

Kidlington Parish Council

Exeter Hall, Oxford Road, Kidlington OX5 1AB

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



Minutes of the Meeting of Kidlington Parish Council Community Committee held at Exeter Hall at 6.30pm on Thursday 9 January 2025

Present: Cllr Fiona Mawson, Cllr Melanie Moorhouse, Cllr Lesley McLean, Cllr Nik Soheili, Cllr Alison Street (Chair), Cllr Doug Williamson, Cllr Phil Wyse, Cllr Naveed Barakzai Pace

In Attendance: Cllr David Kanonuwa, Clerk to the Council, Community Project Officer and 5 members of the public

Apologies: Cllr Elphick of Steeple Aston postponed his attendance for a later meeting regarding the Blandford Fly eradication programme and request for support with funding.

25/CO/01 Declaration of Interest: None declared

25/CO/02 Minutes: the minutes of the meeting held on 7 November 2024 were reviewed and signed as a true record of the meeting, with an amendment to add Cllr Mawson as present.

25/CO/03 St Mary's Fields - Representatives from the St Mary's Fields Management Group attended the meeting to explain the need to clear and resurface the circular path around the fields. A grant of £18k has been submitted to TOE which is likely to be received favourably. However, quotes had been received which suggested a short fall of around £25k although officers are investigating cheaper options.

Action: The committee RESOLVED to make up the shortfall for this project up to £25k.

25/CO/04 Actions Points:

(a) Man Shed: Cllr Wyse reported that he has been liaising with Cllr Nigel Simpson (OCC) regarding the possibility of the airport providing space for a man shed. He reported that he had found a community member who may be interested in helping to set it up.

25/CO/05 Facilities Manager's Report - noted.

25/CO/06 Parkhill Hill Play Area:

Action: The committee RESOLVED that £125k be used for the refurbishment of Park Hill Play Area, to be covered by the £100 in capital reserves with the balance of £25k supported from the playgrounds EMR. We would aim for installation in late Spring 2025.

Action: It was agreed to expand the work of the Park Hill Working Group to look more widely at recreation spaces in the village including the possible addition of solar lighting in parks or at the tennis courts. The members of the group were confirmed as Cllrs Wyse, Moorhouse, Street and Kanonuwa. Cllr Street to organise a meeting of this group asap.

25/CO/07 The Local Area Coordinator: the information circulated to members for the recruitment of this position is in the final stages with a recruitment day on 22 January between 10am-1pm to be held at Kidlington Baptist Church. Local people have been invited to "speed meet the candidates". CDC confirmed there are 5 candidates that have been short listed.

25/CO/08 Zoo Trails: CDC updated members on the additional funding available to be spent on equipment and ideas discussed with new benches or swing for the new “parrot trail”. Members agreed south of the village was the target area, with the Broadway and Stratfield Brake proposed as suitable locations. CDC confirmed the updated lecterns are due to be delivered to all locations within the next 5-6 weeks.

25/CO/09 Section 137 Grant Fund

The committee **RESOLVED** to offer a grant for Kidlington Football Club for £5,000 toward the cost of installing the fencing to be compliant with FA regulations and avoid automatic relegation.

25/CO/10 OCC Youth Activity Team:

The committee **RESOLVED** to allow OCC Youth Activity team to use Exeter Hall for one day during the half term holiday in February to run an activity day for disadvantaged children.

25/CO/11 Kidlington Eco Group (KEG): Minutes had been circulated and were noted.

25/CO/12 Natural Environment Group:

1. Cllr Street confirmed that the Council have confirmed a new agreement with Wild Oxfordshire to use their professional services for one day per week. The initial Wild Kidlington project had been funded for 3 years by CDC. Cllr Street to meet with the Clerk and Wild Oxfordshire staff to create a project plan to support KPC green spaces strategy.
2. The Clerk confirmed that the council has applied to CDC for a £9,000 grant to develop additional growing spaces.

25/CO/13 Kidlington Celebration of Volunteering:

The Clerk confirmed that the Lord Lieutenant can attend the event on 3 April from 6-8pm. Members were asked to suggest invitees not already on the list created by the office. It was suggested that the invitation go out in early March.

Action: Cllr Wyse to create a power point presentation of photographs and Cllr Street to form the words for the certificates being given on the evening.

25/CO/14 KPC Events – councillors were informed of the following dates:

Celebration of Volunteering: Thursday 3 April from 6pm -8pm

Fireworks 2025 – Wednesday 5 November

Gala Day 2025 – Saturday 19 July

Remembrance Sunday – Sunday 9 November

Christmas Light Switch On – Thursday 27 November.

The meeting closed at: 7.30pm

Date of next meeting: 6.30pm on 27 February 2025