

**Minutes of Kimpton Parish Council Meeting
held on Wednesday 20th July 2016
Kimpton Memorial Hall at 7.30 pm**

Present: Cllr I Corbett, Cllr L Hawke, Cllr J Marsh, Cllr S O'Brien, Cllr J Palmer (Chairman), Cllr D Reavell

In attendance: Mrs C Helmn, Parish Clerk and 2 members of the public.

16/120 To receive and accept apologies for absence

Cllr D Hardstaff and Cllr D Pirola due to personal commitments, District Cllr J Bishop and County Cllr R Thake.

16/121 Declarations of interest and dispensations

- a) To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda
None.
- b) To receive written requests for dispensations for declarable interests; and
None.
- c) To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate
None.

16/122 To confirm the Minutes of Kimpton Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 22nd June 2016

Resolved that these Minutes be agreed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings and be duly signed by the Chairman. Unanimously agreed.

16/123 To consider planning applications listed below

16/01645/1HH 25 Dacre Crescent
Two storey side and single storey rear extensions
No comment.

16/01706/1HH Half Moon Lodge, Lawrence End Road, Peters Green
Conversion of existing detached garage into ancillary accommodation
No comment

16/124 To consider planning applications received between 14th July and 22nd July 2016
None received.

16/125 To receive reports on actions agreed at the last Council meeting

The Noise Project organised by Kimpton Parish Church with volunteers from the village was a huge success. Its aim is to support people in the community with practical help and the project to improve Wren Close and surrounding areas was greatly appreciated by local residents. Officers from North Herts Homes and their families also took part in the project.

Kimpton Rugby Football Club Ltd is being formed as a company limited by guarantee and will be taking over the agreement for the Recreation Ground pavilion, pitch and container.

16/126 To receive reports from representatives on outside bodies, working parties, local authorities and agencies

Cllr Reavell reported that it was doubtful that the proposed new secondary school in Harpenden will be open in September 2017 as the Educational Funding Agency has yet to confirm funding and no planning application has been submitted.

Mrs Tracy Clements will commence her full time duties as Headteacher of Kimpton Primary School in September. Interviews were taking place for a short term contract for a Deputy Headteacher.

Cllr Palmer reported that Kimpton Folk Festival was a successful community event that was very well organised by the committee. Over 1,000 people attended programmes created for three venues; The Green, Kimpton Memorial Hall and Kimpton Parish Church. It generated a surplus of around £8,000 that will be used to fund the second Folk Festival on Saturday 1st July 2017.

16/127 To receive petitions, comments and questions from the public

It was suggested that due to the increasing number of annual Kimpton fund raising events, a meeting of their organisers may be useful to exchange information and coordinate resources.

Residents and councillors expressed their concern that the drains in Hitchin Road are blocked.

A suggestion has been made for a bollard to be placed outside 28 High Street to prevent vehicles mounting the pavement.

16/128 To consider location of a storage facility for use by community fund raising committees and expenditure

With the increase in community events and associated requirement for tables, chairs, awnings, notices and signs it was suggested that an additional storage facility/container in the village would be useful. The Clerk will find out if there is spare capacity within current containers and contact BT to explore the possibility of using the grounds of the Kimpton exchange.

16/129 Allotments

a) To agree allotment rents for 1st October 2016 to 30th September 2017

Resolved, proposed Cllr O'Brien, seconded Cllr Palmer to increase the charge per metre by 5%. Unanimously agreed.

b) To consider improvements to the allotment site

Cllr Hawke gave a review on the state of the allotments. Most plots are being cultivated well and the site is generally looking good. There are 4 vacant plots, however it is noted that some plots that are taken are overgrown, a glass greenhouse has collapsed, rag wort has been found, willows require trimming or removal, the hedge by the school field requires trimming, the bonfire site needs to be levelled and rats are being seen on the site.

16/130 Finance

a) To approve payments made in accordance with the budget

Resolved, proposed Cllr Palmer, seconded Cllr Reavell to approve payments see attached. Unanimously agreed.

b) To receive bank statements, bank reconciliation and budget report

Resolved, proposed Cllr Palmer, seconded Cllr Reavell that these were received by the Council and found to be satisfactory. Unanimously agreed.

- c) To consider quotes, donations and agree funding
- i. Recreation Ground pavilion improvements. Item deferred until the next parish council meeting on 28th September 2016
 - ii. Grant to The British Legion, Kimpton Branch
Resolved, proposed Cllr O'Brien, seconded Cllr Hawke to approve a grant of £100.00. Unanimously agreed.
 - iii. Grant to Kimpton Parish Magazine
Resolved, proposed Cllr O'Brien, seconded Cllr Palmer to approve a grant of £210.00. Unanimously agreed.
- d) To discuss and agree projects for an application to NHDC Rural Grants
It was agreed to authorise the Clerk to make funding applications to part fund the Parish Warden and for an external table tennis table.

16/131 To receive the Clerk's report (for information only)
None.

16/132 To suggest agenda items for the next Meeting of the Parish Council on Wednesday 28th September 2016

- Storage unit
- Local Plan

Cllr L Hawke left the meeting

16/133 To resolve that under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and representatives of the press and broadcast media be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following items of business as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest due to confidential nature of the business to be transacted.
Resolved that agenda item 16/134 be held as a closed session without press and public due to confidential nature of the business to be transacted, namely staff matters. Unanimously agreed.

16/134 To consider staff matters

- a) To review staff salaries
Resolved, proposed Cllr O'Brien, seconded Cllr Palmer to approve an increase in hourly rate for the Parish Warden to £9.50 effective from 1st October 2016. The Christmas bonus to remain at £100. Unanimously agreed.
- b) To review staff hours and schedule of work
Councillors will review the hours of work with the Parish Warden and review at the next Parish Council meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.55 pm.

Chairman..... Date.....