

# Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Great and Little Kimble cum Marsh held on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2017 at Kimble Stewart Hall at 8pm

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## Present

**Cllrs:** Delia Burton, Alun Jones, James Good (Chairman) Gerald Redding, James Cripps,  
**Clerk and RFO:** Julie Bunker (**note taker**)  
3 members of the public

## 1. Welcome by the Chairman

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending.

## 2. Chairman's Annual Report 2016/17

Content:

1. Welcome
2. Your Parish Officers
3. Planning Applications
4. Neighbour Hood Plan
5. EW Rail & HS2
6. Road Safety
7. Playground
8. Kimble Stewart Hall
9. Dog Waste Bins
10. Council Meetings & Information

### 1. Welcome

Good Evening Everyone.

First, my apologies for not being with you this evening, however on behalf of the council I would like to welcome you all to this Annual Parish Meeting and thank you for taking the time to attend. We would also like to take this opportunity to remind everyone that this is not a Parish Council Meeting!

The subtle but important difference is that this is the Annual Parish Meeting held by and for the Parishioners of Great & Little Kimble cum Marsh Parish, the Parish Council merely facilitate it.

### 2. Your Parish Officers

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank, on your behalf all my fellow councillors for their continued strong support over the last twelve months. The only way any Parish Council can operate is by the volunteer councillors sacrificing their own free time, with the sole aim of protecting and improving our Parish.

It is at council meeting preceding this council officers are elected and those offices will duly be recorded in the minutes of that meeting.

### 3. Planning Applications

One of the regular tasks that the council does is to review all new Planning Applications submitted to WDC. This is a time consuming work, and my thanks to three councillors that form our Planning Sub Committee who make the initial impact assessments and recommend our response back to WDC, noting that this Council has no power in this regard but can only make comment.

In considering a response to a Planning Application we do take cognisance of any inputs from you the parishioners and neighbours, so if you have a concern or a view on any application please present it to us in good time to be considered.

You will all be more than aware that the site of the Bernard Arms remains a blot on the Parish landscape. WDC granted planning permission for 1 detached 4 bed house and 2 x 3 bed semi-detached dwellings in Dec 16, but as you can see there has been no sign of work commencing. As and when the PC becomes aware of news it will be posted on the web-site

### 4. Neighbourhood & Local Plans

As hopefully you are all aware, WDC informed us in November 2016 that they were having to revise their Local Plan (LP) to include the requirement for 160 new homes within our Parish. At the subsequent public meeting this was explained to us all. It was at that meeting, by an overwhelming show of hands we had consent from yourselves that we should: (a) Not contest this, but could actually see benefits to re-invigorating our community with some new blood. (b) That the Parish should actively pursue writing our own Neighbourhood Plan (NP) so as by far the best means of controlling this growth in the way that we saw best suited our needs.

Since then some of your councillors have met with other PCs in the area to glean information about how to best approach creating a NP. We have also met again with members of WDC's Planning & Sustainability dept. WDC took on board that our priority was the preservation and ideally strengthening our local communities whilst maintaining the historic nature of the parish. We were both agreed that the AONB and Green Belt should be protected. WDC appear to have accepted that the Parish has had more than its quota of Gypsy and Travel sites, especially in and around Marsh.

I would also highlight Princess Risborough's plans which include changes to the roads in and out of the town, in effect making the present B4009 the A road, which will affect any plans we develop.

What now - It is your PC's intent to now look at writing a pathfinder document, essentially publishing our intent for a NP and an outline plan to complete this. However you should be aware that a NP is no small undertaking and will require the buy-in of all parishioners to ensure that it meets not just our needs but all the statutory requirements for it to be endorsed so it can be effective.

## 5. HS2 and East West Rail

### HS2

The HS2 bill received Royal assent in February which gave HS2 Ltd the powers to build the railway and after seven years of relaunches and debate there are signs around the region that HS2 is starting to carve its first marks on the landscape. However the project keeps hitting hurdles with sub-contracting irregularities and finance.

Even whilst this was going on the PC continued to lobby for increased mitigation agreements including against Noise over the last year as we believe that this project is ill conceived and blight our lives for many years.

### EW Rail

We have consulted with the Parish and sent robust comments in response to the Consultations. The consultation was poorly managed with many people being given the wrong information or information was missing in consultation packs.

There has been much rumour and changes in plans for this project and currently EW Rail have informed us that, as part of the current East West Rail phase 2 project (EWR2), no work other than platform lengthening at stations and Marsh Lane level crossing will take place, but there are still plans to replace the crossing that the School use with a bridge.

## 6. Road Safety

We continue to move Mobile Movable Vehicle Activated Sign (MVAS) around the parish as part of our speed awareness campaign and would welcome feedback on whether people believe it is making any difference and if we need more. If you would like to volunteer to assist in the use of the MVAS please contact the Clerk.

There was a further purchase of wheelie-bin speed signs which have been distributed and we'd encourage everyone to get them out and seen. If you need more or replacements again contact us.

## 7. Playground

Having completed the first two phase of the refurbishment plan work is about to start on the final stage, hopefully completed by the summer. We believe this has been a very successful local project and money well spent for the benefit of our community, I hope you agree.

## 8. Kimble Stewart Hall

The Parish Council on behalf of the Parish wish to thank the small team of volunteers on the KSH committee who do a sterling job running this key facility at the heart of our community.

## 9. Dog Waste Bins

We have purchased dog waste bins in the Parish, one in Bridge Street, one in Gove Lane and one near the Railway Station. It is hoped that these will go some way to reduce the amount of dog waste in the Parish. Our thanks go to Mr and Mrs Goodchild who installed the bins without charge.

