

## Meeting Pack – March 8<sup>th</sup> 2023

### AGENDA

1. **Welcome and Apologies:** To receive and accept any apologies for absence.
2. **Declaration of interest on any item on the agenda.**
3. **Minutes:** To agree and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2023
4. **To approve March payments (note: additional invoices may be received prior to the meeting).**
5. **Planning Applications, appeals and injunctions plus any updates of allocated sites as included in the Neighbourhood plan:** To review and approve recommendations by the Planning Committee. Note due to deadlines applications received prior to the meeting may also be considered.
6. **To note proposed solar farm development on Kimblewick Road.**
7. **To note Buckinghamshire County Council refusal of proposed EV charging point and to discuss potential alternatives.**
8. **To review a further request for parish information from Buckinghamshire County Council.**
9. **Kimble Stewart Hall: Report - Cllr Delia Burton.**
10. **Community Board Report – Cllr James Cripps.**
11. **Marsh Kerbing/Pinch Point Project update –Cllrs Good and Williams.**
12. **To update on insurance status.**
13. **To update on Lloyd’s bank entry and approval status.**
14. **To update on the current playground equipment and grant application status.**
15. **To note year end activities have commenced.**
16. **To note status of community bench.**
17. **To discuss Coronation plans.**
18. **To discuss the timing and content of Annual Parish Meeting.**

19. To note parish newsletter grant request status.

20. To discuss footpath inspections.

21. Correspondence, reports and Issues (for information only).

22. To confirm the date and time of next Parish Council Meeting: 12<sup>th</sup> April 2023.

**ITEM 3) Minutes of Great and Little Kimble cum Marsh Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2023 at Kimble Stewart Hall at 7.30pm**

**Attendance:** Cllr Alun Jones, Cllr David Williams, Cllr James Cripps, Cllr James Good, Cllr Harvey Alison and Cllr Delia Burton.

**132) Welcome and Apologies:** Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr John Austin (Chairman). In the absence of Cllr Austin Cllr Williams stood in as Chairman.

**133) Declaration of interest in any item on this agenda by a member:** There were none declared.

**134) To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 11<sup>th</sup> January 2023.** Unanimously approved.

**135) To approve February Payments.**

<b>Payee</b>	<b>Detail</b>	<b>NET</b>	<b>VAT</b>	<b>Gross</b>
Pauline McBride	January Salary	£428.90		£428.90
HMRC	PAYE	£29.40		£29.40
Margaret Forbes	Yearly rent for bench	£20.00		£20.00
TBS Hygiene	Bin Emptying January	£50.00	£10.00	£60.00
Pauline McBride	Mileage/ Homeworking	£44.00		£44.00
Playspace	Remove/fit playground equip.	£650.00	£130.00	£780.00
Cashplus Card	Reinstate Balance	£69.97	£6.00	£75.97
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>£1292.27</b>	<b>£146.00</b>	<b>£1438.27</b>

**February Payments were noted and approved.**

**136) Planning Applications, appeals and injunctions plus any updates of allocated sites as included in the Neighbourhood plan**

**23/05038/FUL:** Box Cottage Church Lane Great Kimble Buckinghamshire. Householder application for demolition of an existing residential outbuilding and the erection of a replacement residential outbuilding, and the erection of a single storey infill extension following the demolition of an existing side/rear element. There was some discussion regarding the size and usage of the proposed outbuilding but the council had no objections to make. **Clerk to submit no comment to make on application.**

Change of Status:

22/07614/FUL: Grove Farm, Grove Lane, Great Kimble. Application Permitted.

