

## **Minutes of the Meeting held by Kingham Parish Council - held on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> January, 2016, 7.30pm**

**Present** : Cllrs K. Hartley, M.Drinkwater, J. Harvey, J.Dewar, R.Sale and J.Warne.

Clerk: N.Marina

Three members of the public and County Councillor Hibbert-Biles.

**1. Apologies** – received from B.Hughes. Late arrival – M.Dare

**2. Minutes** – The Minutes from the last meeting were signed and approved.

**3. Matters Arising** –

**3.1 Graveyard Mowing** – the previous resident that had come forward to do the mowing at the Church, has fallen silent. They had requested a fee of £110 per cut. A proposal was put forward from the PC and the Church had agreed to contribute to the cost - giving £20 + petrol for the mower and maintenance for the equipment. It would take one person 4-5 hours and they would be paid per cut. The PC would contribute £90 towards the cost. Another advertisement will be added to the Newsletter, in the hope that some one will step forward.


**3.2 The Green, Tree Survey** – The Clerk had been in contact with the surveyor of the trees, Tree Tech. They had advised that it had been completed and was in the mail. To be reviewed next Meeting.

**3.3 Red Telephone Box, Church Street** – On the night of the 17<sup>th</sup> Nov, in the high winds, the telephone door had blown off. The Clerk had contacted BT, as the box is still in their care, to advise that the telephone box had been damaged and needed repair. BT had been to collect the door, however advised that it would take some time repair and replace. After the repair had been completed, the PC proposed to adopt the telephone box.

**3.4 British Legion/Thames water** – the file with Thames water had now been closed as it was considered that the matter of the bad smell coming from the pipes, had been dealt with and resolved. If there are any further issues in the future a new file would be opened.

**3.5 Kingham Station double yellow lines** – The Chair of Foscot, Bould and Idbury had been in contact with the PC with regard to attending a meeting with David Cameron's office, in December – where she was hoping to get funding for the double yellow lines. They were thought to be needed to prevent people parking dangerously on the other side of the bridge, near Kingham Station. OCC Highways had previously advised that there were no funds available to pay for the yellow lines. She had since then been in correspondence with First Great Western, to hopefully secure funds to do the job. The Chair of Foscot, Bould and Idbury was thanked for her effort and support.

**3.6 Local Plan** - The District Council is currently preparing a new Local Plan covering the period to 2031. The draft plan was submitted for independent examination in July 2015 and the first hearing sessions dealing with strategic matters including housing and employment were held in November 2015. It was thought that these changes would be of particular interest to the Kingham Futures group and that they could be taken into consideration when forming The Kingham Village Plan.

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Page 1 of 4

(Chairman) Date 17.02.2016

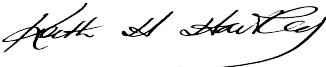
#### **4. Councillors Forum -**

**4.1** Footpath parallel to the football field, widening – OCC had been contacted to see whether approval would be needed to simply widen the footpath by 4-5 inches, that is now covered by grass or to widen the footpath altogether to match the other side of the path coming from New Road to the Bus stop. Approval as not needed if the widening was all that was needed and the path under the grass growth was still intact. If full works were needed – making the footpath wider altogether (more than the 4-5 inches) - this would need to be undertaken to OCC specification and by an ‘approved’ contractor with suitable credentials. A quote had been sort for the works, which was £3600 + VAT. This would be considered until the next PC Meeting.

**4.2.** Subsidised Buses Budget cut – The PC had been notified of a meeting scheduled between the private bus companies and various interested Parish Councils, so as to ascertain the interest of the PC’s to contribute funds to keep the bus to their area running. The X8 bus is run by Pulhams Coaches and was considered to be no longer funded – a date for this to take effect is unknown. Cllr Hibbert-Biles had sent previous correspondence advising that there are still buses running through Kingham, those being B, V6, V9 and 810 buses. (B and 810 run by Pulhams Coaches and V6 and V9 run by the Villager Community Bus). Cllr Drinkwater had been approached by a resident with regards to the Villager Bus Service. It was thought that this had also lost funding. The resident asked if the PC would consider contributing some funding towards the Villager Bus (A Charitable Trust) to keep it running. At least 47 people use the Villager bus a month. The PC, in principle, would support the concept – when this would start and the amount to fund would be decided at a later date.

**4.3.** Drain outside the shop – Cllr Harvey has been approached by a resident concerned about the blocked drain outside the shop. The drain had not been noticed by other Cllr’s however the water build-up outside the Wild Rabbit had been. This was seen to be due to the road sweeper being unable to clean the area due to having parked cars always parked there.

**4.4** Cllr Hibbert-Biles, budget cut update – there was a cabinet meeting due to be held the following Tuesday and things were not looking good. A £70 million cut needed to be made. All services that were not statutory will have to be cut. The hospital beds in Chipping Norton are to go over to the Order of St John. The governors had voted for this as it was seen too expensive for the NHS to continue running the facility. The Order of St John will change the level of nursing. They were originally supposed to be beds for intermediate care (rehabilitation) but is was now thought they would be turned into Elderly care beds. The ACE centre will also be decided on next week. These facilities will more than likely change. There has been savings of £350 million made to the budget since 2010.

