

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Kingham Parish
Held on Wednesday 20 April 2022, 07.30 pm**

202204APM - DRAFT

Chairman of the Parish Council: Cllr K Hartley

Clerk of the Parish Council: Gemma Tindsley

Attendees: Cllr Wilson, Cllr Beaney, five members of the public.

1 Apologies – Cllr Saul, representatives from Thames Valley Police and Cllr Blomefield

2 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting on 18 March 2020 were approved and signed.

3 Parish Council Chairman's Report

The Chairman, Cllr Hartley, gave his report, a brief overview of the Council's major actions during the past year.

NB due to COVID-19 a lot of work was put on hold and all meetings were being held via Zoom for the majority of 2020 and first 5 months of 2021. The grass/hedge cutting in the village was maintained well despite COVID-19 restrictions.

Councillor changes – The Council has welcomed two new councillors, Eleanor Campbell and Tasha Hunter.

Mill House Hotel – Cllr Hart and Cllr Dewar reported back after their meeting with the new architect for planning of the hotel. The new plans will be on a smaller scale with more parking. The plans are being drawn up and the new plans will be shown to the villagers in summertime (July/August).

During the past year The Mill House Hotel plans were rejected due to the scale of the project. The Council voiced their concerns regarding the size of the project and the lack of parking.

Wall in Fowlers Road – the wall and fencing was eventually repaired.

Car Parking in Kingham - this has been on many of the agendas over the course of the year and the Council have considered many different options.

One option that the Councillors explored was the possibility of yellow lines by the church on Church Street, however, were informed by Highways that a consultation for this would cost approx. £3,000.00. The Council have sent several emails to both the Rabbit and the Plough to ask that their staff park in the car parks available in the village.

Car Park Repairs – the Legion car park has been resurfaced and the posts/fencing have been repaired or replaced at the school car park.

20mph Speed Limit – this was agreed to be of interest to the Council and would be beneficial to the village. No funds would be available for this until late 2022/early 2023.

School Playground – the Council plans to use the S106 money for a new playground on the playing field (as expected) and the Council have agreed to double this money.

2 contractors have been contacted. One of these contractors have already sent across their design plans and quote. The other contractor still hasn't sent across their design plans, they will hopefully send them to the Council by 29th April. The Council plans to display both designs at the next Parish Council meeting.

Jubilee Celebrations - the Council are currently organising the Jubilee Celebrations for the village, and it is being led by Cllr Hunter. The party will take place on 5th June on the playing field.

Currently organised for the celebrations are a BBQ, a bar, cake tent, face painter and DJ.

Daylesford have very kindly donated a pizza van for the children in the village, along with skittles/games and posters/printing for the event.

The event will run from 12 – 5pm.

'Win a Corgi' game – prize will be to win a soft toy corgi.

Signed

(Chairman)

Date

Commemorative coins will be handed to the children in the village. Commemorative badges will be given out to children who are visiting the village.

Bridleway to Daylesford – the Council noted that the definitive map was wrong. The Council contacted Countryside records to conclude that this space is a public bridleway.

A consultation to discuss rectifying this on the definitive map was made. The consultation was sent to the adjoining landowners, the District Council and the County Councillor. No comments were made and the order will go ahead as a bridleway.

4. County Councillor's Report

Cllr Saul was unable to attend this evening's AGM and therefore he provided us with the following report via email. The Clerk read it out during the meeting:

In May last year the County Council elections led to the formation of the Oxfordshire Fair Deal Alliance, a new administration for Oxfordshire forged around a shared commitment to 9 priorities.

Key among these priorities were addressing the climate emergency, tackling inequality, and promoting the health and well-being of all residents.

The new County Administration.

The new Council inherited significant problems:

1. The disruption of Covid
2. A ten year period during which central government funded spending power for English Local Authorities nearly halved, falling by 52%.
3. Ever increasing cost of adult social care and children's services (some 52% of OCC expenditure is on these statutory services that have to be paid for and another 17% on education)
4. Underfunding of key capital projects committed to by the previous administration
5. Underfunding of maintaining Oxfordshire's highways (the estimated cost of maintaining Oxfordshire's highways over the next 5 years is £228 million - yet as it stands we are set to receive only £70 million from national Government. The total funding gap is therefore currently £125 million).

Nevertheless, the Council has been determined to make a difference through pursuing our climate change goals and investing in social care and the reduction of inequality.

Key actions and programmes

Transport and Travel

1. To encourage cycling and walking and to increase safety in our towns and villages, we are investing £8 million in a programme to make 20mph the new normal in residential areas across Oxfordshire. Over 70 out of 317 towns/parishes have so far made applications under the scheme.
2. We are investing in a bid with bus companies for electric buses to serve Oxford City
3. We are investing in active travel in the County, to include Local Cycling and Walking Plans (LCWIPs) – already rolled out for Bicester and Kidlington. We are starting preliminary work in Chipping Norton.

Signed

(Chairman)

Date

4. We are undertaking a strategic rail feasibility study to include possibility of double tracking the North Cotswold Line

Investing in social care to support the most vulnerable and tackle inequality

Looking for opportunities to improve the services we offer and to reduce costs.

1. **Too many children and adults for which OCC is responsible are cared for outside the County** – which removes them from family and friends and often costs considerably more. Therefore:
 - a. They are investing £5m in the Supported Homes Fund to bring more adults requiring supported accommodation back to Oxfordshire; and
 - b. They are investing £6 million to build two new children’s homes in Oxfordshire

2. **New Youth Service:**

Finally, they are pleased to announce the return of a County Youth Service with dedicated youth workers for the first time since the service was scrapped by the then Conservative-controlled County Council in 2011. The new Youth Offer will provide initially targeted support and outreach to young people, focusing on early intervention to reduce risk of exploitation, offending behaviour, substance misuse, exclusion, housing issues as well as improving mental wellbeing. The new service is a first step towards a sector-wide shift to universal youth work openly available to all children and young adults.

Oxfordshire’s new Youth Offer will be delivered through the recruitment of 22 dedicated youth workers across the County supported by a Service Manager. Four workers will operate in each district, with 2 county wide youth workers who will respond to short term issues and concerns in specific areas.

5. District Councillor’s Report

WODC thanked the Parish Council for all the work that they’d put in this year. Cllr Beaney also thanked Cllr Coulston for the 8 years serving WODC and welcomed Cllr Alex Wilson.

Budget update: £5 increase for a Band D house.

COVID-19 update: Covid grants equate to nearly £50 million over the last 2 years.

Covid is also still affecting the bins and recycling. Cllr Beaney has requested that if bins are not being collected on time, he should be contacted directly.

Refugee update: Nearly 400 homes have been made available by the public to support the Ukrainians in Oxfordshire for 950 people. 99 of the homes are in West Oxfordshire.

All the homes will hopefully have been checked for eligibility by the end of the week. WODC are expecting very few to be turned down. If they are, it will be purely on the size of the property and not the quality.

Afghan Settlement: The scheme is going well and growing.

Planning update: Planning officers are now back to full capacity.

There has been an increase in planning applications throughout lockdown – up to 40%.

National Park: The plans to turn the area into a National Park have now been dropped.

Climate update: Climate campaign is going well. Car Charging ports are being rolled out.

Bio diversity is on the increase.

Signed

(Chairman)

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Cllr Beaney informed the Councillors that community grants were still being funded. This may help with the Parish Councils plans for a new playground.

6. **Thames Valley Police** – they sent their apologies.
7. **Open meeting** – There were no comments.
8. **AOB- Nil**

Meeting Closed at 8.10 pm

Signed

(Chairman)

Date