

**Minutes of Kimpton Parish Council Meeting
held on Wednesday 25th September 2017
Kimpton Memorial Hall at 7.30 pm**

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

In attendance: Mrs C Helmn, Parish Clerk, and 3 members of the public.

17/104 To receive and accept apologies for absence
District Cllr J Bishop and County Cllr R Thake.

17/105 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.

17/106 To confirm the Minutes of Kimpton Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 19th July 2017

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

17/107 To consider planning applications listed below
There were no planning applications to consider.

17/108 To consider planning applications received between 21st September and 27th September 2017
None received.

17/109 To receive reports from representatives on outside bodies, working parties, local authorities and agencies

Mr B Finch reported that the Kimpton Bench Working Party is continuing to repair the boundary fence at Parkfield Sports Ground as and when required. The container at Recreation Ground has been cleared out with new interior fittings so that items needed for village events such as tables, chairs, marquees can be stored.

Cllr I Corbett advised that Wheathampstead Wanderers were using the Recreation Ground on a Sunday afternoon.

Cllr L Hawke reported on the renewals of the allotment plots which are due on 1st October. The mound on the bonfire site was discussed as it remains a problem. Water at the allotments will be turned off on 1st November for the winter months and turned back on again on 1st March.

Cllr D Reavell reported that a new school governor had been appointed at Kimpton Primary School and recruitment was underway for a teacher and assistant. Pupil numbers are increasing. Over the summer interactive white boards were introduced which have proved popular with the staff and pupils.

Cllr J Marsh reported that Kimpton Memorial Hall had refurbished its lighting in the main hall and now uses LED lights. Strip lighting was installed around the walls to enable coloured light to cascade down.

Cllr D Pirola has written an article for the Peters Green newsletter on the possible future of the village hall and the seek the views of residents. Residents are encouraged to come to the next parish council meeting to take part in the discussion. The damaged floor in the toilets had been reviewed by the bench working party and the area blocked off.

17/110 To receive petitions, comments and questions from the public

Mr Ian Mitchell explained the purpose of the fundraising concert on 14th October in support of his grant application.

17/111 To receive an update on arrangements for the Christmas Market being held on Saturday 2nd December 2017

See Appendix A.

Resolved; after reviewing the Christmas mugs Cllr Hardstaff proposed, Cllr O'Brien seconded to purchase a further 108 mugs on the same terms as the initial order. Unanimously agreed.

17/112 To receive an update on the planning application for Katherine Warington School, Harpenden and response to public consultation

Residents of Kimpton are encouraged to vote to support the new Katherine Warington School. As part of the pre-opening work to become a free school, the Harpenden Secondary Education Trust; a partnership of the three secondary schools in Harpenden (Roundwood Park, St George's and Sir John Lawes), the University of Hertfordshire and Rothamsted Research Centre is completing an 'appropriate' formal consultation exercise to determine whether they should enter into a Funding Agreement with the Department for Education, pending approval of the Secretary of State. More information can be found on www.kwschool.co.uk The Trust intends to open the school in September 2018 when it will take in up to 180 Year 7 students. A further 180 students will be taken in subsequent years until 2022 when a 6th form will also open at the school. By 2023 when the school is full, it will accommodate 1150 students (250 of which are 6th form students). The school will be a state funded single academy.

17/113 To consider the reduction of vegetation on the boundary wall beside footpath 34 between Park Lane and Church Lane

A discussion took place about the stretch of wall that has ivy and other vegetation overgrowing onto the north side of the wall. It was agreed that the stability of the wall would be improved if the weight of the vegetation was reduced by cutting back the ivy. This could be carried out by the bench working party.

Action: Clerk to talk to the resident Canham Close

Resolved proposed Cllr Hardstaff, seconded Cllr Corbett to undertake minor repairs to the flint sections of the wall. Unanimously agreed.

Action; Clerk to obtain a quote to reduce an overhanging tree on FP34

17/114 Playgrounds

a) To review quarterly inspection reports

The reports were noted by the Council.

- b) To review fencing of the play area in Recreation Ground
After discussion the Council agreed that there would be no change to the openness of the Recreation Ground as the whole area is used for playing.

17/115 To consider installing a notice board at Probyn Close

The Council considered that there was sufficient provision of notice boards within the parish.

17/116 To review the road surface works completed at Parkfield Sports Ground access track

The contractor recommended that the trees be cut back as they overhang the track creating damp conditions.

Action; Clerk to obtain quotes for the work.

17/117 Finance

- a) To authorise payments made in accordance with the budget
Resolved, proposed Cllr Hardstaff, seconded Cllr Marsh to approve payments listed in Appendix B. Unanimously agreed.
- b) To note receipt of income
£500 grant from Cllr Richard Thake from the Locality Fund was received.
- c) To receive bank statements, bank reconciliation and budget report
These were received by the council and found to be satisfactory, see Appendix C and Appendix D.
- d) To consider price quotations, charges and grant requests as listed below
1. Skip for arisings from siding out
Resolved, proposed Cllr Corbett, seconded Cllr O'Brien to approve a roll on roll off skip. Unanimously agreed
 2. Grant for fundraising concert on 14th October
Resolved, proposed Cllr Hardstaff, seconded Cllr O'Brien to give a grant of £575. Unanimously approved.

17/118 To review the External Auditor's report for the Annual Accounts 2016/17

Noted. There were no matters that the External Auditor wished to bring to the attention of the Council.

17/119 To receive the Clerk's report (for information only)

None.

17/120 To consider change of venue to Peters Green Village Hall and suggest agenda items for the next Meeting of the Parish Council on Wednesday 25th October

Resolved, proposed Cllr Hardstaff, seconded Cllr Palmer to change the venue to Peters Green Village Hall. Unanimously agreed.

Suggested agenda items:

- To consider the future of Peters Green Village Hall
- To receive an update on the preparations for the Christmas Market

The meeting closed at 9.40 pm.

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