In addition, the Parish Council discussed whether any update had been received on planning application number 22/06883/FUL, which relates to a change of use of existing agricultural land to form an additional 5 Gypsy/Traveller Pitches. A strong objection had been submitted in August 2022 and no further

information appears to have been received. **Clerk to follow up with planning officer to obtain an updated status report.**

A discussion concerning The Willows, in Marsh, concluded that the site was looking much clearer and that the agreed fencing along the bridleway should go ahead. **Photos of exact location to be provided so fencing quotes can be obtained from suitable contractors.**

**137) Kimble Stewart Hall:** Cllr Burton reported that Kimble Stewart Hall committee had been discussing whether to organise the installation of solar panels and, whether this might need a whole new roof or tiles to enable the panels to be installed. Councillors agreed that this would require a feasibility study and probably a survey in order to consider the project and potential funding/grants/donations etc. **Cllr. Burton will look into this and report back to the Parish Council.**

**138) Community Board Report:** Cllr. Cripps reported that a satisfactory meeting had been recently held. He summarised that the Police no longer had a shortage of police officers in Princes Risborough but the Fire Brigade are still short of staff. Also, the transport sub group still continues to make very slow progress re the Transport for Buckinghamshire changes.

**139) Marsh Kerbing/Pinch Point Project update:** It was noted that contractors appear unwilling to become involved unless/until planning permission is granted and that most contractors had also been too busy over recent months. The consensus was that plans/drawings ought to be done by a person approved by Transport for Buckinghamshire and then submitted for planning approval. **Cllr. Jones will approach a potential contractor to see if they are able to assist with this project.**

**140) To note the agreed precept of £42000 was submitted to Buckinghamshire County Council.**

The clerk confirmed that an acknowledgement of receipt of this submission had been received and filed.

**141) To review and approve insurance renewal quotations.** The clerk outlined the insurance renewal work undertaken to date and explained that the insurance documents were totally clear that the parish fixed assets should be insured at latest replacement value. Having reviewed all fixed assets the clerk felt that the insurance, relating to fixed assets, should be increased from £77k to £130k to allow for full current replacement value. The clerk explained that, having then further explored other insurance companies, a cheaper quote was available with standard, generic insurance amounts specified for all categories of fixed assets (e.g., street furniture, playground equipment, war memorials etc.), without the need to specify the current replacement value of each individual asset. The clerk confirmed that all other aspects of the insurance cover (e.g. public liability, personal accident, employers liability etc.) were at least as good, if not better than the existing insurance company. There was also an option to take out a fixed 3 year insurance policy at a slightly reduced fee than the one quoted. (Which was less than the current insurance provider) The clerk also confirmed that Parish Council is only required to review the insurance of Kimble Stewart Hall and is not responsible for its organisation and payment. **Clerk to check whether new the housing developments would bring the parish into a larger parish category (since their quotation was based on the small parish council with less than 1000 persons on the electoral register), and, if so, would the current 3 year quotation still be valid. Also, for due diligence purposes, which other parish councils are insured under this company. If everything in order then the parish council agree to the 3 year fixed and insurance option.**

**Cllr. Burton and Clerk to also check on Kimble Stewart Hall buildings insurance.**

**142) To note receipt of latest version of Arnold Barker's Local Government Administration.** Noted.

**143) To consider 'drop kerb' request by Cllr. Burton.** The Councillors discussed that this was really a Buckinghamshire County Council items that would be best logged for investigation and fixing under the 'fix my street' option on the Buckinghamshire County Council Website. **Cllr. Burton to suggest resident takes**

photos and explain the problems that can be logged. Clerk and Cllr. Burton will assist with logging the request via 'fix my street'.

**144) To consider request for resurfacing work around the parish bench at The Old Stables, Grove Lane, Great Kimble.** There had been an annual rental invoice received, for the parish bench, at this address and a request for resurfacing work along the path around this bench. The Parish council discussed and were supportive of the request and agreed that the most likely way obtain rectification was to refer the resident to Buckinghamshire County Council 'fix my street'. **Clerk to confirm £20 annual rental had been approved and paid and refer resident to the Buckinghamshire 'fix my street' on line portal if required.**

**145) To update on Lloyds bank entry and approval status.** It seems that no on-line signatory/approvers have been added to the Lloyds Bank Account. Cllr Williams is set up as a signatory but does not have on-line access. Cllr Good has still heard nothing from Lloyds. Disappointment was expressed over the poor service that Lloyds appear to provide. The clerk confirmed that other Parish Councils appear to have lots of banking issues and that the various forums and discussion groups appear to recommend Lloyds and Unity bank.

