

KILMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk – Mrs Ruth Burrows

Email: parishclerk@kilmingtonwiltshire.org

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 17 July 2023 at the Stourton & Kilmington Home Guard Club.

Present: Councillors G Cotton, R Flower, Mrs E Hames, A Reeves, C Reeves, C Webster
Also in attendance, Wiltshire Councillor G Jeans and the Clerk.

The Chairman opened the meeting at 19.35 hrs and informed those present that the Clerk would be recording proceedings for the assistance of typing up the minutes and once she has completed these, they will be deleted from her 'phone.

There were no members of the public present at the meeting hence there was no requirement for a **Public Open Session**.

168. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Cllr Giles Hunt who was on holiday.

169. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FROM MEMBERS AND TO CONSIDER REQUESTS FOR NEW DPI DISPENSATIONS (*Councillors are invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in Items on the agenda as required by the Kilmington Parish Council Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011*) – none received.

170. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING (22.05.2023) – The Clerk reported that a member of the public had pointed out an **error of fact** in the minutes in regard to item **162.4 Bridleway KILM1 Green Ride**. It was agreed that what was in the draft minutes is what was said by Cllr Jeans. However, for the sake of clarification and good order, it was agreed that the last two sentences of this item should have read: *Green Ride is a bridleway, for which Wiltshire Council's Right of Way and Countryside team are the highway authority. The latter is responsible to maintain it to a level suitable for horse riders, pedestrian and cyclists. There are private access rights on this bridleway and any matters in relation to those are classed as a civil matter. The six lime trees do have TRP's on them so they cannot and should not be touched without planning permission.* The minutes were approved and duly signed by the Chairman as a correct record. The Clerk will make a hand written comment on the minutes referring readers to this item (170.) **Action: Clerk/Chairman**

171. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE LAST MINUTES (not covered by other Agenda items) – None

172. PLANNING(All applications can be viewed on Wiltshire Council's website [Planning-Wiltshire Council planning-building-control/planning](https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/planning-building-control/planning) and type in the relevant application number)

172.1 Applications to consider at the meeting: None.

172.2 Applications which may have arrived after issue of the Agenda: None

172.3 Applications considered/determined and/or awaiting WC decision since last meeting (for info only):

PL/2023/02618 variation of condition 2 of 19/06484/FUL – installation of solar panels on the south-east roof face (**in place of the approved roof lights at the northern end**) and other alterations at **Long Knoll Barn, Cokers Lane, Kilmington.**

PC Response: Support

LPA: Approved with conditions 25.05.23

PL/2022/06380 conversion of agricultural workshop/storage building to form a 2-bed dwelling with associated alterations, parking and amenity space, utilising a new vehicular access already granted planning permission under reference PL/2021/10977 at Treoaks, Butts Lane.

An appeal has been made to the Planning Inspectorate in regard to WC's Refusal in respect of this application and it will be decided on the basis of a Written Representations procedure. The PC supported this application.

173. BROADBAND & MOBILE 'PHONE SIGNAL

With regard to **Broadband**, Cllr Webster was extremely disappointed to report that "Wiltshire Project Gigabit is a mystery" and WC have failed to give him answers to the three fundamental questions he raised with them over two months (as recorded in the May meeting minutes). Therefore, he had no further update for this meeting. Cllr Jeans offered to follow up with WC. **Action: Cllr Jeans**

Regarding **Mobile 'phone signal** Cllr Webster said he has been in contact with EE and it is now thought that the wayleaves are having to be completely redone. The 4G mast is already in place but there is no progress on the fibre trunking so we are no further forward on this issue. The Chairman thanked Cllr Webster for his continuing efforts.

174. HIGHWAYS, RIVERS, FOOTPATHS & TRANSPORT

174.1 Speed Indicator Device – Cllr Flower said that problems are being experienced with the change of mph and the device is rather temperamental. Last month it had taken the Zeals co-ordinator half a day to move it to 30mph from 40 mph whereas this month Cllr Flower had made the change without any problems. He said he had cut back some of the hedge where the SID pole is positioned so as to improve visibility.

174.2 Additional Signage in The Street – The Chairman said it is now nearly three years since we first requested the additional signage and agreed to contribute to the cost. It is a very small item but this delay is an absolute disgrace and he has said as much to the appropriate WC officer who does not have an answer. A brief discussion took place on the change of contractor by WC from Ringway to Milestone and how this is being used as an excuse for things not being done or delays; it was suggested by Cllr A Reeves and agreed by all that WC Highways are in some disarray and it may be a while before we see any improvement.

174.3 B3092 at Norton Ferris – Cllr Jeans had nothing to report and said he was still trying to get a reply from the WC officer Alan Creedy whom he had written to on three occasions. He will continue to pursue. **Action: Cllr G Jeans**

174.4 Bridleway KILM1 - Please see item 170. of these minutes and 162.4 of minutes of 22.05.23.

174.5 Parish Steward – The Chairman said he had seen the Steward intermittently but he did not think that the planned visits are back up and running yet. The next scheduled visit is 27 July. Cllr Webster said some of the pot holes in Butts Lane had been filled by the Steward. Cllr C Reeves raised his concern and dissatisfaction re WC's policy of leaving the verges to protect wild spaces/encourage wildlife. He said that in his opinion the mowing of the verges was being done in a random and ad hoc manner. Cllr Jeans said that if any splays at junctions in particular need of attention, they could be reported to WC Highways Officer who would send out a ticket for them to be cut.

