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**Minutes of Kimpton Parish Council Meeting
held on Wednesday 26th October 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 D Reavell

In attendance: Mrs C Helmn, Parish Clerk and 14 members of the public.

22/101

Apologies

To receive and accept apologies for absence
Cllr C Procter due to a prior engagement.
County Cllr R Thake and District Cllr R Muncer forwarded their apologies to the council.

22/102

Declarations of 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
None
- c) To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate
None

22/103

Minutes

To confirm the Minutes of Kimpton Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 28th September 2022
Resolved, proposed Cllr J Marsh, seconded Cllr G Durrant that these Minutes be agreed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings and be duly signed by the Chairman. Unanimously agreed.

22/104

Public Issues

Members of the public and councillors can raise matters of concern
A resident has written to the parish council with a suggestion of a skate park extension. This suggestion will be considered by the Public Spaces and Playgrounds Working Party.

22/105

Planning

- a) To receive a planning report on applications and decisions
Council agreed to forward a comment of 'no comments'
- b) To review Kimpton Grange proposed planning application and gift of land for a community nature reserve
Due to the large-scale nature of this planning application, it will be determined by North Herts Council Planning Committee. The parish council has been asked to detail potential projects for a S106 legal agreement. These projects are to mitigate the impact of the housing development on the community.
Members of the public were invited to express their views on this application. The main points raised were:

- Retention of the boundary trees which contribute to the character of the Conservation Area and Green Belt.
- The site is an important west end location on the junction of the High Street, Kimpton Bottom, Coopers Hill and Luton Road and can be seen when entering the village from three directions.
- These mature trees have provided a rookery for decades and this habitat would enhance the proposed nature reserve.
- The housing units located on the south side of the site disrupt the entity of the natural scene. Support for the social housing units to be of a high design with zero carbon construction.
- Residents objected to the loss of trees and the rural character of this area.
- It was difficult for readers to understand exactly which trees have been identified for felling. It was noted that all the tree works identified in the Arborologist report, dated June 2020, should have been completed within two years.
- Concerns over extra traffic to Luton Road that is already restricted and busy.
- What advice is Kimpton Parish Council taking regarding the ownership obligations and liabilities of the land proposed to be gifted to the council? The maintenance responsibilities of a pond, paths, woodland and specimen trees to be costed for the medium term.
- Covenant to prevent housing development on the land being gifted to the community.
- High Street entrance to be widened for vehicle and pedestrian access – plans are unclear regarding visibility splays
- Do we know where the visitor car park is to be located? It isn't shown on the plans and residents in the cottages are keen that the amenity they enjoy is not disrupted by a car park.
- Further to the planning documents does the parish council have a red line detailed map of the land to be gifted?
- The nature reserve could be a benefit to Kimpton Primary School as a learning area.
- Confirmation that the land would be gifted to the parish council on completion of the housing development and that land maintenance works have been completed to the satisfaction of the council.
- Negotiations to take place on S106 agreement with community projects identified
- What happens if the present owners sell the property?
- Landscaping ideas include duck island, bug hotels, bat and owl boxes. Small wooden play picnic area
- Recognise the need to convert the main house to apartments and support new houses built around the lake
- There are many good points in the planning application that are supported by residents.

22/106

Reports from Working Parties and Committees

- a) Allotment Working Party
To receive a report. Noted, see attached.
- b) Bench Working Party
To receive a report on activities. Councillors are aware of the continuing works completed around the parish.
- c) Christmas Market
To receive a report. Noted, see attached.
- d) Pavilion Working Party

To receive a report. Noted, see attached.

Community Consultation, see attached.

e) Public Spaces and Playgrounds Working Party

i) Review lack of hot water at the Recreation Ground pavilion

It was agreed that, due to the pavilion refurbishment project, no action will be taken this season.

ii) FP60 renew hedgerow.

Resolved, proposed Cllr S O'Brien, seconded Cllr N Jackman to remove the final section of the hedgerow and replant with whips leftover from phase 1, up to expenditure value of £500. Unanimously agreed.

22/107

Reports to the Council

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

District Cllr R Muncer, report noted and attached.

County Cllr R Thake, report on lighting scheme for Bridlepath 33.

This scheme was supported by the council.

22/108

Finance

a) To authorise payments made in accordance with the budget

b) To note receipts

c) To receive budget report

d) To receive bank reconciliation

e) To consider draft budget for 2023/24

New playground item of expenditure was discussed and will be included in the budget.

This agenda item will be placed on the agenda for the KPC meeting being held on 23rd November.

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

f) To consider price quotations, charges and grant requests

i) Grant application from Kimpton Primary School

Resolved, proposed Cllr G Durrant, seconded Cllr S O'Brien to approve a grant of £800. Unanimously agreed.

ii) KPC contribution at Kimpton Christmas Tree Festival

Roisin Pegrum and the Parish Clerk will design and produce a tree on behalf of KPC reflecting the work of the council for its residents. There will be 950 lights representing every house and decorations for every road in the parish.

Resolved, proposed Cllr D Reavell, seconded Cllr A Firth to approve a budget of £50. Unanimously agreed.

g) To receive the External Audit report for year ending 31st March 2022

To note Section 3 External Auditor Certificate from PKF Littlejohn LLP dated 30/09/2022 and completion of audit. No matters were raised.

Resolved, proposed Cllr S O'Brien, seconded Cllr I Pegrum to note the external auditor report.

22/109

Kimpton Parish Council

To review and adopt the following:

a) Financial and Management Risk Assessment 2022-2023

b) Review effectiveness of the Internal Auditor

c) Terms of reference for Internal Auditor

d) Internal controls

Resolved, proposed Cllr A Firth, seconded Cllr S O'Brien to approve documents a) to d). Unanimously agreed.

22/110

Road name

To consider a request from the applicant of 5 dwellings at Greenveldt, Luton Road to name the road Bayeux Oaks Road. The reasoning is Bayeux derives

from the Norman conquest. Odo (half-brother to William the Conqueror) was tenant in chief for Kimpton in 1086 and was the Bishop of Bayeux.

Resolved, proposed Cllr D Reavell, seconded Cllr G Durrant to approve Bayeux Oaks Road name.

22/111

Clerk's Report

Items for information only

None.

22/112

Next Meeting

Date of next meeting Wednesday 23rd November 2022 and items for the agenda

- To consider and agree KPC Budget 2023/24
- To consider and agree the precept for 2023/24
- To consider and agree expenditure for Recreation Ground Pavilion refurbishment

Meeting closed at 9.15pm.