**Cllr Burton will check who is set up a signatory and confirm to clerk. Clerk will then provide link for on-line access request to those signatories currently without this access.**

**146) To note the current playground equipment and grant application status.** Cllr Burton explained that both she and the playground installation contractor had been away on holiday and so would be meeting this week to decide how to proceed with the hurricane swing, which does not fit exactly where it was initially intended. The intention is to 'rejig' the equipment to fit everything in. The clerk reported the laborious process of completing all the back up required for the grant of £2000 which, hopefully, will be paid by Buckinghamshire County Council by the end of March.

**147) Correspondence, reports and Issues (for information only).**

Cllr Jones mentioned he had responded to the complaint from Cllr. Harris concerning Meadow Bank Farm, Risborough Road, Little Kimble. Nothing further received on this.

Cllr. Alison mentioned that Sue Howgate was hoping the Parish Council would contribute to the Parish newsletter as they have done in previous years. The Parish Council noted that, in light of very high inflation, costs will certainly be higher and so expected to offer a higher contribution. It was suggested that the Parish Council could be proactive in assisting Sue Howgate to request funds. **Clerk to find out how the contribution was requested and paid last year and start the process/inform Sue.**

**148) To confirm the date and time of next Parish Council Meeting: 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2023**

Meeting closed at 8.30pm

#### **ITEM 4 March Payments for Approval**

Pauline McBride	February Salary	£642.83		£642.83
HMRC	PAYE	£83.00		£83.00
BMALK	Arnold Barker Local Council Bk	£142.00		£142.00
BHIB	Annual Parish insurance 23/34	£503.97	£57.48	£561.45
Huck Nets	Steel Goal Net	£535.99	£107.20	£643.19
SRT Trading	Litterpick January	£120.00	£24.00	£144.00
TSB Hygiene	Bin Emptying February	£50.00	£10.00	£60.00
Pauline McBride	Expenses – February	£35.90		£35.90
Cashplus Account	Top up December Expenditure	£64.15	£12.83	£76.98
<b>Total</b>		<b>£2177.84</b>	<b>£211.51</b>	<b>£2389.35</b>

#### **ITEM 6 To note proposed solar farm development on Kimblewick Road**

Planning Briefing Note February 2023 Proposed Solar Farm Development at Kimblewick Road [www.lighthouse-dc.co.uk](http://www.lighthouse-dc.co.uk) Introduction This note accompanies a supporting plan in respect of a proposed development for a Solar Farm Development on land at Kimblewick Road, Buckinghamshire. The proposed scheme would provide enough electricity to meet the needs of approximately 12,000 homes. The proposals remain in draft at this stage and no planning application has yet been submitted. It is intended that a thorough process of consultation will take place with key stakeholders prior to the submission of the planning application so that any feedback received can be fully acknowledged with the potential to shape the final proposals where appropriate. Such feedback can be provided directly to the planning agents at Lighthouse Development Consulting via email at: E: [info@lighthouse-dc.co.uk](mailto:info@lighthouse-dc.co.uk) The Site The site is located across an area of four fields to the north of the small hamlet of Kimble Wick. It is bordered by an area of woodland to the north west known as Michael's Piece. The site lies approximately 4km north of Princes Risborough and 3km from the boundary of the Chilterns AONB. The site is not bordered by any main highway and is generally well contained within an area of flat land, benefitting from boundary features comprising mature trees and hedgerows. The proposed scheme would supply power to the local electricity network through an on-site point of connection, thus avoiding the need for lengthy cable runs away from the site. Figure 1 Proposed Site Location with position of Figure 2 photograph shown The photograph below shows the site boundary as viewed from the Public Right of Way running to the south of the northernmost field and reveals the extent of natural screening around the site and the current agricultural land use. The site has been surveyed by specialist land surveyors and is comprised Planning Briefing Note February 2023 Proposed Solar Farm Development at Kimblewick Road [www.lighthouse-dc.co.uk](http://www.lighthouse-dc.co.uk) wholly of lower grade agricultural land – not Best and Most Versatile Land. Government policy directs solar farms to lower grade land (where it is available); this key policy objective has therefore been met. The site lies within close proximity to an area of the distribution network with capacity available to accommodate the project making it highly suitable for this type of development. The site itself is not subject to any statutory landscape designation including National Park, AONB or Green Belt. It is not located in the flood zone and is not subject to any ecological designation such as SSSI land or a nature reserve. It is also well distanced from any nearby Heritage Assets, including listed buildings, Scheduled Ancient Monuments and registered parklands. Figure 2 Photograph of the site looking towards Michael's Piece woodland Proposed Development The proposed development will consist of the installation of a solar farm comprising ground mounted solar PV panels with a generating capacity of up to 40MW(DC), including mounting framework, inverters, underground cabling, stock proof fence, CCTV, internal tracks and associated infrastructure, landscaping, biodiversity net gain and environmental enhancements for a temporary period of 50 years. Considerable landscaping works are proposed to be incorporated alongside the solar panels with a view to effectively screening the development from view and reinforcing the key habitat features within the area. The public rights of way would be routed through wide areas of wildflower planting with additional picnic areas proposed at key locations. The development is proposed to be a 'temporary installation', being operational for a period of 50 years, after which the site would be restored to its current agricultural function. This type of planning consent would not alter the greenfield status of the land in any way which might facilitate further prospective development of the site. Need for Renewable Energy National Policy accepts that renewable energy

