**Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Kingham Parish**

**Held on Wednesday 20 March 2024, 07.00 pm 202404AGM**

**Chairman of the Parish Council:** Cllr K Hartley

**Clerk of the Parish Council**: Gemma Tindsley

**Attendees:** Cllr Wilson, Cllr Beaney, Cllr Saul, PC Bruce Claridge, PC James Dyson and five members of the public.

**1 Apologies** – Cllr Hart

**2 Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting on 15 March 2023 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.

Cllr Hartley began by thanking WODC and OCC for their continuing support over the year and attendance at the monthly Parish Council meetings.
**Replacing Trees –** A tree that was donated for Chris Harvey was placed on the small Green.

6 more trees were planted on the Playing Field near New Road.

**Kings Coronation –** the King’s Coronation lunch took place and was a great success. A special thanks to Cllr Hunter for all her efforts in organising another special event in the village.

**Potholes –** the Parish Council has raised the issue of potholes in the area with both WODC and OCC.

OCC have been tackling them as they can, but the roads are still bad.

Unfortunately, the bad state of the road is a national problem. The Parish Council will continue to report the roads and push for re-surfacing in areas that are the worst.

**Village Benches** – all the benches around the village have been refurbished and are looking very good.

**Village Fete** – the Village Fete was organised by the KPSA (Kingham Primary School Association) this year. The Parish Council donated £500.00 towards the Fete. It was a successful event.

**Adcraft Field –** the Parish Council paid for repair works on the dry-stone wall.

**Yellow Lines** – the yellow lines on Church Street were introduced on the corner near St Andrews Church.

**20mph Speed Reduction** –the new 20mph speed limit was introduced, and the new signs have been erected.

**Flashing Speed Limit Signs** – quotes were obtained for 20mph flashing speed limit signs as you come into the village from Churchill towards the school and near The Mill. These were approved by the Councillors and the signs will be erected in the new financial year.

**Lengthsperson** – the Parish Council have employed a Lengthsperson to help maintain the village. It is currently on a 3-month trial basis and the Parish Council will review at the end of the 3 months. Both Church Street and the Village Hall have already been tackled and are much improved.

**Potential New Projects** - the Councillors are looking into refurbing the Village Hall kitchen and the possibility of adding a dishwasher.

The Councillors are also looking at placing posts on the verges of West Street – the Parish Council are still waiting for resident’s comments.

**4. County Councillor’s Report**

* Roads/Highways – Church Street/Cozens Lane/Daylesford Road – have asked that these roads be placed on their repair programme for next year.
* Potholes – individuals and the Parish Council are being encouraged to continue to report any potholes onto fixmystreet.com.
* 20mph signs – all comments on issues of where the signs were erected have been reported back to the contractors and Cllr Saul is awaiting comments.
* Road maintenance work on Kingham and Churchill Road are taking place in May this year. The exact dates have been published on Kingham’s website ([www.kinghamoxfordshire.com](http://www.kinghamoxfordshire.com)) and were displayed on the village noticeboard for a time.
* A Kingham resident can train and become a super-user for fixmystreet.com. This will also allow them to file reports directly to the Highways Officer.
* Key positives:
* Funding is currently planned to bring buses back to public control.
* £3.1 million is going towards the education of children with special needs – to help improve the system.
* £6 million is funding better walking and cycling routes.
* Pilot project – bus pick-up service, not a scheduled bus service route. £300,000 into investigating this project. This new service may be better in more urban areas.

**5. West Oxfordshire District Councillor’s Report**

WODC thanked the Parish Council for all the work that they’d put in this year.

Cllr Beaney and Cllr Wilson gave us an overview of WODC’s key issues:

* last year WODC lost 5-year land supply, however they have got it back this year. There have been other issues that are causing problems – roman village remains were found in Chipping Norton which has put building work on-hold.
* WestHive Projects are now live ([Westhive - About (spacehive.com)](https://www.spacehive.com/movement/westhive/about)) – similar to GoFundMe fundraising.
* WODC Nature Recovery Plan is now available to view [Website document (westoxon.gov.uk)](https://meetings.westoxon.gov.uk/documents/s10048/Annex%20B%20-%20WODC%20NRP_20.02.24.pdf)
* there will be an increase of £5 for Council Tax and an increase of £5 for the Green Bins.
* There is a new planning enforcement app.

There was a complaint from one of the members of public regarding lack of response/contact from Cllr Beaney regarding the email queries they had sent.

KPC Chairman noted that this was not an issue that they had with Cllr Beaney and that he had answered promptly to their queries.

**6. Thames Valley Police**

PC Bruce Claridge – bruce.claridge@thamesvalley.police.uk

PC James Dyson – james.dyson@thamesvalley.police.uk

* there were 50 reported crimes over the last year, including crimes/road traffic collisions. These were mainly burglary and car theft.
* No anti-social behaviour crimes have been reported, which is unusual even for a small rural village.
* a higher volume of retail theft has been reported in Chipping Norton.
* police officers have been present in Chipping Norton for about a month – trialling to see if more of a police presence is required in the area.
* Big Feastival – figures of crime are not included in the crime statistics for the area.
* school parking issue was mentioned by a member of the public – PC Claridge emphasised the need to keep reporting any incidents to the police.

**7. Open meeting**

A resident questioned the need for a dishwasher in the Village Hall kitchen – didn’t think that it was a high priority.

The Cllrs decided that it wouldn’t do any harm to get a quote for a dishwasher when obtaining estimates for the kitchen refurbishment. The Cllrs will make a decision about the dishwasher then.

Cotswold Arts Through Schools – an email was sent to the Clerk asking for donations for the charity to support arts for children in local schools.

**Action:** Clerk to forward email to Cllrs.

**8. AOB-** Nil

**Meeting Closed at 07.50 pm**