174.6 Ash Dieback, The Street – Works to cut the tree down still on schedule to be undertaken on 26 July and the road signs are in place warning of road closure. However, no notice has yet been issued as far as cutting electric power to homes and some concern was expressed as power lines run through the tree branches.

174.7 Speed Limit Assessment – Kilmington Common

The Chairman said there was unfortunately no progress to report. The matter had been discussed at the SWW LH FIG meeting on 31 May when Stourton with Gasper PC councillors had also been present and they have requested that the 30mph speed limit is not ended at Home Farm but continued along Stourton Lane out to the B3092. Disappointment was expressed by all members present that Stourton PC had declined to join with us when the proposal for the speed limit

assessment was originally put to them so that the cost could be shared. In the event, the section of Stourton Lane from Home Farm out to the B3092 was included in the Atkins report. The latter's report was split into three sections and Section 3 covers Stourton Lane from Home Farm. Atkins concluded in its report that as it has fewer properties and accesses than the stretch of road from Butts Lane to Home Farm (section 2 of Atkins report) and, as there have been no recorded injury collisions in the last 6 years, the criteria for a 30mph speed limit as set out by the Department for Transport Traffic Advisory Leaflet is not met; it also mentioned the narrow length of carriageway where vehicles have to give way which automatically reduces the mean speed of vehicles in this section.

At the LH FIG meeting a way forward was suggested that Stourton PC should write to the Chairman and she would contact the WC Cabinet member responsible for Highways and ask him to intervene. Cllr Jeans said he was trying to obtain a copy of the letter which has been written but it now transpires that nothing has been sent to the WC Cabinet member yet but it had been proposed that the SW Wiltshire Area Board Chairman should now write the letter. **Action: Cllr Jeans to chase** Meantime, Cllr Cotton said that WC Paul Shaddock (Engineer, Salisbury Transport Team) has been out to Kilmington and photographed the whole strip of road and has calculated exactly what needs to be done. However, PS has some reservations because the Atkins report recommends the end of the 30mph limit is placed at Home Farm which is outside of Kilmington parish. The Chairman said he is still working with PS on reducing the overall cost of the implementation, currently estimated at £15,000, but this sum includes a pair of white village gates at £3,000 which are not required. Kilmington PC would have to fund a 25% contribution. **Action: Chairman**

174.8 Blocks drains reported on My Wilts – the Chairman said that the drain at the top of Druley Hill had been blocked for at least 18 months and he asked our Parish Steward to investigate. It turned out that the last time the road was resurfaced, the workers had filled the drain with tarmac. After much lobbying, he was pleased to report the drain has been cleared, the grid can be seen and a bank has been built behind it.

174.9 Winter Weather (PEAS 2023/24) preparations – it was RESOLVED that the PC should order the maximum (20 x 25kg) bags of salt from WC. Cllr A Reeves said that he would arrange for this to be collected from High Post Winter Depot on Friday 20 October between the hours of 8.00am – 2.00pm. The clerk read out the Snow Plan from 2021-22 and it was agreed this was still up to date. A couple of 25 bags of salt would be given to Cllr Mrs Hames for keeping at her location for the use of residents at her end of the village. Our salt bin was reported as empty and the Clerk will arrange with WC for it to be filled. **Action: Clerk**

175. PLAYING FIELD – A discussion took place on how we should proceed with regard to fund raising for replacement equipment in the play areas of the playing field. It was RESOLVED to try to recruit two more young residents (with small children) to join the Playing Field Committee. The Chairman suggested a couple of people and he agreed to make contact with them. **Action: Chairman** Cllrs C Reeves and Mrs Hames said we need to have an idea of what is needed and cost estimates before we can begin to try to obtain any grant funding and much of the time match funding is required. **Action: Cllrs C Reeves, Cllr Mrs Hames, the Clerk**

176. THE OLD KILMINGTON SCHOOL - The Chairman advised the meeting that the situation with the purchase of the old school had changed dramatically and Outcomes First Group have now instructed their solicitors to proceed with the purchase from the original successful bidder at the auction in February. The site would therefore remain as a school for children/young adults with special needs. It was RESOLVED that the Chairman would approach Outcomes First to enquire if someone would come along to our next meeting and give a presentation on how they see the school being used. **Action: Chairman**

177. FINANCE, POLICY & RESOURCES

177.1 Receipts & acknowledgements since last meeting: The Clerk said there had been no receipts since the last meeting. Following our annual payments to various charities and organisations, acknowledgement and thanks have been received from: Peter Mason, The Mere Link Scheme; Ashley Kemp for St Mary's Church (maintenance of cemetery/churchyard) & Upper Stour Magazine; Elizabeth Hames from Kilmington News; Joanna Lowndes from Seeds4Success.

177.2 Balance of Lloyds Bank account at 30.06.2023 was £9975.96 with no outstanding payments. This reconciles with the bank statement of that date and the Chairman duly signed the bank reconciliation form.

177.3 Payments to be authorised – none

177.4 Payments over £100 to 30.06.23 – this had previously been emailed to all members and is on our website.

177.5 Spend v Budget report to 30.06.23 - the Clerk had already circulated the Q1 spreadsheet detailing expenditure against budget and there were no questions.

178. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting will be **Monday, 18 September** in the Stourton & Kilmington Home Guard Club commencing at 19.30hrs.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 21.00 hrs

Members are reminded that the Parish Council has a general duty to consider the following matters in the exercise of any of its functions: Equal Opportunities (race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status and any disability), Crime and Disorder, Health & Safety and Human Rights.

Signed: 
(Chairman)

Date: 18/09/23