is essential and as such, specifically doesn't require applicant's to demonstrate a need. A Government Planning Inspector has recently written an important decision on a solar farm which was scrutinized at a public Inquiry in Dorset (Ref: 3300299). He clarified the sheer scale of the challenge faced in decarbonising our economy and the need for the planning system to facilitate this transition. In determining the Appeal the Inspector noted that: Planning Briefing Note February 2023 Proposed Solar Farm Development at Kimblewick Road [www.lighthouse-dc.co.uk](http://www.lighthouse-dc.co.uk) "it is clear that decarbonisation will rely very heavily on wind and solar power, and that the national need is significantly greater than the capacity of current projects." The Government's latest Energy Security Strategy (2022) identifies the need for five times as much solar PV deployment by 2035. This scheme is essential to help address climate change. Site Selection and Design This statement reflects an appreciation that new renewable energy projects must be supported in principle, and a recognition that solar farms will be developed at a significant scale over the years to come. In addition to the substantial policy support for this type of development, the process of site selection has been robust and has followed a technical approach to ensure that all environmental impacts are managed accordingly. In particular, it is noted that the site: 1) Is located within viable proximity of a connection to the local electricity network 2) Is available for the proposed duration of the scheme 3) Avoids Best and Most Versatile (BMV) Agricultural Land 4) Avoids any designated Landscape (AONB, Green Belt or National Park) 5) Avoids designated Heritage Assets including listed buildings, registered parklands and Scheduled Monuments 6) Avoids sensitive ecological designations (SSSI, RAMSAR Sites or Wildlife Reserves) 7) Offers an opportunity to deliver substantial ecological enhancements through a Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) 8) Located away from nearby residential properties to avoid any amenity impacts 9) Is located outside of the Flood Zone 10) Benefits from a suitable access for construction and maintenance purposes 11) Is sufficiently distanced from other solar farm developments (proposed and existing) as to avoid any significant intervisibility between the projects In light of the above, the site is considered highly suitable for development. Indeed, the two images shown below at Figure 3 shows how the current, arable land use of the site allows for considerable scope for improvements in biodiversity whilst enabling a rural diversification to a solar farm with a sufficient generating capacity to power 12,000 homes.

**ITEM 7 To note Buckinghamshire County Council refusal of proposed EV charging point and to discuss alternatives.**

Hi Pauline

Further to your email below concerning a potential charging point adjacent to The Swan Public House, Grove Lane, Little Kimble.

Unfortunately the Transport Strategy Team at Buckinghamshire Council have confirmed that they cannot consider Grove Lane as a suitable location because most residents around have off-street parking and it is in an isolated location.

I'm sorry I could not give better news.

Kind regards

**Jackie Binning**

**ITEM 8 To review a further request for parish information from Buckinghamshire County Council**

Dear all

Buckinghamshire Council is preparing a new Local Plan for Buckinghamshire for the period up to 2040.

