

Minutes of the Meeting held by Kingham Parish Council

- held on Wednesday 18th November, 2015, 7.30pm

Present : Cllrs K. Hartley, B.Hughes, M.Drinkwater, J. Harvey, J.Dewar and J.Warne.

Clerk: N.Marina

One Member of the public and County Councillor Hibbert-Biles.

1. Apologies – received from R.Sale and M.Dare.

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

3. Matters Arising –

3.1 Neighbourhood Plan – The last meeting was held on 3rd November. It was agreed to purchase a detailed map with a cost of £120. The aim of having the map was to have a true plan of the village where the houses could be marked and the number of occupants could be added. A basic formula for a questionnaire has been agreed and is being constructed.

The next step in the process is to eventually analyse the data collected and the detailed map. The next meeting date had not been set at this stage but was anticipated to be in the New Year. The Committee is open for anyone to join, please advise the Clerk on kinghamparishcouncil@gmail.com if you would like to get involved. She can then pass on your details to the Committee for further correspondence.

3.2 Graveyard Mowing – a resident had come forward to do the mowing at the Church. They had requested a fee of £110 per cut. A proposal was put forward from the PC – could the Church put towards this cost £20 + petrol for the mower and maintenance for the equipment, while the PC would contribute £90 towards the cost. The Clerk would write to the Church.

3.3 The Green, Tree Survey – The tree surveyor had met with the Clerk on the 2nd November. The trees on The Green would be surveyed as well as the 4 trees along the road side near the Millenium Wood entrance. The other trees that were to be considered were in West Street and Orchard Way. The surveyor thought that the West street trees and Orchard Way trees were looked after by OCC. He would enquire and only survey the trees owned by the Parish Council. The survey was still ongoing.

3.4 Red Telephone Box, Church Street – a question was asked at the last PC meeting whether the PC should adopt the Telephone Box. Residents were asked for their opinion in the last Newsletter. The majority of the PC thought it would be a good idea – to keep a British icon upheld in the Village. A question was also asked in the last Newsletter – what would the residents like to see the telephone box used for. Two suggestions were previously given (one's that other villages had already put in place) – a book exchange or a house for a defibrillator. If you would like to offer a suggestion – please contact the clerk, kinghamparishcouncil@gmail.com The Clerk has contacted the local authority to ask what is to be done to adopt the Telephone kiosk, she was awaiting a reply.

On the night of the 17th 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.

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BT has confirmed receipt of this email and advised the repairs would be done as soon as possible.

3.5 Kingham Village Signs – it was reported that these signs needed cleaning. The Clerk contacted OCC Highways to ask if they were responsible for the cleaning. OCC no longer does this service. Some members of the PC volunteered to do this but decided Spring would be a better time for such a job. Any members of the village who would like to help with cleaning the ‘Kingham Village’ Signs – please advise the Clerk. Any help would be greatly appreciated. The member of the public at the meeting offered to help – thanks were given.

3.6 British Legion/ Thames Water – previously the PC had written to Thames Water to help the British legion with their complaint to Thames Water about a sewer smell coming from the pipes, which could be smelt inside the British Legion. Thames Water had been to visit and put a camera down the pipes. It was advised that an oil leak from a house nearby had caused this smell. The household was made aware and had been asked to rectify the situation. Thames Water would check the outcome of this and report again to the British Legion before closing the case.

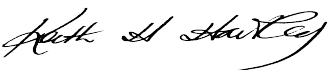
3.7 WODC local plan – hearings for this were scheduled for the end of this month and the end of February 2016. A letter written been written by the PC, however it had missed the cut off date for comments even though the hearing date had been post-poned.

3.8 Street Parking near Kingham Station – a letter had been received that had also been forwarded on to OCC Highways, from Churchill Parish Council. The letter stated that Churchill Parish Council was in favour of the double yellow lines from Kingham Station up to the Foscot turn near Bledington. It also favoured a 40mph speed restriction along that stretch of road. Kingham Parish Council had previously supplied a letter to OCC Highways supporting the double yellow lines as well. It was thought that the double yellow lines would go ahead, but it was a matter of OCC finding the funds to put them in place.

