

# Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Great and Little Kimble cum Marsh held on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2021 at Kimble Stewart Hall at 8pm

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**Attending:** John Austin (Chairman), Delia Burton, James Good, James Cripps, Alun Jones and Harvey Alison and one member of the public

**Clerk and RFO:** Julie Bunker (note taker)

## 1. Welcome by the Chairman of Parish Council

Councillor Austin opened the meeting

## 2. Parish Council Chairman's Annual Report

### 1. Welcome

A warm welcome to you all to the Annual Parish Meeting. I'd like to start on behalf of the Parish as whole thank those you who support the Parish in various way throughout the year, whether that is on the Parish Council, the Committee of the Kimble Stewart Hall, various fund-raising activities or in a multitude of other ways.

### 2. Elections

As far as I'm aware this year saw for the first time a contested election for this Council. It was a good demonstration of democracy at this level of local government and refreshing to have such strong interest in joining the Council.

The previous 6 Councillors were re-elected and have been joined by Mr Harvey Alison to make up our full team.

### 3. Neighbourhood Plan

As all of you that are showing an interest in this meeting and my report undoubtedly know our NP was endorsed by referendum last week with a majority of 88.4%

All new planning applications submitted to Buckinghamshire Council will now have to be considered against this plan. It will be a strong weapon against over urbanisation of our rural community.

**We all owe the Working Group so ably chaired by James Good our thanks for their dedication and hard work pushing this through.**

### 4. Planning Applications

The PC is invited to comment as a consultee on all Planning Applications made for properties in our Parish. Although the PC has no power, it acts to advise Buckinghamshire Council on our views: positive or negative on the merits of planning applications and will now also be able to draw upon the **NP** to support these views. This is overseen by a PC Planning Committee made up of 3 of the Parish Councillors. If Parishioners have views on any application that they'd wish for PC endorsement you need to let us know.

### 5. HS2

No-one needs me to highlight that the ongoing works in our locale are already impacting on our lives and will do so for years. Your PC continues to engage with all the relevant agencies to

mitigate against disruption, monitoring construction traffic routes and waste disposal amongst others. Our present priority is to ensure that due consideration is given to noise reduction schemes between our parish and both HS2 and the Stoke Mandeville relief road.

## **6. Kimble Stewart Hall**

The KSH remains one of the key focal points for our village community. We look forward to when we can again enjoy its facilities after this very difficult year. On behalf of all our residents we thank the committee and especially the Chair Sue Howgate for their undaunting dedication. The PC will continue to support the committee as it was closely in the recent rejuvenation project to the frontage, which I think everyone agrees has resulted in a modern welcome visage.

## **7. Speed Awareness**

One of the topics which is constantly an issue for you all is traffic safety and speed. To that end we maintain a dialogue with Transport for Bucks and Thames Valley Police.

## **8. Playground**

This very popular communal space for our youth and families continues to be managed by and financed by the council with the aim of maintaining this important village asset to a high standard.

## **9. Bus Shelters**

Regrettably we continue to have to finance repairs to these shelters due to wanton vandalism. I ask anyone who witnesses such actions to report them to the police and this council.

## **10. Your Parish Officers**

You should all recognise the dedication and time that your Councillors put in on your behalf to run this Parish. It may be that the PC has little power or only influence, but through their hard work we actually have a voice which can and has been heard. So, my thanks to the team, who have all contributed to the workings of the council.

## **11. Council Meetings & Information**

Hopefully you are all aware that your PC meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month, here at the KSH Committee Room, normally at 7:30 p.m. The agenda is published 5 days before on the website and meetings are open for all to attend and contribute. Previous minutes are available on the website along with links to planning applications around the Parish and other useful information. Please visit our website [www.kimblecouncil.org](http://www.kimblecouncil.org)

If you have a matter you would like addressed, please contact the Julie Bunker the Parish Clerk ([clerk@kimblecouncil.org](mailto:clerk@kimblecouncil.org)) 07494 691605.

John Austin  
Chairman (2020-21)

## **3. Report from the Kimble Stewart Hall Committee**

The big event at the hall has been the development of the frontage. It has received many compliments; including the Pilates group sending photos and expressions of delight to the world on their what's app group. The committee are extremely grateful for the Parish Council's support for this project. Thanks too to Julie Bunker who did much of the liaising with Rob Mills who carried out the work.

Hiring has been intermittent this year depending on the Covid regulations. We have maintained a dialogue with the regular hirers and there has been some hiring of the hall for permitted activities. Some hirers are returning from 17<sup>th</sup> May 2021. As a result our income has been much reduced at the same time as incurring additional costs to make the hall Covid secure. Fortunately we have received the local authority grant payment available to village halls.

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 boiler finally gave up the ghost in January, having been condemned on its annual service inspection. Fortunately, due to Covid, we had no hirers at the time. It has now been replaced.

### **Security**

The committee have had a rota for daily checking of the hall to comply with insurance conditions during lockdowns. Some barriers were put in place to deter public from visiting the rear of the carpark. We are so fortunate to have a committee of pro-active people as well as neighbours of the hall who are very watchful.

### **The cleaning of the hall**

Our cleaner, Doreen Tietjen, is very conscientious, flagging up potential issues and is prepared to offer flexibility with the cleaning times. This has been invaluable when managing Covid requirements. We are so fortunate to have her services.

Terry Kaye continues to maintain the main hall floor and additionally is setting the heating controls and carrying out small maintenance tasks. His experience is invaluable.

### **Stewart Hall Personnel**

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

Booking Secretary: Amanda Robinson; Cleaner: Doreen Tietjen;

Small Maintenance: Terry Kaye

Sue Howgate (Chair)

May 2021

## **4. Forthcoming projects and events**

- **Litter Pick Days** – it is hoped to get a regular programme together to tackle the litter
- **Replacement of Village Entry Gates** – this project has been on hold due Covid but will be completed this coming year.
- **Road safety improvements in Marsh, A4010 and the B4009 in our Parish** – The Parish Council continue to campaign to get further signage installed on the B4009 along with addressing other highway issues throughout the Parish

## **5. Report on the Neighbourhood Plan outcome and next steps**

The Neighbourhood Plan is now made after a overwhelming majority of yes votes, well done to all the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group for all the hard work and dedication.

## **6. Open forum**

Mrs Sue Howgate reported that Great Kimble School is in the process of appoint a new head. The School also won a design award for the new classroom buildings.

Signed.....

**9<sup>th</sup> June 2021**