

**Minutes of Kimpton Parish Council Meeting  
held on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2017  
Peters Green Village Hall at 7.30 pm**

**Present:** Cllr D Hardstaff (Chairman), Cllr L Hawke, Cllr J Marsh, Cllr J Palmer, Cllr D Pirola, Cllr D Reavell

**In attendance:** Mrs C Helmn, Parish Clerk, and 18 members of the public.

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**17/121** To receive and accept apologies for absence

Cllr O'Brien due to illness, Cllr Corbett due to another commitment, District Cllr J Bishop and County Cllr R Thake

**17/122** Declarations of interest and dispensations

- a)** To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda  
Cllr Reavell on 17/126 for planning application 17/02500/1HH as a neighbour.  
Cllr Hawke on 17/125 for planning application 17/02400/1LB as a family relative
- b)** To receive written requests for dispensations for declarable interests; and  
None.
- c)** To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate  
None.

**17/123** To confirm the Minutes of Annual Kimpton Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September 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.

**17/124** To consider the future of Peters Green Village Hall

Cllr Pirola has consulted with the residents of Peters Green on the future of the Village Hall with these questions:

1. Are you likely to book the Hall for either a family or a community event in the short or distant future?
2. Would you object to the permanent closure of the Village Hall as a public amenity in our village?
3. If you object, do you have a proposed use for the Hall?
4. If you object, would you be willing to take over the Care, Legal, Treasury and Fundraising aspects of its management?

The summary of the responses received as at 25/10/17:

An email or flyer was distributed to 38 households, including 6 current committee members. 16 replies were received and a further 2 replies at the council meeting with attendance at the meeting by others.

Apologies received for not attending the meeting due to Half Term was 6 households

#### QUESTION 1

Individuals expressing interest in hiring the Hall in the near or distant future = 4 (possibly 5), of which 2 have plans for an event in the next few months.

#### QUESTION 2

Yes = 3 (+ 6 other written responses stating that it would be a shame for the village to lose the Hall). 1 committee member is clearly against closure.

#### QUESTION 3

Proposed alternative use for the community

- Turn the land into a play area.
- Opening it up to businesses

#### QUESTION 4

Offers to help with fundraising events = 3 (+ 1 pledge to support them).

Confirmed offers to help with general care, cleaning and dealing with hirers = 1 (not a current committee member)

Confirmed offers to help with administrative/treasury tasks = 1 (in a support function only)

With the permission of the Council the meeting was opened up to the members of the public and comments were made in support of the findings of the questionnaire. The booking secretary gave details of the total bookings and fees received during the past year which do not cover costs. In addition, Donatella Pirola was thanked by residents for her huge commitment to running the hall in the past few years.

In conclusion the residents and councillors wanted the village hall to remain as a community asset but most accepted the inevitability that if the Hall is not used or if it lacks support from the community it may have to be closed. The alternative options are to be explored with a resident offering to obtain information about commercial possibilities and the village hall committee investigating the opportunity of the hall being used for local businesses.

**17/125** To consider planning applications listed below

**17/02430/1HH** 9 Lime Avenue, Blackmore End  
Side storey and rear extensions  
No comment

**17/01540/1** White Cottage, Park Lane  
Erection of 3 x 2 bed detached dwellings with associated road and landscaping following demolition of existing house and outbuildings (as amended by drawing no 5354-07B received 11.10.17 and drawing no 5454-10C received 12.10.17)  
No comment

**17/02356/1HH** Ayot Chase, Bibbs Hall Lane, Ayot St Lawrence,  
Two storey front extension, part single, part first floor extension, replacement balcony and fenestration with external staircase and ancillary works.  
No comment

**17/02400/1LB** 1 High Street, Kimpton  
Single storey side extension following demolition of existing side extension, two storey and single storey rear extensions following demolition of bay windows. External and internal alterations to include modifying 3no. first floor rear windows. Extend front garden wall.  
No comment

**17/126** To consider planning applications received between 19<sup>th</sup> October and 25<sup>th</sup> October 2017

**17/02500/1HH** 9 Church Lane, Kimpton  
Part single and part two storey rear extension  
Kimpton Parish Council objects to this planning application and listed building consent due its adverse impact on neighbouring properties and overbearing nature within a Conservation Area. The Clerk will respond to NHDC identifying the huge bulk of the proposal and consequence out of proportion impact on the neighbouring cottages, the devaluing of local heritage by the removal of an historic outbuilding, there being no provision for recycling bins, concern over water run-off from the roof, lack of sufficient parking space and loss of amenity value in the Conservation Area.

**17/127** To receive reports from representatives on outside bodies, working parties, local authorities and agencies  
Mr B Finch commented that there are now 20 members of the Kimpton Bench Working Party and gave a report on the jobs completed in the last month by them:

- \* Fabricated and installed a number of wooden benches that fit under the outside classroom on the Kimpton Primary School field
- \* Cut down a large hazel tree on Parkfield Amenity Area that had been coppiced before
- \* Completed the installation of shelving in the Recreation Ground container so it is now available for Kimpton organisations, such as Kimpton May Festival, as a storage unit
- \* Levelled one grave and lifted several grave surrounds up from under the soil, maintenance work on Church House and trimmed some trees in the Churchyard
- \* Maintenance work at Kimpton Memorial Hall including improving the front aspect with new shrubs, weed clearance in the car park and mended the vacuum cleaner. The roof lining has been put up and down a few times
- \* Repaired the pedestrian gate into Parkfield Sports Ground off Park Lane
- \* Replaced a broken footpath post at the top of FP61

Mr B Malcolm gave a report from the rights of way working group. They recommended that Kimpton Parish Council does not bid for the maintenance contract. A wooden handrail will be installed at FP61 with the responsibility of monitoring taken on by the local residents. Work is progressing on the Kimpton Walks Map.

A lorry has been parked on the grass at Peters Green for the past 6 weeks despite assurances that it was to be removed. Action: Clerk to send a letter.

Cllr Reavell encouraged councillors and residents to support the planning application for the new Katharine Warrington School in Batford, Harpenden.

**17/128** To receive petitions, comments and questions from the public  
None.

**17/129** To receive an update on arrangements for the Christmas Market being held on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2017

See Appendix A.

**Resolved**, proposed Cllr Marsh, seconded Cllr Hardstaff to approve a window extension to the tips at £250.00 plus matting for the refreshment marquee at £180.00 plus £200.00 for additional lighting and cabling. Unanimously agreed.

**17/130 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

£1,350.00	Big Lottery grant for the Christmas Market
£1,310.49	Allotment rents
£400.00	Tables at the Christmas Market
£40.00	Commercial stands Christmas Market

- 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  
None.
- e) To consider the draft budget for 2018/19  
NHDC has advised that the level of compensation under the Council Tax Reduction Scheme will remain the same as the current year.

**17/131** To receive the Clerk's report (for information only)

General Protection Data Regulations will come into force on 25<sup>th</sup> May 2018 and will require that Kimpton Parish Council undertakes an impact assessment and the appointment of a DPO. Costs to be included in the budget 2018/19.

There are S106 monies that are live and still available to be spent: £4,637.37 on informal open space and £7,800.79 on play space.

There is a proposal to organise a 'design a village logo' competition for use by village organisation. The competition would be open to everyone in the parish. Details of the competition are being worked up.

**17/132** To suggest agenda items for the next Meeting of the Parish Council on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2017

- Grant application from Kimpton History Group
- Precept and budget 2018/19

The meeting closed at 21.45.

**Chairman**..... **Date**.....