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**Minutes of Kimpton Parish Council Meeting
held on Wednesday 23rd March 2022
Kimpton Memorial Hall at 7.30 pm**

Present: Cllr I Corbett (Chairman), Cllr A Firth, Cllr J Marsh, Cllr S O'Brien.

In attendance: Mrs C Helmn, Parish Clerk, District Cllr J Bishop and 5 members of the public. Cllr N Burns attended via zoom and contributed when invited to do so by the Chairman but did not vote. Mr B Finch attended via zoom.

22/021

Apologies

To receive and accept apologies for absence.

Cllr C Proctor, Cllr B Purple, Cllr D Reavell, County Cllr R Thake due to other engagements.

22/022

Interests

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.

22/023

Minutes

To confirm the Minutes of Kimpton Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 23rd February 2022 as an accurate record of proceedings

Resolved, proposed Cllr J Marsh, seconded Cllr S O'Brien that these Minutes be agreed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings and be duly signed by the Chairman. Unanimously agreed.

22/024

Public Issues

Members of the public and councillors can raise matters of concern.

None.

22/025

Reports from Working Parties and Committees

a) Kimpton Bench Working Party – Mr B Finch

To receive a report on activities

Report received and noted, see attached. The council thanked members of the working party for their continued excellent work.

Resolved, proposed Cllr S O'Brien, seconded Cllr J Marsh to approve the positioning of a bench at Parkfield Sports Ground around the cricket outfield. Unanimously agreed.

b) Planning

i) To receive a report from Planning Working Party for approval

Resolved, proposed Cllr J Marsh, seconded Cllr A Firth to approve the recommendations in the report. Unanimously agreed.

A response to Planning Application 22/07766/FPH, 134 High Street to be drafted, circulated and forward to NHC.

- c) Public Spaces and Playgrounds Working Party
i) To consider the maintenance of the Recreation Ground pavilion
See attached report.

Resolved, proposed Cllr S O'Brien, seconded Cllr J Marsh that the lease agreement between KPC/Kimpton Rugby Football Club be terminated and that the management of the Recreation Ground pavilion and pitch be taken over by Kimpton Parish Council during 1st June and 1st August. Unanimously agreed.

The Clerk will organise a meeting of all current and potential users of the ground and pavilion to find out the needs of each user and future community aspirations of this important asset. Feedback will inform the details of the refurbishment works for the pavilion and the management of the pitch.

Terms of reference for the Recreation Ground Pitch and Pavilion Working Party to be drafted.

A user pitch hire agreement to be drafted and reviewed.

- ii) To consider an additional light at the training area of Recreation Ground

The new fitness equipment is being located to the east of the play area at Recreation Ground and therefore impinges on the space available for football or rugby training. To facilitate retaining an equal amount of ground area for training in the winter, necessary to keep the pitch in match condition, an additional light towards the east is required.

Neighbours have kindly requested we consider incorporating an additional light within the existing, adjacent column. If this is not feasible, they agreed to the installation of a slimline column and directional light with a request that they are involved in the decision of the actual siting of the light column, anticipated to be on the boundary of 1 and 3 High Street and set within a tree to obscure the column as far as possible."

Resolved, proposed Cllr J Marsh, seconded Cllr S O'Brien to approve additional lighting. Specification to be drawn up.

22/026

Reports to the Council

To receive reports from representatives on outside bodies, local authorities and agencies.

County Cllr R Thake, given verbally by Ralph Muncer

- Hertfordshire County Council has not appointed a Highways Manager to serve Kimpton and therefore projects are unable to be progressed.
- Support is given to the safe cycle route proposal.
- Encourage residents to make a response to Luton Rising regarding their proposal to increase passenger numbers at Luton Airport.
- Police and Crime Commissioner, David Lloyd, has made resources available to tackle rural fly tipping and speeding.
- Will support the patients to retain Kimpton Surgery in the village and has been making representations to colleagues in HCC.

