council consider commissioning an independent traffic consultation in relation to the OUFC planning application, to determine whether the findings align with those previously presented by Oxfordshire County Council (OCC). The estimated cost of the consultation is approximately **£5,000**.

Following a lengthy discussion, a vote was taken with the following outcome:

- **3 Councillors abstained**
- **5 Councillors raised no objection**
- **3 Councillors objected**

As the item was not listed for a formal decision on the agenda, it was agreed that the matter would be referred to the Finance & Assets Committee for further consideration and a formal decision on whether to approve the funding.

ACTION: The Clerk to add this to the F & A Committee agenda for 10 July.

Date of Next Meeting: **Thursday, 18 September 2025**

Meeting Finished: 9.00pm