## 10. Council Meetings & Information

We convene monthly on the 2nd Wednesday of the month @ 7:30pm in the Committee room at the rear of the KSH. These meetings are open to the public and you are all welcome to come and raise issues for our consideration at them as well as listen to our deliberations.

For more information, please visit the website which has regular updates and news plus a host of useful information. It is especially useful for viewing current planning applications. There is a newsfeed which has useful information from our local authorities plus information added by the Clerk for local events. If there are any events you wish to publicise in this way please contact the Clerk.

Finally I must thank Julie Bunker our Clerk without her hard work and attention to detail we would find it extremely hard to operate.

Cllr John Austin  
Chairman

## 3. Report from the Kimble Stewart Hall Committee – 2016/17

Gerald Redding presented a report from Sue Howgate, Chair of the Kimble Stewart Hall Committee.

### **Activities in the hall**

Pilates, Art Lessons, Whist, Horticultural Society, Dog Training, Women's Institute, Parish Meetings, Masons' Societies, Karate, Church and School Events, Private Celebrations, Local and National Elections, Badminton.

Bucks Open Studios is using the hall for the eight year running as part of the Bucks wide two-week long exhibitions in June.

A small number of parents of Great Kimble C of E School continue to use the car park to facilitate walking along the footpath and across the fields to the school in order to relieve traffic congestion in Church Lane. The Women's institute also use the car park facility for their occasional trips out.

Bookings appear to be on the increase, particularly regular hirings, and there are times we have to disappoint people. We receive many compliments about the hall and the improvements. Amanda Robinson does a brilliant job managing enquiries and being the public face of the hall.

### **Finances**

Our finances remain strong enabling us to continue with upgrading facilities within the hall. Thanks go to Julie Bunker, our treasurer, for the management of the monies. This year's audit, as last year's, is being carried out by Roger Nash.

### **Maintenance and Improvements**

#### **Kitchen**

The final touches have now been completed in the refurbished kitchen, including the drinks water heater.

## **Decorating**

Hirers will have noticed the freshly decorated Committee Room and Rear Lobby. We are grateful to Tool Shed who carried this out. Tool Shed is a Wycombe College based organisation who are sometimes available to carry out work so that students can gain experience of practical skills. Under the supervisor's careful guidance students arrived once a week to carry out the redecoration.

## **Chairs**

As you will have noticed there are now new chairs in the hall. They will provide extra comfort and are more easily moved about on their bespoke trolleys.

***We are most fortunate that some of the local trades people are prepared to give of their time and materials to help improve and maintain the hall.***

## **General Housekeeping**

Most hirers are responsible but we need to monitor the condition of the hall with daily checks and to perform such necessary tasks as putting out the dustbins.

Elliott Shirra is now in charge of setting the heating and small maintenance items

Terry Kaye has taken on board the responsibility for wielding the heavy polisher and is maintaining the main hall floor

**The cleaning of the hall** continues to be satisfactory; cleaning is often restricted by occupation of the hall. Our cleaner, Doreen Tietjen, is very conscientious about notifying potential issues and is prepared to offer some degree of flexibility with the cleaning times.

## **Village Events/Fund Raising**

**Theatre in the Villages** was thoroughly enjoyed by the many people who came. This year's event is on 14<sup>th</sup> October and for this we have received private sponsorship. Theatre in the Villages is no longer supported by district councils and the committee considers this event a valuable community event will continue to organise the evening calling it Theatre in Our Village.

Last November saw the revival of the **Village Fayre** in the hall. Lesley Steptoe was the village organiser for this and the committee were pleased to provide the venue and refreshments. Many groups and organisations came together to provide an interesting, fun community day

A very successful fundraising **Fun Casino Night** was organised by the committee in March, raising funds for the hall.

We are grateful for the donations from the **Whist Group** towards the upkeep of the hall.

## **Stewart Hall Committee**

Julie Bunker (treasurer), Delia Burton (vice chair), Sue Howgate (chair), Maggie Kaye (secretary) Richard Needle, Gerald Redding, Peter Parsons (representing hirers) and John Simmons

Booking Secretary: Amanda Robinson

Cleaner: Doreen Tietjen

It is pleasing to note that we receive frequent compliments from hirers about the facilities the hall offers.

The Stewart Hall AGM is to be held on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> July

**It is important to stress that the successful management of the hall would not be achieved without the team of volunteers on the committee assuming responsibility for such roles as treasurer and secretary and carrying out a multitude of small housekeeping tasks; devoting much time to creating a valuable community facility; the responsible approach of our cleaner; the diligence and care for hirers by our booking secretary and importantly the valuable support of the Parish Council and the reliable and supportive local trades people.**

*Sue Howgate May 2017  
Chair, Stewart Hall Committee*

#### **4. Forthcoming projects**

The Chairman highlighted all the forthcoming projects which include

- Phase III of the Playground Refurbishment
- Exploring the possibility of Kerbing through parts of Marsh
- Facilitating a Superfast Broadband option in the Parish
- Undertaking a Neighbourhood Plan – a major undertaking over at least 2 years.

#### **5. Open forum**

Questions were asked about what help will be needed for the Neighbourhood Plan, this was explained by the Chairman.

Planning Issues were also raised and the Clerk offered to assist with raising the issue with WDC

Cllr Good resigned from position of Chairman of the Parish Council will immediate effect.

Signed.....  
Chairman

14<sup>th</sup> June 2017