



## **Kingsmere Residents' Association Meeting**

**Date:** Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2014, 19:00 – 20:30

**Venue:** Conference Room, Countryside Properties Site Office, Kingsmere, Bicester.

### **Attendees**

Graham Brogden (GB) – Co-chair, Viki Heil (VH) – Co-chair, David Waters (DW) – Secretary, Fiona Chalk – Communications, Scott Young (SY) – Countryside Properties, Vickie Zielinski (VZ) – Cherwell District Council, Michael Cowley (MC), V Christine Escott (CE), Steve Escott (SE), Ayad Ahmed (AA), Jon Poley (JP), Talal Alfoadadi (TA), Laura Day (LD), Nix Goodfellow (NG), Sarah Hickin (SH), Duncan Lilwall (DL), Barry Knight (BK), Clive Collett (CC), Gareth Jones (GJ), Emma Harvey (EH), Francis Harvey (FH), Kos Vankov (KV), Joanne Rogers (JR), Andy Roger (AR), Madga Laskazsiec-Sconier (MLS), Steve Waddup (SW), Michaela Waddup (MW), Catherine Morgan (CM), Lyn Gilbert (LG), Helen Maunder (HM), Linda Henderson (LH), Mike Henderson (MH), Tracy Banks (TB), Tom Burgess (TB), Kim Burgess (KB), Mary Herbert (MH), Richard Herbert (RH).

### **1.1 Welcome and introductions**

All attendees were welcomed to the meeting by KRA co-chair GB. GB thanked SY & Countryside Properties for hosting the meeting & supplying refreshments.

### **1.2 Background and context of meeting**

GB shared some background to the formation of the KRA. Motivations for starting a Residents' Association included a shared interest in the site, provision of community representation to developers and local councils.

### **1.3 Apologies**

Apologies received from PC Matt Longman (ML) & Anuj Goel (AG).

### **1.4 Minutes from previous meeting**

DW shared the minutes from previous meeting (26/06/14), these were reviewed & accuracy agreed. Updates on specific action points, were raised under specific agenda items later during the meeting.

## **2.0 Cherwell District Council Support**

Vickie Zielinski (VZ) (Senior Community Recreation Officer at Cherwell District Council) introduced herself & gave some background to her role. She highlighted how she could provide general support to the KRA, assist in addressing specific CDC issues & also would be working with us to establish our Community Centre.

### 3.0 Countryside Properties Update

Scott Young (SY), who is the Clerk of Works for the Kingsmere (and employed by Countryside Properties) gave some updates on the site. SY provided some background regarding Countryside Properties, who purchased the Kingsmere site & then resell individual sections of the development onto builders (such as Bovis, Taylor Wimpey etc). Countryside Properties are responsible for the initial road infrastructure, and building the future schools and sports field facilities. Once Countryside Properties have sold on plots of land, these then become the responsibility of the individual developers.

SY provided some status reports concerning the various Kingsmere plots and took numerous questions from the floor (see appendix 1 for map of development):

- KM-1 west: Taylor Wimpey Homes, almost complete.
- KM-1 east: Taylor Wimpey Homes, should be completed within the next 4 months.
- KM-2: Bovis Homes, fully complete and occupied.
- KM-22 & KM-5: are unsold plots but are being marketed and Countryside are in negotiations with a builder at present.
- KM-E: Purchased by Linden Homes, no building start date confirmed (these are 2 parcels next to David Wilson, SY unable to supply specific parcel numbers in the meeting).
- KM-8: David Wilson Homes, fully complete.
- KM-12: David Wilson Homes, aiming to be completed by December 2014.
- KM-7 & KM-9: Bellway Homes, still in build phase.
- KM-15, 16 and 18: Persimmon Homes, will commence build in January 2015.
- KM-21: 21 self-build units, should be occupied by summer 2015.
- Other KM parcels: - unsold at present.
- Whitelands Farm: Abbeymill Homes have built 8 properties, some now occupied.
- Healthcare centre: No time frame currently.
- Commercial centre: No time frame currently.
- Primary School: Build starting October 2014, with planned occupation by late 2015.
- Secondary School: Site not to be transferred to builders for a further 3 years.
- Playground sites across development: due to be completed by the end of October 2014.
- Shopping area: Timeline for shop build is 1000 occupations over the development, currently Kingsmere has 350 properties occupied.

A resident questioned SY concerning the lack of post-boxes on the development. **ACTION: SY to contact the Post Office concerning a temporary post-box. TA also agreed to make contact with the Post Office regarding this matter.**

SY also highlighted that Whitelands Way is scheduled to be opened up in October 2014. Once Whitelands Way is fully open, the current Kingsmere bus service (Number 26 service, run by Stagecoach) will continue through the whole development. Bus stops are due to be placed in the village centre & also near the current David Wilson sales office.

A resident highlighted the urgent need for dog waste bins across the development, due to the large volume of dog walkers using Kingsmere. **ACTION: SY to raise this issue internally within Countryside Properties & explore the possibility of temporary dog waste bins.**

#### **4.0 Middleton Stoney Road Update**

SY highlighted that planning permission has been granted to install a number of traffic calming measures along the Middleton Stoney Road. These included two pelican crossings and a number of traffic calming cushions that span the length of Middleton Stoney Road (as it passes beside Kingsmere). The need for a speed camera and additional '30 mph' signs were raised from meeting attendees.

#### **5.0 High Speed/Superfast Broadband Update**

FC (who is leading on this issue for the KRA) provided an update. Large amounts of information were provided to Openreach at the start of the summer so they could map the development, to assess the business case for superfast. FC, GB & a future Kingsmere resident, met with representatives from Openreach & British Telecom and Craig Bower (from Better Broadband for Oxfordshire) in August to discuss this issue further. During this meeting, it was identified that there was a financial shortfall in funding installation of superfast broadband across Kingsmere. This is £12-14K + VAT per broadband cabinet, and there are 3 cabinets on Kingsmere. Openreach will be approaching individual builders onsite, to explore whether they would be prepared to gap fund the shortfall, we await feedback concerning this. Even if funding was secured, FC indicated that the timeframe for installation of superfast broadband could still be 12+ months. FC continued by thanking our local MP Sir Tony Baldry, Better Broadband for Oxfordshire & other residents for lobbying on our behalf regarding this issue. Craig Bower was invited to tonight's meeting, however was unable to attend. **ACTION: FC will continue to lead on this and will feedback information to residents.**

#### **6.0 Kingsmere Community Centre**

VH (who is leading on this project on behalf of the KRA) gave an update. The Community Centre facility will be run by the KRA for the benefit and use of the local community on Kingsmere. Plans for the building have gone through the planning process. The site is located in the village hub area (half way down Whitelands Way). The KRA have developed a Community Centre vision document, which outlines a strategic vision for the building, the facilities contained within and how it possibly could be used. This will be uploaded to the documents section of the KRA website. VH put a request for assistance/support out to the meeting. **ACTION: All KRA members - If interested in assisting or supporting the development of the Kingsmere Community Centre, please contact VH directly if you would like to become involved.**

#### **7.0 Any other business**

##### **7.1 Burnehyll Community Woodland**

RH explained that a working group had been set up to support the Burnehyll Community Woodland project (the strip of woodland and arable land that runs between Chesterton village and Vendee Drive). The working group has set up a facebook page. **ACTION: All KRA members – if interested in**

***becoming involved with the Burnehyll Community Woodland project please connect with the group via Facebook.***

### **7.2 Bank account**

James Hiscott (JH) (the KRA treasurer) has set up a bank for the association. A grant application for £750 has been submitted to CDC. These funds will be used to support KRA activities, i.e. meeting venue hire, promotion & community events.

### **7.3 Next meeting**

The next KRA meeting will on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2015, 19:00 – 20:30 at the John Paul II Centre, The Causeway, Bicester. This will be promoted by flyers, email and facebook. Sir Tony Baldry (MP for North Oxfordshire) has confirmed his attendance at this meeting.

### **Appendix 1**