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Page 2 of 4

(Chairman) Date 17.02.2016

## 5. Planning -

**5.1** Lark House, West End – comments were made about the loss of garage space for cars to be parked. A concern was raised about this issue. Can an alternative parking space within the property grounds be made on the plans?

**5.2** Garden House, West Street – in principle the grounds were seen as a possible development site however there was concern over the entrance to the site and where it is intended to be located. There seems to be insufficient parking available. The proposed 3 houses on the street front were seen to be not in keeping with the other houses on the street and too close to the street frontage. Cozens Lane is very narrow. It had been acknowledged that the land owner was open to making changes if necessary. Support could be given for 2 houses set back from the street frontage and a different entrance to the site altogether, with more parking at behind the houses. A footpath being built along the development side of Cozens Lane could also be supported.

**5.3** Low Cost Housing, New Road area – no updates had been received about this development, the Clerk to write to WODC.

## 6. Public Forum –

**6.1.** Kingham Newsletter - a member from the Newsletter team explained that the Parish Clerk would not be continuing to write the draft notes of the Parish Meetings for the Newsletter due to time constraints for submission within the Newsletter printing requirement. The Newsletter team will try to continue to find volunteers to attend the meetings and report the notes – to give current PC notes in the Newsletter, rather than the approved Minutes a month after the Meeting. This would be the case if more Volunteers are unable to come forward. It was thought that the PC notes only rather than the PC and Village Hall notes, will be entered into the Newsletter due to meeting the costs of printing the Newsletter. The Newsletter had seen a decline in readership and the more pages the Newsletter has the more expensive it is to produce.

**6.2** A member of the public made note that the grass verge cutting along the B4450 and Station road at the end of summer was hap-hazard. Cllr Hibbert-Biles offered to look into this. A note will be made for this summer with OCC Highways.

## 7. Health and Safety –

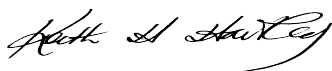
**7.1** The Playground inspections are ongoing.

**7.2** Whirrigig on The Green – now in place. Positive feedback had been received by residents.

## 8. Finance –

20.01.16	100438	Jan	Sarah Humphries	1st Prize 100 club		50.00
20.01.16	100439	Jan	Martin Barnsley	2nd prize 100 Club		20.00
20.01.16	100440	Jan	Lucy Gofton	3rd Prize 100 Club		10.00
CANX	100441		CANCELLED CHQ	WRITTEN IN ERROR		
20.01.16	100442	Jan	Keith Hartley	reimburse for Xmas tree light bulbs		29.90
20.01.16	100443	Jan	Nicole Marina	wages		529.52
20.01.16	100444	Jan	Nicole Marina	expenses		22.15

Signed



(Chairman) Date 17.02.2016

## **9. Correspondence –**

**9.1** A letter from Dave Austin from WODC grass cutting had been received. This was in response for a question from the PC about the hedge being cut around the Allotments. This had not been on the annual list of jobs, but had been done half-way. Mr Austin had advised that this had been done in error so had given the PC a discount for the fee for this – to which the PC agreed (£400 + VAT). He would send the men back to finish the job. The Hedge trim would not be added to the annual job list.

**9.2.** Another letter had been received from a resident with concern over the state of the Grass Verge outside Bridges and Blenheim Cottages, The Green. Due to the rain and constant parking of cars with school drop-off and pick-up, the area had become very muddy and the verge is becoming narrower. A suggestion of posts had been made. Cllrs had thought that this could make the street impassable, with cars being parked further out into the street, however a question was asked as to who's jurisdiction this area fell under. The Clerk was asked to write to OCC Highways. The Clerk was also asked to write to Kingham Primary School to have a notice put in the School Newsletter advising parents to park carefully with consideration for the upkeep of the verge.

**9.3.** Letter from Lord Lieutenant of Oxfordshire – suggestion of villages marking the Queens 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday, June 2016 with street celebrations, as were done for the jubilee. This was passed on to the Kingham Events Committee.

**9.4.** Heydens field – a letter from the current renter who had taken it on for 2 mths from January to February, had asked for a further 2 mths rental. This was accepted, however after this time the field would need to go out to tender. This would be done in May.

**9.5.** Cotswold Line News update – Cllr Harvey offered to look at.

**9.6.** West Oxfordshire Volunteer link-up Annual Report, received


**9.7.** Wychwood Project update received

**9.8.** The May Election request to use the Hall for the polling station had been received. The election would be held on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2016 for Police and Crime Commissioner and local officials. It was decided to increase the rental charge as it had not been done for some time. It was agreed to charge £80. The Clerk will write to advise.

**9.9** A letter had been received from a resident in response to the Newsletter report about dog walkers in the field. The letter was seen as rude and abrupt in nature. It was noted that this was one of many addressed to the PC in this manner. He had reported a person from the village walking through a field with dogs. The resident was not the land owner. Due to this, the PC were unable to pursue this matter. The resident was again asked to keep his letters to the PC polite and courteous.

**10. AOB – No other business.**

**Meeting closed at 9.30pm**

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Page 4 of 4

**(Chairman) Date** 17.02.2016