



**Minutes of Kimpton Parish Council Meeting
held on Wednesday 20th July 2022
Kimpton Memorial Hall at 7.30 pm**

Present: Cllr A Firth (Chairman), Cllr S O'Brien, Cllr G Durrant, Cllr N Jackman, Cllr J Marsh, Cllr I Pegrum, Cllr C Procter, Cllr D Reavell.

In attendance: Mrs C Helmn, Parish Clerk, District Cllr R Muncer, County Cllr R Thake and 14 members of the public.

22/077

Apologies

To receive and accept apologies for absence
None

22/078

Interests

- a) To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda
22/083 a) Cllr I Pegrum as an allotment tenant
- b) To receive written requests for dispensations for declarable interests
Cllr I Pegrum as an allotment tenant
- c) To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate
Resolved proposed Cllr A Firth, seconded Cllr D Reavell to approve dispensation to Cllr Pegrum to take part and vote on allotment matters until the next ordinary election. Unanimously approved.

22/079

Minutes

To confirm the Minutes of Kimpton Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 22nd June 2022

Resolved, proposed Cllr D Reavell, 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.

22/080

Highways Officer

To receive a report on the proposal for 20mph speed limit within the village of Kimpton

See attached technical note and map. County Cllr R Thake explained that a 20mph scheme will have minimal engineering works if it is self-policing i.e. the average speed of the traffic is 24mph or lower, but will require more traffic calming features, such as cushions/tables or chicanes, if higher. This is the situation from Luton Road to Claggy Road. The accident record in Kimpton is good and therefore Kimpton is not being prioritised for inclusion in county schemes. Kimpton is around number 300 in the 700 applications received for county funding from the £7 million budget with a certain allocation for rural areas. Any speed reduction scheme agreed for Kimpton could be funded up to £30,000 through the member Highway Locality Scheme. The community would have to approve any engineering scheme on a majority basis of 50.1% in favour. Initially this should be undertaken through an informal consultation

process before proceeding with a formal consultation to make sure there was a majority of local support before incurring the expense of the formal consultation. County Cllr R Thake would suggest how to proceed with the informal survey.

Residents commented that the extremities of the High Street, both east and west experience traffic speeds more than 30mph.

County Cllr R Thake offered to fund a speed and volume survey for Kimpton Bottom. This section of road may not meet legislative technical criteria for traffic calming engineering features.

Residents requested consideration be given to setting up a community speed watch scheme.

Police Commissioner speed detection mobile vehicles may be deployed in Kimpton.

Suggestion of a speed traffic device at Kimpton Bottom.

Suggestion of moving the speed traffic device at Ballslough Hill further eastwards to encourage traffic to reduce speeds before they reach housing.

It was agreed that the informal survey of the core 20 mph speed limit through the High Street from Hitchin Road in the East to Luton Road in the West and to the village boundary on Claggy Road should proceed as a priority while the above matters in respect of the extremities of the village were looked into.

22/081

Public Issues

Members of the public and councillors can raise matters of concern

Solar panels are to be installed on the front of Kimpton Memorial Hall with a predicted payback of 5 years. The parish room is on a separate circuit and currently excluded; investigations are in hand to extend the scheme to all areas of the hall. The air con system in the Green Room is to be changed to an air change system in August.

Bridge Cottage (Kimpton Branch) will close on 31st August. Kimpton Cares will consider how to support around 300 patients who have only used Kimpton surgery and may not have transport to go to GP appointments in Old Welwyn. It is very unlikely that the frequency of public bus services will be improved to the level that it could provide reliable and convenient access for appointments.

Hertfordshire County Council is waiting the outcome of an application to central government for further capital investment in Herts Links.

22/082

Planning

- i) To receive a presentation on Kimpton Grange proposal – Aaron Breedon, Architect

Details of the proposal to build 14 residential dwellings of 2-, 3-, 4- and 5-bedroom properties on the site of Kimpton Grange were given to the meeting. 3 of the properties will be affordable. An area of the site will be gifted to the community for use as a community park, picnic area and circular walk together with £10,000 maintenance bursary for the next 10 years. The Kimpton Grange Scheme will be Net Zero. A planning application will be submitted to North Herts Council in August.

- ii) To receive a report on current planning applications for consideration

Resolved, proposed Cllr C Procter, seconded Cllr S O'Brien

- Request that District Cllr R Muncer calls in Planning Application 22/00982/FP Greenveltdt Kennels
- Agreed to forward a comment of 'no objections' for all planning applications specified

Unanimously agreed.