This is the first Local Plan for this geography, with previous Local Plans for the area covering the former districts of Aylesbury Vale, Chiltern, South Bucks and Wycombe. Both the legacy areas of Aylesbury Vale and Wycombe have recently adopted Local Plans supported by Infrastructure Delivery Plans ([VALP IDP](#), [VALP IDP Appendix A](#) and [Wycombe IDP](#)). These documents identified the key infrastructure required to support development within the Aylesbury Vale and Wycombe in the period up to 2033, and how it will be delivered. The previous IDPs were based on an expectation that some 28,600 dwellings were required in Aylesbury Vale and 13,200 dwellings were required in Wycombe during the period 2013-2033.

I am contacting you specifically on the issue of current plans and future needs for infrastructure to support growth in Buckinghamshire. We are at an early stage of Local Plan preparation, and we do not yet have an indication as to the quantum nor the location of development to 2040. ***We are aware that the Council has recently contacted you regarding a Settlement Review and there is some overlap with this email. The purpose of this email you are now receiving, is to allow you to feedback and identify any issues about infrastructure and services in your area, as well as to ask you to identify any opportunities or ambitions you might have in terms of new / expanded infrastructure and services.***

To that end, I would like to ask you the following questions:

1. How are infrastructure and services in your town / parish currently coping? Please provide a narrative response providing any necessary detail as well as giving a score:

Seriously under capacity	Starting to be under capacity	Coping	Starting to be stretched	Stretched beyond capacity / struggling
1	2	3	4	5

2. Where you manage specific infrastructure / facilities, such as green spaces or community halls, what are your plans for dealing with any current capacity issues? In particular, please specify how any plans will be funded and timescales for delivery. Please provide links to / copies of any such plans.
3. Where you manage specific infrastructure / facilities, such as green spaces or community halls, what are your plans for dealing with future growth and development in Buckinghamshire? In particular, please specify how any plans will be funded and timescales for delivery. Please provide links to / copies of any such plans.

4. How do you anticipate infrastructure and services in your town / parish will be coping in 2033, after currently planned growth is built? Please provide a narrative response providing any necessary detail as well as giving a score:

Seriously under capacity	Starting to be under capacity	Coping	Starting to be stretched	Stretched beyond capacity / struggling
1	2	3	4	5

5. What are your plans for the period 2033 – 2040 (and beyond if relevant) for your town / parish? In particular, please specify how any plans will be funded and timescales for delivery. Please provide links to / copies of any such plans.
6. What are your ambitions for your town / parish in terms of infrastructure or service improvements?
7. How do you see the Local Plan for Buckinghamshire helping deliver infrastructure and services in your town / parish?
8. Are there any other issues we should be aware of regarding infrastructure / services in your town / parish when developing the new Local Plan for Buckinghamshire?

Please respond by email to [planningpolicyteam.bc@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:planningpolicyteam.bc@buckinghamshire.gov.uk) **Friday 17 March 2023**. We will send a reminder closer to the time. If you have any questions please get in touch with [stephen.miles@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:stephen.miles@buckinghamshire.gov.uk) or [aude.pantel@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:aude.pantel@buckinghamshire.gov.uk)

Kind regards

Stephen

**ITEM 20 To discuss footpath inspections.**

A - Email from resident concerning footpaths:

'Most of our village footpaths need surveying because of their dangerous condition and the conclusions acted upon. With all the new building going on our footpaths should then be used more.

I asked at the March 2022 Parish Council meeting that a Parish Councillor and a County Councillor should accompany the TfB inspector on his walk around the village. This was omitted from the minutes so they lost any impact and were not a true record.

Perhaps Councillor Carroll who has helped our village in the past could be contacted?'



B – Following above email clerk contacted James Tunnard at Buckinghamshire County Council to request a visit. Response below from James

'Yes, happy to meet but it can't be for a few eeks unfortunately. The earliest I can do is week commencing the 27<sup>th</sup> of March. Let me know if that's ok. It is worth noting that we are going through a transition of works contract for the council from Ringway Jacobs to Balfour Beatty which is starting on April 1<sup>st</sup> so things are a little up in the air at the moment.

Do you know any of the sites in question specifically?