

Minutes of Great and Little Kimble cum Marsh Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 11th October 2023 at Kimble Stewart Hall at 7.30pm

Attendance: Cllr John Austin, Cllr Alun Jones, Cllr David Williams, Cllr Delia Burton, Cllr Harvey Alison and Clerk Pauline McBride.

In addition, Gerald Redding attended in his capacity as a member of the KSH committee.

107) Welcome and Apologies: Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr James Cripps.

108) Declaration of interest in any item on this agenda by a member: None Declared.

109) Minutes. To agree and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 13th September 2023.
Unanimously approved.

110) Finance Report

a) Income Received in August: Bank Interest of £61.42, KSH £1.00 and Precept of £21,000.00 were noted.

b) Bank Balances - Total Bank Balances of £171345.80 were noted.

c) October Payments for Approval

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|----------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Kimbletech Ltd | Deposit for Solar Panels | £3440.00 | £688.00 | £4128.00 |
| Pauline McBride | September Salary | £714.23 | | £714.23 |
| HMRC | PAYE | £11.60 | | £11.60 |
| SRT Trading | Litter pick August | £120.00 | £24.00 | £144.00 |
| TBS | Bin Emptying September | £82.50 | £16.50 | £99.00 |
| Royal British Legion | Poppy Wreath Donation | £150.00 | | £150.00 |
| Starboard Solutions | Scribe Annual Charge | £345.60 | £69.12 | £414.72 |
| Pauline McBride | Expenses September | £35.90 | | £35.90 |
| Sovereign | Deposit for replacement slide | £284.84 | £56.97 | £341.81 |
| Richard Billyard | September mowing | £1094.00 | | £1094.00 |
| SRT Trading | Litter pick September | £120.00 | £24.00 | £144.00 |
| TEEC | Website Hosting Annual Charge | £161.29 | £32.26 | £193.55 |
| WEL Medical | Defib Spare Battery | £232.95 | £46.59 | £279.54 |
| Cashplus Account | Top up September Expenditure | £96.92 | £18.98 | £115.90 |
| | Total | £6889.83 | £976.42 | £7866.25 |

October payments were noted and approved.

111) Planning Applications, appeals and injunctions plus any updates of allocated sites as included in the Neighbourhood plan. No planning applications or changes of status had been received during the month.

112) Solar Farm Planning Status. All councillors had reviewed all the relevant paperwork supplied and agreed that the main concerns were still traffic management, including operating hours, which needs to be policed. **Clerk to comment again to stress the concerns around traffic management and the policing thereof.**

113) To review draft CIL policy and adopt if agreed. Policy endorsed and adopted. Cllr Alison requested that the sensory garden project is added as a potential CIL project. **Clerk to add new adopted policy to website and to add sensory garden to CIL project list.**

114) To review first draft of the budget for 2024/2025. A first draft budget had been prepared by the clerk and distributed with the meeting pack. The Clerk outlined that, based on initial 2024/2025 net expenditure, a precept of over £70k would be required. However, as in recent years, the Parish Council have decided to use reserves in order to keep the precept at £42,000. **Clerk will complete agreed precept figures, update the year to date spend with latest figures and amend any full year predicted spend with now known items. For example, the purchase of two speed signs. Clerk will prepare an updated spreadsheet will be prepared for the November meeting.**

115) To note replacement defib battery ordered. Noted.

116) Co-option to Parish Council. There had been three potential candidates interested in joining the Parish Council. One had since decided against continuing with the application. **Clerk to write to the two remaining applicants to ask for a CV with a view to confirming their place on the shortlist and potentially inviting to the next meeting to see if the vacant position is mutually suitable for the both applicant and Parish Councillors.**

117) Rail Bridge Pedestrian Safety Issues. There have been numerous complaints from residents and the Parish Council have tried many different approaches to resolve some of the concerns. Each suggestion has been blocked, even though Buckinghamshire County Council received £50,000 from the Laurels development towards future road safety improvements. The Parish Council suggested a painted walkway, signage and have even offered to pay for a pedestrian controlled crossing. A pedestrian tunnel under the railway was also suggested. Emails are passed from one area of Buckinghamshire County Council to another with the latest suggestion that this project should come under the Community Boards remit. Although the Parish Council has attempted to involve County Councillors previously, there has been no success in this concern being addressed. The Parish Council would like to ensure that County Councillor Harris and the Community Boards department will take on and work to resolve this important safety concern. **Cllr Jones will provide notes for Cllr Williams to prepare a letter to County Councillor Harris and Community Boards (which includes Cllr Cripps as the Parish representative) with the aim of having them take ownership of and responsibility for getting the issues resolved.**

118) To update on VAR speeding signs quotes and agree to purchase. The clerk had obtained three quotes which had been reviewed by Cllr Austin and Cllr Burton. Their recommendation had been distributed with the meeting pack. Their preferred option was Swarco as they are the supplier of the one existing sign and so the Parish is familiar with the design and all the same attachments would be used. It was agreed to purchase two battery operated smiley face/frown speed signs at a cost of £3800.00 per sign. **Clerk will ask for discount and order two signs plus the pole extensions.**

119) Kimble Stewart Hall:

Gerald Redding reported on behalf of the KSH committee. There is a 100 page fire risk assessment document which has been condensed to 16 pages. There is a huge amount of work for the committee and work to be carried out will be expensive and KSH committee is looking for the Parish Council to fund this essential expenditure.

Cllr Jones asked about the hiring rates with a view to possibly increasing them but Cllr. Burton confirmed the rates are in line with similar facilities in the area.

Gerald Redding also reported that the KSH committee wondered whether the SH facilities will remain suitable in the near future as the village expands over the next five years.

Cllr Williams mentioned the possibility of hiring a project manager to oversee all the KSH improvements and whether it was a good idea to contract out the maintenance, fire regulations, utilities etc. **Clerk will approach other local Parish Councils to ask how they manage their halls. Dependant upon their response, the clerk will also contact Tring Parish Council.**

120) Community Board Report: Nothing to report.

121) Marsh Kerbing/Pinch Point Project update: Nothing to report.

122) Correspondence, reports and issues (for information only).

Gerald Redding mentioned a planning application in Marsh for the conversion of two barns into living accommodation. He had seen Cllr Jones name on the application. Cllr Alison searched the planning website but could not find any such application. It appeared that this was a pre planning notification that Gerald had spotted in the local paper. **Cllr Burton to receive copy document from Gerald Redding and distribute to Parish Council.**

Cllr Burton requested contact details for the Cala homes development as fencing around the playground needs to be done. **Clerk will ask James Good for his Cala contact details and pass on to Cllr Burton.**

Cllr Burton informed the Parish Council the County Councillor Caffrey will be outlining the proposed Tennis Courts project with Buckinghamshire County Council planning department to enquire what the process would be to obtain planning permission.

Cllr Alison requested a general enquiry on status and backlog of planning applications. **Clerk will write to Buckinghamshire County Council Planning Department.**

Cllr Austin mentioned his unavailability for the next meeting on 8th November and the remembrance service. Cllr Jones offered to represent the Parish Council at the remembrance service.

123) To confirm the date and time of next Parish Council Meeting: 8th November, 2023

Meeting closed at 8.45pm

Chairman.....

Date: