

Kingston Bagpuize with Southmoor Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held in the Village Hall on

On Monday 3rd of October 2016

Present	Elizabeth Oastler (Chairman)	Keith Marley	David Hancox (arr 1910)
	Robert Ian Charlton	Carol Shepherd	Josie Allsworth
	With 18 members of the public		
	Commenced 1900	Ended 2115	

1. **Apologies:** Brian Forster, Steve Smith, Cllr E Batts, C.Cllr M Tilley
2. **Minutes of last meeting:** not available, defer to next meeting.
3. **Declarations of interest:** none
4. **Public Participation**
 - a. Graham Thomson: owns the house surrounding the development proposal for new housing (West Waddy). He is dismayed by the development and the way it is being promoted as well as the poor layout and lack of facilities.
 - b. Andrew Effer: wished to thank the Parish Council for supporting the objection at the Planning Committee at VOWH. He was disappointed that it got that far and the lack Parish representatives at the planning meeting. He noted that the Chairman of the planning committee suggested that the building was too high.
 - c. Ian Jones: wanted to know what the Parish Council was doing in respect of the building work at 1 Larch Close and what can be done. It was outlined that the parish Council has complained to VOWH about their apparent lack of action and had a reply which was outlined. Whilst the response was not as expected it is not surprising that planning law is very weak from the perspective of neighbours. It was agreed that Mr Duffield of VOWH would be asked to meet with Councillors and neighbours.
5. **Reports from District and County Councillors**
 - a. Cllr Melinda Tilley – report attached.
 - b. Cllr Eric Batts – report not supplied.
6. **Planning Applications**
 - a. The following planning applications were considered:
 - i P16/V1173/FUL, Land to the rear of Birch House, Erection of 10 dwellings comprising of 3 affordable units and 7 market houses with associated access, parking and open space - AMENDMENT 1: reduction in number of units to 9; removal of affordable housing; and design alterations: It was resolved unanimously to object repeating previous comments.
 - ii P16/V2046/FUL, John Blandy Primary School Laurel Drive Southmoor ABINGDON OX13 5DJ, Expansion from 1FE to 1.5FE. Construction of new six classroom building with link canopy. FS canopy and external works to provide new extended hard play and additional car parking. It was resolved not to object.
 - iii P16/V2345/LDP, 1 Larch Close Southmoor ABINGDON OX13 5DD, Application for certificate of lawful use. The property is to be used as a C4 dwelling house of multiple occupation. It was resolved unanimously to object.
 - iv P16/V2397/SCR, Land north of Spring Hill Kingston Bagpuize with

Cont: Minutes of the KBS PC meeting held in the Village Hall on On Monday 3rd of October 2016

Southmoor, Request for screening opinion for up to 180 dwellings with associated access, public open space, landscaping, provision of community green and childrens play provision. It was resolved unanimously to object to the development and require a screening study.

- v P16/V2352/AG, Lower Lodge Farm Charney Road Longworth Abingdon OX13 5HW, Agricultural building. It was resolved unanimously not to object.

b. For updates on previous Planning Applications see attached note.

7. Accounts

- a. Refer to Finance Report

8. Correspondence/ Matters arising

- a. The Chairman wishes to table an update the Councils' processes of the current Committees and Representatives with working groups (see attached report). Council is asked to resolve the proposal. Seconded by Josie Allsworth. Resolved unanimously.
- b. Taylor Wimpey transfer of land to the Tennis Club (email regarding VOWH allowing early transfer). There are various emails and letters on this issue. Cllr Eric Batts raised this at the previous meeting. A resolution is required to determine the actions of the Parish Council. Deferred.
- c. Update on Latton Close (possible unlawful business at residential address). Deferred
- d. The Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) has published a technical consultation on the Local Government Finance Settlement including proposals regarding council tax referendum principles for local parish and town councils. It was resolved that the Clerk would respond to questions 4-7 in the light as what was discussed: this is not acceptable after pushing more responsibilities onto Parish Councils.
- e. Melinda Tilley had forwarded some information from the Junior Citizens Trust together with a request for a donation. The issue was discussed and resolved to defer again due to staffing change issues at the John Blandy School.
- f. Pye Homes – continuing issues with the transfer of the open space. It was revealed that Pye Homes had issued a deadline for the completion of the transfer. The terms of the deed had been agreed but the correct plan had not been supplied to go with the transfer. It was resolved to continue to negotiate to take the land.

9. Village Amenities

- a. General
 - i Update on Waggon path: the Clerk to remind OCC to provide information promised.
 - ii A list of facilities which would benefit from being listed as Assets of Community Value (Brian Forster). To be discussed and decision taken on how this is to be taken forward. Deferred.
- b. Recreation grounds
 - i PoSPA report on Children's Playground was discussed. It was resolved that the works highlighted as urgent needs to be undertaken even if not budgeted for this year and the Clerk will proceed to get quotes for the work.
- c. War Memorial
 - i The flag poles need some maintenance due to wear and tear. Brian Forster has proposed a quote for repairs. The Council is asked to consider this issue. Deferred.

Cont: Minutes of the KBS PC meeting held in the Village Hall on On Monday 3rd of October 2016

- ii Remembrance Sunday arrangements and expenditure budget: the road closure request has been made, the donation cheque for the wreaths has been written. It was resolved unanimously to allow a maximum of £300 for hospitality at the Hinds Head Public House (at £11.25 per head, could be reduced if more heads present). Brian Forster to arrange.

10. Next meetings

- a. Ordinary meeting 7th November 2016
- b. Extra meeting 21st November 2016 if needed
- c. Ordinary meeting 5th December 2016

SIGNED

DATE:

PLANNING APPLICATION UPDATES

The following have been approved:

- i P16/V1896/HH, 7 Greenheart Way Southmoor Abingdon Oxon OX13 5DF, Proposed roof conversion.
- ii P16/V1568/FUL, Blenheim Farm Stonehill Lane Southmoor ABINGDON OX13 5HU, Conversion and extension to existing cottage, conversion and change of use of Livestock Barn to residential use.
- iii P16/V0446/FUL, Crossroads Garage Faringdon Road Southmoor Abingdon OX13 5HE, Demolition of Crossroads Garage showroom and sales offices, retaining workshops at the rear, with one being altered to act as new reception/office. New local supermarket with associated storage/office space, plant, refuse area and parking. 4no. flats above supermarket with associated amenity space and shared refuse/bike storage.
AMENDMENT No2 11/8/16

**Cont: Minutes of the KBS PC meeting held in the Village Hall on
On Monday 3rd of October 2016**

FINANCE REPORT

Invoices outstanding	Recipient	Value
30/9/16	BDO: external audit	£297.00
Invoices paid	Recipient	Value
3/10/16	Challenor & Son, invoice 16/0800, professional services	£600.00
3/10/16	City & County Graphics, invoice 13546/1, recreation ground sign	£101.40
3/10/16	Abingdon Stone and Marble, invoice 23297, repaid milestone	£114.00
3/10/16	BGG Garden & Tree Care, litter picking, Invoice 424/16	£240.00
Receipts	Payee	Value
26/8/16	OCC: grass cutting	£1441.56
7/9/16	VOWH: precept second half year	£18870.00
Donations	Recipient	Value
3/10/16	British Legion (poppy appeal wreaths)	£108.00
Clerk Payments		Value
3/10/16	September salary inc expenses	£424.47
3/10/16	PAYE (Jul, Aug, Sep)	£301.80

COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES WITH WORKING GROUPS

Committees and Representatives resolved at Annual Meeting 9th May 2016

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| a. Planning Committee | - all members |
| b. Recreational Facilities | - Elizabeth Oastler, Josie Allsworth |
| c. Burial Ground | - Josie Allsworth, Brian Forster |
| d. Village Hall Committee | - Ian Charlton |
| e. Blandy Foundation | - David Hancox, Carol Shepherd, and
John Blandy School Governor – Brian Forster |
| f. Faringdon Neighbourhood Area Group | - Steve Smith, Brian Forster, Carol
Shepherd |
| g. KBS News Liaison | - Brian Forster, Elizabeth Oastler |
| h. Civil Protection Officer | - Brian Forster |
| i. Parish Transport Representative | - Josie Allsworth |
| j. Age UK | - Ian Charlton |
| k. Youth Facilities Co-ordinator | - David Hancox |
| l. Sports Field Committee | - Steve Smith, Elizabeth Oastler |
| m. War Memorial (inc flags and poles) | - Brian Forster |

A discussion was held on 19th September 2016 from which it was suggested that working groups are set up. These groups (one of whom would take the lead) would explore matters relating to their area; write a report outlining the pros and cons, research possible solutions and any associated financial cost; circulate the report at least one week prior to parish meeting

Cont: Minutes of the KBS PC meeting held in the Village Hall on On Monday 3rd of October 2016

with responses from others to be received no later than 2 days prior to the meeting. Present the report with associated documents and additional responses to parish council meeting (electronic version to be sent to the Clerk before the meeting) with a proposal for the council to vote upon. The lead person would then be responsible for liaising with the Clerk and taking action on any decisions made.

Working groups::

Finance – prepare annual budget and precept, consider donations against agreed budget, remembrance Sunday expenses etc:	David Hancox and Keith Marley
Planning – receive and circulate e-mail alert, receive responses from councillors. David to continue to compile official parish council response. Liaise with developers regarding transfer of land to parish council.	David Hancox and Ian Charlton
Resources – recreation grounds, burial ground, war memorial (inspection and costing of any expenditure / repair work).	Stephen Smith and Brian Forster
Personnel / administration – staff documentation, recruitment and advertising, preparing staff appraisals, parish office, standing orders (financial regulations, maternity and paternity leave, home/office working, transparency code), health and safety, website	Josie Allsworth and Keith Marley
Transfer of highway services – mapping of village, street furniture cleaning, vegetation cutback, grass cutting (including contracts), weed control, associated parishioners complaints relating to road repair and vegetation	Stephen Smith and Carol Shepherd
Neighbourhood plan	Josie Allsworth
Transport	Josie Allsworth
S106	Carol Shepherd and Elizabeth Oastler

PRECEPT REFERENDUM - TECHNICAL CONSULTATION

The Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) has published a technical consultation on the Local Government Finance Settlement including proposals regarding council tax referendum principles for local parish and town councils.

The link to the full consultation paper is here

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/local-government-finance-settlement-2017-to-2018-technical-consultation>

The Government is proposing to subject principal councils to the same referendum principles as were set in 2016/17. This includes a core principle of 2% (or £5 – whichever is greater), plus an adult social care precept worth an additional 2% for councils with adult social care responsibilities.

However, the consultation also says that the Government is minded to extend referendum principles – the 2% increase limit or £5, whichever is greater – to the larger, higher spending town and parish councils for the first time.

The proposal is to cover only those parishes whose Band D precept is higher than that of the lowest charging district council in 2016/17 (Breckland - £75.46), and which had a total precept

Cont: Minutes of the KBS PC meeting held in the Village Hall on On Monday 3rd of October 2016

for 2016/17 of at least £500,000. It is proposed that there could be flexibility in the principles for local councils who have had responsibilities transferred to them from principal councils so that they are not unduly constrained. Based on these thresholds, the Government expects this principle will affect around 120 local councils. In Oxfordshire this would affect Abingdon, Banbury, Bicester, Carterton, Didcot, Kidlington, Thame and Witney.

Councils who may be caught by the proposed referendum principles might be ultimately required by the legislation to make their own determination of whether they are affected.

The consultation also states the Government is aware that increases in precepts continue to concern local tax payers and is therefore prepared to consider extending referendums to ALL parishes.

Referendum principles are voted on by the House of Commons at the end of the calendar year or the beginning of next year and, if approved, will apply to precepts set for 2017-18.

The consultation questions are set out below:

- Question 4: Do you agree that referendum principles should be extended to larger, higher spending town and parish councils in 2017/18 as set out in paragraphs 3.3.3 to 3.3.4?
- Question 5: Do you agree with the proposed approach to take account of the transfer of responsibilities to town and parish councils as outlined in paragraph 3.3.5?
- Question 6: Do you agree with the suggestion that referendum principles may be extended to all local precepting authorities as set out in paragraph 3.3.6? If so what level of principle should be set?
- Question 7: Do you have views on the practical implications of a possible extension of referendum principles to all local precepting authorities as set out in paragraph 3.3.7?

NALC will be responding to this consultation in the strongest possible terms, setting out its opposition to these proposals as well as calling for the removal of the Secretary of State's powers on council tax referendums in the Localism Act 2011. OALC will be responding and we hope individual councils will too. Please copy OALC into your response, whether you respond to NALC or directly to DCLG.

NALC does not believe any local council (including higher spending councils) should be included within this regime, especially given the current financial climate coupled with local councils increasingly taking on more services from principal councils.

The NALC press release published in advance of the consultation sets out in more detail its initial reaction to the proposals, points on which NALC will elaborate further in its final response to the Government.

The Chairman of NALC Councillor Ken Browse has written to the Local Government Minister, Marcus Jones MP seeking an urgent meeting with him to discuss the consultation proposals and related issues.

The DCLG consultation closes on 28 October 2016 but NALC would welcome feedback on the consultation questions to inform our own response – please send these to NALC Jessica.Lancodfrost@nalc.gov.uk by at the latest 17.00 on Tuesday 21 October 2016.

Cont: Minutes of the KBS PC meeting held in the Village Hall on On Monday 3rd of October 2016

REPORT FROM CLLR M TILLEY

UNITARY DEBATE

The report commissioned by OCC from Grant Thornton came up with an option that suggested a single unitary council but with some decision making devolved to different parts of the county based on the current boundaries of the five district and city councils. A recent meeting of OCC's Performance Scrutiny Committee saw County Councillors from across all parties interested in exploring this option further – and the OCC Cabinet has now agreed to do that.

The key features are:

- A strategic unitary council with overall responsibility for determining a framework of delegation of powers and budget.
- Constitutionally established area boards reflecting the administrative boundaries of the current city and district councils exercising these delegated powers and budgets.

This model is still a single unitary, but builds on existing strengths and familiar geography, rather than starting from scratch. At this stage it is just a possible option that OCC is keen to explore further while acknowledging that there needs to be a lot of detailed negotiation in the weeks and months ahead.

GRANT SCHEME LAUNCHED FOR OPEN-ACCESS CHILDREN'S SERVICES

A £1m start-up fund has been launched by OCC to help community groups develop and deliver open-access children's services. Local solutions for open-access provision – such as 'stay-and-play' - will complement a comprehensive new service for 0-19-year-olds across Oxfordshire, which ensures the most vulnerable children are protected and that families who need extra help are identified at an early stage. As part of OCC's continuing investment in early intervention, and in addition to the £1m fund, new teams of 'locality workers' will advise and support community groups delivering open-access sessions – as well as other universal services such as schools, health and early years providers. Council-funded open access provision will continue to be offered at the new children and family centres, and other buildings as part of the new 0-19 service from next year.

CHANGES AT PROPERTY & FACILITIES

Since taking over the Property & Facilities portfolio in May, Cabinet member Lorraine Lindsay-Gale has been working with Bev Hindle, the Acting Director, to bring about some fundamental changes to the way OCC works with Carillion, the contractor that manages property resource. This includes renegotiating the contract to ensure that OCC regains oversight and control of development projects to improve performance. A 'placed based planning' system will be introduced that involves Councillors right from the start, taking advantage of their local knowledge on potential development opportunities.

HOUSING PLANS FOR OXFORD REJECTED BY SODC

Plans to build thousands of homes to deal with Oxford's housing crisis were rejected by South Oxfordshire District Council (SODC) when the Oxfordshire Growth Board, made up of council leaders, met in September to approve plans to deal with the city's housing need identified in a 2014 report. The Oxfordshire Strategic Housing Market Assessment said neighbouring councils needed to provide 14,850 houses to help Oxford cope with its increasing demand. Oxford would look to build another 550 houses, while Cherwell would contribute 4,400, Vale of White Horse 2,200, West Oxfordshire 2,750, and South Oxfordshire would build 4,950.