

Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting of
Kingscote Parish Council
Held 15th May 2018 Village Hall Kingscote

Members present: - Cllrs S Cooper, J Bowers, G Nicholls, B Bennett, R Gale

Officer:-Clerk Fiona Thornton.

Members of the Public: - 7

1.Welcome and Apologies for Absence

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting

There were no apologies for absence

2.Confirm minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting hold 16th May 2017

Decision: Proposed by Cllr J Bowers and seconded by Cllr G Nicholls, agreed by all, the minutes were approved and signed as a true record of the meeting

3.Chairman's Report

Cllr S Cooper reported: -

- After 11 years of service, Anna Davison submitted her resignation as Clerk to the Parish Council. The post was advertised locally but there were no candidates. The Council widened its search and was introduced to Mrs Fiona Thornton. The Chairman and Clerk interviewed Mrs Thornton and following internal consultation offered her the position, which she accepted. She was appointed at the Council's meeting in October 2018.
- The Council applied to the CDC for a grant for two defibrillators for the use of the parish residents, one for Kingscote and the other for Bagpath. A grant of £1,000 was awarded and the money will be added to the funds raised by the community for this purpose.
- The Council completed a satisfaction survey for Gloucestershire Highways.
- The Council had regular contact with Voneus on the implementation of their new broadband technology in the parish. The implementation was completed in early 2019 and reports from users of the service are that it is very satisfactory.
- Jim Parsons, our District Councillor, sadly died last autumn. Anna Davison attended his funeral on behalf of the Council. His successor, Richard Morgan, has attended every Council meeting since his election and kept the council updated on the activities of the District Council.
- Tony Hicks resigned as our County Councillor last year and his successor, Stephen Hirst, has attended Council meetings to keep us updated on the activities of the County Council.
- In January 2018 the Council adopted the following: (a) Standing Orders, (b) Financial Regulations, (c) Code of Conduct and (d) Complaints Procedure.
- The Council's annual budget for 2018-19 was set at £10,411.
- The Council received Transparency Grant funding in the sum of £1,860 to set up a Council-dedicated website and to adhere to governance and accountability for smaller authorities in England. Some of these funds have been used to set up the Council's website at www.kingscoteparishcouncil.co.uk, where all Council documents can now be found. A link to this website has been set up on the community website Kingscoteonline.

4.Any other Parish Business

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a) Report by County Councillor – Cllr S Hirst

No report

b) Report by CDC Councillor – Cllr R Morgan

- o During the year Cllr J Parsons sadly passed away. He was dedicated to the local area and will be a hard act to follow.
- o Publica – this is a company set up by Cotswold DC, Forest of Dean, Cheltenham and West Oxfordshire Councils. Its main purpose is to share services and to give good value to the tax payer. Examples are data protection legislation and taxi licensing. Councils can share services, but they can also opt out as well as in for services. The initial target savings have been achieved within the first three months. The long-term forecast will be a saving of millions. As this is the only area in which this is happening Publica will be able to sell its services to other councils.
- o CDC share of Council Tax was frozen for the third year running.
- o Car parking charges have also been frozen along with the extension of after 3pm free parking
- o £300,000 is to be spent on electrical charging points for car parks
- o £1k to each ward councillor to allocate to youth facilities
- o Green Bin charges have been frozen
- o Up to £15m has been allocated to build a multi-story car park in Cirencester
- o Efficiency matrix – CDC scored the highest in the Country
- o Kerbside recycling was £59.6% which is 13th highest in the Country]
- o CDC has a target of achieving 8400 new homes by 2031. With build already taking place in areas such as Tetbury and the strategic development of Chesterton area of Cirencester of 2300 homes, CDC has already hit its target

c) Finance report by Clerk

Council ended the year with funds totaling £8,771, of which £1000 is held as the monies received for the defibrillator and £1615 transparency funding. Council hold £6,156 in general reserves going forward into 2018/19. All the year-end financial information will be uploaded to the website following approval at the AGM which follows this meeting

Signed

Dated.....