- iii) To receive a report on recent NHC planning application decisions
Noted.
- iv) To consider recommendations for the name of the cul-de-sac for 4 dwellings to be built on land to the rear of 124 High Street. The developer has suggested Garden Lane.
Suggestions included Garden Lane, Garden Close, Garden Court, Denly Close, Finch Close, The Hyde, Rowan Close, Parish Close, Bishops Close and Bishops Rise.
Resolved proposed Cllr N Jackman, seconded Cllr J Marsh to put forward the name Rowan Close. Unanimously agreed.
- v) Scoping Opinion Request for West Welwyn Solar Farm, Welwyn Hatfield
Noted.

22/083

Reports from Working Parties and Committees

- a) Allotment Working Party
 - i) To receive a report
Noted, see attached.
 - ii) To consider the annual rental per square meter for period 1/10/22 to 30/9/23
Resolved, proposed Cllr S O'Brien, seconded Cllr G Durrant to keep the rental at the same rate as 2021/22. Unanimously agreed.
- b) Bench Working Party – Mr B Finch
 - i) To receive a report on activities
Noted, see attached.
- c) Christmas Market
 - i) To receive a report
Noted, see attached.
- d) Environment Working Party
 - i) To receive a report
See attached. Consideration to be given to the introduction of a wildflower area at Garden Fields. This item will be placed on the agenda for our next council meeting taking place on Wednesday 28th September.
- e) Pavilion and Pitch Working Party
 - i) To agree membership of the Pavilion Working Party
Resolved to appoint Cllr C Procter, Cllr S O'Brien, Cllr I Pegrum, Ian Corbett, Fiona Shepherd and Colin Heal. Parish Clerk to act as note taker.
The working party will liaise closely with current and potential users of the pavilion.
 - ii) To receive a report and agree the next stages
Fiona Shepherd, Architect and Colin Heal Project Manager went through the design proposals and high-level cost plans received.
Budgets will depend on the specifics of the proposals and the specification will be refined after reviewing the wants of the community.
Funding the project would be through the use of reserves, successful external funding applications and a loan.
 - a) To obtain a measured survey of the present pavilion
Resolved proposed Cllr S O'Brien, seconded Cllr C Procter to approve £500 for the measured survey. Unanimously agreed.
 - b) To discuss and agree to undertake community consultation
Resolved proposed Cllr C Procter, seconded Cllr S O'Brien to put options and costs of the pavilion project to the community. The Pavilion Working Party to define the survey.
 - c) Recreation Ground lighting quote

- f) **Resolved**, proposed Cllr O'Brien, seconded Cllr Procter to approve improved lighting scheme of twin brackets onto the present columns, 6 LED light fittings, cabling and switch mechanism. Materials £1,330 and labour £360 subject to receiving financial contribution from Kimpton Rugby Football Club. Unanimously agreed. Public Spaces and Playgrounds Working Party
- i) To consider and agree play bark order and works programme
Resolved, proposed Cllr C Procter, seconded Cllr S O'Brien to approve the purchase of Heart of Eden Hardwood Chips at £1,610.40 and up to £250 for a digger. Members of the Bench Working Party will be asked to level the chips. Unanimously agreed.
- ii) To consider and approve removal of the tyre play item at Recreation Ground play area due to deterioration of the tyres.
Quote £380.00 plus VAT
Resolved, proposed Cllr S O'Brien, seconded Cllr D Reavell to approve the quote. Unanimously agreed.
- iii) To agree Annual RoSPA play area inspections through NHDC
Quote £50.00 per site, as previous year
Resolved, proposed Cllr S O'Brien, seconded Cllr C Procter to approve the quote. Unanimously agreed.

22/084

Reports to the Council

To receive reports from representatives on outside bodies, local authorities and agencies
District Cllr Ralph Muncer, report attached.

22/085

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 N Jackman, seconded Cllr C Procter to note/approve agenda items a) to d). Unanimously agreed.
- e) To consider price quotations, charges and grant requests
- i) Allotment Accounting and Administration Package, from Scribe
Monthly subscription charge £19.00
One off set up fee £147.00
Unlimited free access to training and support services
Resolved proposed Cllr N Jackman, seconded Cllr S O'Brien to approve this quote. Unanimously agreed.
- ii) Hybrid meeting facility in the Green Room
Quote from Cloudy IT was reviewed. No further action required.
- iii) To consider location of festive lights in Kimpton 2022 and expenditure
See attached.
Resolved proposed Cllr S O'Brien, seconded Cllr A Firth to approve all the recommendations in the report. Unanimously agreed.

22/086

Clerk's Report

Items for information only
NHS England response dated 8th July 2022 on the reasons for the successful application to close the Kimpton Surgery (Branch of Bridge Cottage)

22/087

Next Meeting

Date of next meeting Wednesday 28th September and items for the agenda

Meeting closed at 21:50.

Chairman

Date.....

DRAFT