22/027

Kimpton Surgery

To review the proposed changes in GP provision in Kimpton

To date there has been no public consultation relating to the proposal to withdraw a branch surgery in Kimpton by Bridge Cottage Surgery. Comments on the village Facebook highlight the concern being expressed by residents of all ages namely the lack of public bus transport to Welwyn, poor telephone access to the surgery for booking appointments, convenience of a surgery within walking distance and ability to book doctor and nurse appointments through the receptionist. The community has not been given any detail about the proposals and residents are not involved in the discussion with the surgery. A petition has been set up for sending to the surgery.

Resolved, proposed Cllr S O'Brien, seconded Cllr A Firth to write to Bridge Cottage Surgery on behalf of the community and copy to Bim Afolami MP, County Cllr R Thake, District Cllr J Bishop. The council will liaise with the Patient Participation Group to ensure that medical provision in the village is maintained.

22/028

Kimpton to Katherine Warrington School Cycle Route

To consider an alternative cycle route proposal using a direct road route with modifications to make the route more suitable for cyclists.

See attached report and route plan. This proposal requires the acquisition of land between Coopers Hill and Porters End Road and the reduction of the speed limit on the lanes from 60mph to 40mph. Compared to the previous study for an 'off-road' route with a costing of £650,000 to £850,000 this safe cycle route is estimated to cost within £60,000 and £80,000.

Resolved, proposed Cllr A Firth, seconded Cllr S O'Brien to approve undertaking a feasibility study, including external grants, and reporting its findings back to the council. Unanimously agreed.

22/029

Support with Ukraine and its people

a) To consider signing up with this statement:

We, local and regional leaders across Europe, strongly condemn the multiple attacks and violations of the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Ukraine. We express our full support and solidarity to the Ukrainian people and our peers in local and regional government. We will not accept that our European values and integrity be attacked again by the Russian Federation after the violation of Georgian territories by Russia in 2008. We are firmly opposed to the dismemberment of a free and democratic state in Europe.

<https://ccre.org/en/actualites/view/4268>

Resolved, proposed Cllr S O'Brien, seconded Cllr A Firth to sign up to the above statement. Unanimously agreed.

b) To receive a report from Kimpton Cares

This item was deferred until the next council meeting.

22/030

Kimpton Food Festival

To consider a proposal to hold a Kimpton Food Festival in September Lucy Clark advised the meeting that following the successful Food Night evening a small group of people would like to organise a local food festival to coincide with the Kimpton Autumn Show and a Beer Festival. They would like to have hot food stalls on The Green and further interactive activities such as sausage making, particularly appropriate for children. Using the Dacre Rooms for the Beer Festival would be beneficial as the Recreation Ground may be considered for other stalls.

The council agreed in principle for The Green and Recreation Ground being used for the Food Festival, subject to pitch hire obligations. The organisers to come back with more details for the next council meeting,

22/031

Finance

a) To authorise payments made in accordance with the budget

b) To note receipt of income

c) To receive budget report

d) To receive bank reconciliation

Resolved, proposed Cllr J Marsh, seconded Cllr A Firth to note/approve agenda items a) to d). Unanimously agreed.

e) To consider price quotations, charges and grant requests

i. Kimpton Folk Festival

Resolved, proposed Cllr A Firth, seconded Cllr S O'Brien that this item be deferred until the next council meeting to enable the applicant to attend and provide more details on what a grant would be used for.

- 22/032 Gigabyte technology for Kimpton**
To consider investigating a voucher scheme to get the parish connected to gigabit broadband and further actions.
Cllr I Corbett provided a briefing, see attached, with recommendations that the parish council supported. No further action is required at this time.
- 22/033 KPC Policies**
a) [To review Inventory of Personal Data Captured, Stored and Processed](#)
b) [To agree Treasury and Investment Policy](#)
Resolved, proposed Cllr A Firth, seconded Cllr S O'Brien to approve these two policies. Unanimously agreed,
- 22/034 Clerk's Report**
Items for information only
None.
- 22/035 Date of next Kimpton Parish Council Meeting and items for the agenda**
To note that the next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 27th April 2022
- To receive an update on Kimpton Food Festival
 - To receive a report from Recreation Ground Pavilion and Pitch Working Party
 - To consider a grant application from Kimpton Folk Festival
 - To receive a report from Kimpton Cares
 - To receive an update on the safe cycle route proposal
 - To consider an update regarding Kimpton Surgery

Meeting closed at 8:50 pm.

Chairman Date...