3.9 Millenium Wood – cutting down the trees with Ash dieback had been completed. Thanks were given. It was mentioned that some areas would need to have trees replaced and could be done so by the Green Gym. The Green Gym had access to a few different types of trees – however some would need to be paid for. The cutting back of Brambles had also been started by Cllr Warne. A good start had been made, but there was more to tackle. Cllr Warne had offered to help with the bramble cut back and the use of the equipment needed for this job. Thanks were given for the work done so far. Cllr Hartley and Cllr Hughes also offered to help with more of the Brambles cut back. The Brambles need to continually have upkeep and it was mentioned that The Green Gym would need to have a look at this.

4. Councillors Forum -

4.1 Cllr Hibbert-Biles apologised for her absence – she had been recovery from medical treatment received in June and then had other meetings co-inside with our PC meetings, so had been unable to attend for a few months. She acknowledged that OCC was making many cutbacks – with 93 areas being cut in the budget. The budget cuts within our immediate area were – one fire engine will be removed (currently there were two at Chipping Norton).

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This was seen as viable as one engine was hardly used and back up could come from Gloucestershire. Bus subsidies had all been removed for the whole of Oxfordshire. Over 90% of the bus services currently were commercial and the subsidised buses were seen as hardly used. Some services may be saved when the Gov't settlement is seen. It had not arrived as yet but may arrive by the end of the month or not until 24th Dec. The Villager bus service came under discussion as it was seen that this was a service that should be kept, particularly since the drivers were all volunteers and it provided a particular service for a particular group of the community. Unfortunately this service was on the list to go. Pre-schools and Day care would not be cut however the ACE centre was under consultation.

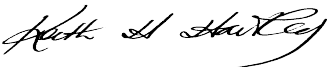
Grass Cutting grants for all parishes would be cut. There would be huge changes with Health Care. The Chipping Norton War Memorial Community Hospital was mentioned. A letter had been circulated to every household to please fill in a questionnaire. This had arrived today, 18th Nov 2015. This can be returned to the Kingham Shop. A public meeting would be held on Thursday 3rd Dec 2015 at St Mary's Church in Chipping Norton at 7pm – please come and support the NHS in the staffing and management of these hospital beds.

The WODC Plan was also mentioned. It was thought that the plan was questionable as there had not been enough housing provided for in the plan.

4.2 Cllr Hughes again mentioned the footpath that runs parallel to the football field between the bus stop and the Church. It was noted that this part of the footpath was very narrow. A suggestion was made to go and see if there was a path under the over grown grass. Cllr Hartley and Hughes would take a shovel to take away some of the grass. Depending on what was found, the Clerk would seek assistance from OCC Highways to see what was needed to widen the path from the Council perspective. A quote to widen the path could also be sought.

4.3. Subsidised Buses Budget cut – Cllr Harvey mentioned that a letter should be written from the PC to again reiterate that the X8 bus should be kept running as it runs along the timetable of the Trains. It was pointed out that the parking near the station will only get worse as there would be no other way of getting to the station other than by car. The Villager bus was also seen as a bus that should be kept running as it was seen to be running at a minimal cost – it only runs on a couple of days per week and has volunteer bus drivers. The Clerk will write again to OCC about the buses as well as Great western Railways.

4.4. Big Festival – post event meeting. A meeting was held on the 4th Nov 15 with members of the event committee and residents at the British Legion. They were seen to be making a big effort to work with the local community to help with any issues that may have arisen. They had the hotline available all weekend and for a long time after the event. Points were made about the contractors using different access roads – they had advised that all contractors would be made fully aware of the roads to be used and if they used other access points, their contracts could be terminated. The mobile network capacity was mentioned, this was taken on board and would be addressed next year.

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5. Planning -

5.1 Oxfordshire County Councils Planning and Regulations committee had sent a letter advising that a review was taking place of the proposed update to the local list of information requirements.

5.2 Kingham Hill School – change of use of land for additional sports pitch – no objections.

5.3 Orchard Leigh, West End – two storey extension and reduction in size of garage – no objections.

5.4 Freemans Close, West End – proposed new dwelling – no objections.

A letter had been received from a resident with regards to this application. The letter questioned where the planning notice had been displayed. It stated that no consultation letters had been sent to neighbours. It also questioned the filed documents and points concerning the outline proposal. The resident was advised that these points need to be brought to the attention of WODC planning.

5.5 Land East of The Hayes, Churchill Road – proposed construction of stable block and all weather menage. Concerns were raised - the size of the land for the proposed space for 6 horses. The land is also in an area that floods.

6. Public Forum – None

7. Health and Safety –

7.1 The Playground inspections are ongoing.

7.2 Whirrigig on The Green – It had been agreed at the last meeting to go ahead with installing the rubberised flooring - jungle mulch, as this had been seen as an area of concern from the Rospa report. The Clerk had been in touch with Playsmart to confirm the installation. It was due to go ahead within the next week.

7.3 Risk Assessment – the risk assessment for the Councillors, Clerk and Trustee's was reviewed, agreed and signed.

8. Finance –

10.11.15	100412	Nov	British Legion	rememberance wreath	25.00
11.11.15	100413	Nov	Oxfordshire Assoc	for the Blind - donation	25.00
11.11.15	100414	Nov	West Oxfordshire District	Aug/Sept grass mowing invoice	838.26
17.11.15	100415	Nov	Nicole Marina	reimburse for Barry Barker/internal auditor	50.00
18.11.15	100416	Nov	Nicole Marina	expenses	18.97
18.11.15	100417	Nov	Nicole Marina	wages	452.04
18.11.15	100418	Nov	Nancy Lyle	100 club 1st prize - Oct draw	50.00
18.11.15	100419	Nov	Tom Cantwell	100 club 2nd prize - Oct draw	20
18.11.15	100420	Nov	Mr and Mrs Davies	100 club 3rd prize - Oct draw	10
18.11.15	100421	Nov	Ivor Townsend	100 club 1st prize - Nov draw	50
18.11.15	100422	Nov	Mr Anderson	100 club 2nd prize - Nov draw	20.00
18.11.15	100423	Nov	Roger Lyle	100 club 3rd prize - Nov draw	10.00
18.11.15	100424	Nov	Nicole Marina	reimburse for phone expense	10
18.11.15	100425	Nov	Citizens advice bureau	donation	25.00
18.11.15	100426	Nov	A. Barnard	Millenium wood ash die back cut	1960.00

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03.12.15	100427	Dec	Playsmart UK	resurfacing under whirrigig - The Green	964.80
03.12.15	100428	Dec	Allied Westminster	Village Hall insurance	1034.27
08.12.15	100429	Dec	Mike Davies	reimburse for Kingham Futures map	123.00
08.12.15	100430	Dec	Nicole Marina	expenses	17.56
08.12.15	100431	Dec	Cotswold Line	promotion group renewal	10.00
14.12.15	100432	Dec	Southern Electric	Ville Green 01oct-12nov15 invoice	9.29
14.12.15	100433	Dec	Nicole Marina	Wages	469.25
14.12.15	100434	Dec	Tina Gibbons	100 Club - 1st prize	50.00
14.12.15	100435	Dec	Neville Johnson	100 Club - 2nd prize	20.00
14.12.15	100436	Dec	James Warne	100 Club - 3rd prize	10.00
14.12.15	100437	Dec	S.Bradshaw	Molecatchers - football field/half payment	123.75

8.1. The Precept requirement form from WODC had been received. It was noted that the precept had not been increased for a long time. With the news from Cllr Hibbert – Biles confirming many budget cuts with no further funding for grass cutting and other facilities, it was decided to increase the precept by 5%.

9. Correspondence –

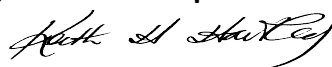
9.1 A letter had been received from a resident concerning the footpath beyond The Mill House Hotel. The letter advised that people had been walking with their dogs off a lead, in the field where sheep are grazing. One person had been approached by the land owner to put their dog on a lead, this had caused an agitated discussion. Unfortunately the PC has no control over where people walk and/or whether people have their dogs on a lead. There are many visitors to the Village that are also unknown and would not know the public footpaths. We can advise people via the Newsletter, which we do so here, to please keep their dog on a lead when walking on a public pathway, through a field, particularly if there are animals in the field. The land owner of the above mentioned field has now put up notices, please take notice.

9.2. Another letter had been received by an Allotment holder. It asked if a sign could be put up asking dog walkers to stop letting dogs foul in the allotment area. This is particularly happening near the side gate, entrance from the Car Park. The Clerk will arrange this. Another suggestion was for an allotment notice board. This is still under consideration.

9.3. Letter from English Rural Housing Assoc – advising that due to a voluntary agreement reached between the Gov't and the National Housing Federation the existing statutory exclusion from the RTB of English Rural's properties will continue – this is a positive outcome.

10. AOB – No other business.

Meeting closed at 9.05pm

Signed 

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