



KRA

Kingsmere Residents' Association

Kingsmere Residents' Association General Meeting

Date:	Thursday 20 th June 2019
Venue:	Youth Centre, Kingsmere Community Centre

Guests:-

Vicky Hodgins, Carla Wilson and Nicky Oakley	Directors, Kingsmere Community Centre
John Parry-Billings and Jenny Jones	Kier Construction (Secondary school builders)
Cllr Dan Sames	Cherwell District Council (CDC) and Bicester Town Council (BTC)
Cllr Nick Cotter	Cherwell District Council (CDC) and Bicester Town Council (BTC)
Cllr James Metcalf	Bicester Town Council (BTC)

Attendees:-

Bryan Taunton (BT) KRA Co-Chair; Viki Heil (VHe) KRA Co-Chair; Teresa Lamb (TL) KRA Secretary & School & Young People's Ambassador; Joe McKenna (JM) KRA Treasurer; John Bentley (JB) KRA Community Development Ambassador; Vicky Hodgins (VHo), Carla Wilson (CW) and Nicky Oakley (NO) Directors, Kingsmere Community Centre; John Parry-Billings (JPB) and Jenny Jones (JJ) Kier Construction; Cllr Dan Sames (DS) BTC/CDC; Cllr Nick Cotter (NC) BTC/CDC; Cllr James Metcalfe (JaM) BTC; Nicola and Ian Gallear (residents); Fiona and David ((residents); Theresa Noble (resident); Ayad Ahmad (resident); Melanie Starren (resident); Raj Panicker (resident); Omon Tariq (resident); Neal Reynolds (resident); Mary and Richard Herbert (residents); Eleanor Wilson (resident); Andrea Burgess (resident).

Apologies:-

Ashley Hayden KRA Green Space Ambassador; Graham Brogden KRA Patron; PC Vicky Lees, Thames Valley Neighbourhood Police; Tim Davies, Bicester Community Warden; Steve Price, Countryside Regional Director of Planning; Richard Emery, Countryside Senior Project Manager; Dipen Shah, Gada Limited; Margaret Kunzer, Headteacher St Edburg's School; Cllr Les Sibley (OCC); Cllr Lucinda Wing (CDC); Mike and Gill Cornes (residents); Dave and Ann Howard (residents).

	<u>Item</u> Issues Discussed [Actions]	By Whom	By When
1	<u>Welcome & introductions.</u> Welcomed all to meeting and introduced the guests. Following feedback received after the last meeting that it is often negative aspects that are raised and discussed, BT asked if there could be more of a positive focus.	BT	



	Also informed those present that there would be some changes to the order of the items on the agenda to facilitate the need for some guests to leave due to other commitments.		
2	<p><u>Apologies.</u></p> <p>Ashley Hayden KRA Green Space Ambassador; Graham Brogden KRA Patron; PC Vicky Lees, Thames Valley Neighbourhood Police; Tim Davies, Bicester Community Warden; Steve Price, Countryside Regional Director of Planning; Richard Emery, Countryside Senior Project Manager; Dipen Shah, Gada Limited; Margaret Kunzer, Headteacher St Edburg's School; Cllr Les Sibley (OCC); Cllr Lucinda Wing (CDC); Mike and Gill Cornes (residents); Dave and Ann Howard (residents).</p>	TL	
3	<p><u>Matters arising from previous minutes.</u></p> <p>These have been available on the KRA website and publicised on KRA Facebook page since 21st May 2019. Copies of the minutes were circulated at this meeting and no matters arising were raised.</p> <p>JM went through the action points from the minutes of the last meeting. Outstanding were: Cllr Les Sibley to ask if Whitelands Way can be added to gritting route even if it is not yet adopted; and Cllr Les Sibley to feedback outcome of A41 safety review and meeting on 11th March. Cllr Sibley was not in attendance at this meeting.</p> <p>[ACTION: TL to seek update from Cllr Sibley regarding the two outstanding actions from 29/01/19 meeting.]</p>	JM TL	Next meeting
4.	<p><u>Kingsmere Community Centre Update.</u></p> <p>Now been open for 10 months. The centre has recently hosted a number of conferences and courses during the day, as well as the regular classes, activities and groups. Hirers have included Mental health, Age UK, SCAS.</p> <p>The community centre is pleased to be involved with an intergenerational afternoon tea in collaboration with the primary school on July 4th. There are plans for a second intergenerational event in October with the new pre-school that is opening at the community centre in September.</p> <p>The KCC team were able to share some exciting news regarding their fundraising efforts to get a defibrillator – in addition to the fundraising KCC have done via their Christmas fair and coffee mornings, they have applied and successfully secured funding from Cala homes. This is going to enable them to get two defibrillators, a paediatric and an adult one, at centre! There is also funding for a set number of adults to be trained in the use of this equipment. The team are also planning to follow on from the successful children's first aid</p>	VHo/ CW/NO	



	<p>course that was held in the school holidays.</p> <p>Café: The café now opens every Friday morning (until about 2pm) serving bacon rolls, hot drinks, cakes, sandwiches and more. They plan to extend opening to other days, but need it to be sustainable and lead by demand.</p> <p>There will be a first birthday celebration on Saturday 21st September – further details to follow.</p> <p>There will also be an AGM in October. JM asked if the current KCC Directors would need to be re-elected at the AGM and if there was opportunity for any other resident that may want to get involved to become a Director. VHo, CW and NO responded that their positions would be up for election. They continue to welcome additional volunteers to get involved with the running of the community centre and are happy to give more information to anyone that may be interested.</p>		
5.	<p><u>“Kingsmere Front Runner” Newsletter Launch.</u></p> <p>Previously there have been Kingsmere newsletters produced by Countryside and Cherwell District Council. CDC are now wanting to hand this over to residents to take forward and make sustainable through inclusion of advertisements. A (very) small group of residents has agreed to launch this and the first edition is due to be published in July. There has been quite a lot of interest and a range of businesses and groups looking to advertise. Trying to keep it focussed on Kingsmere and things of interest to Kingsmere residents. Plan is to have 3-4 issues per year. If anyone would like to get involved then make contact via the Community Centre or KRA Facebook pages, until the Newsletter team have dedicated contact details set up. There are also plans to have a survey to gauge reaction to the newsletter and capture feedback so that it can evolve.</p>	CW/TL	
6.	<p><u>Secondary School Construction Update.</u></p> <p>Just started build. First work was creating temporary accommodation for the construction team – this will be changed to permanent accommodation soon.</p> <p>Other works include filling land to correct levels so that foundations can be laid; sports field preparation with ground improvement for sports pitches. Towards end of July steel frame of the school buildings will be erected.</p> <p>Kier are planning several community events. There is a ground breaking ceremony on 1st July. They are also going to make contact with St Edburgs school. Kier would like to leave a legacy and get to know everyone in the community. Kier are committed to the “Considerate construction” scheme and they will be visited in September to see how they are performing in relation to that.</p>	JPB/JJ	



	<p>Initially there has been a lot of vehicle movements to/from site. This should slow down after next 3-4 weeks, but obviously will continue to be some movements.</p> <p>Richard Herbert (resident) asked if Kier could ensure lorries come off-site clean by having lorry wheel washing. JPB responded that they do not have wheel washing as it is not effective, but Kier have planned the site and the work to minimise the need for vehicles to drive onto the mud. They also have road sweepers that can be deployed if necessary. There are some service connection works coming up, which will affect the footpath running alongside the school site. Kier will try to inform the KRA of possible disruption so the KRA can alert residents.</p>		
7	<p><u>Police Update.</u> Members of Thames Valley Police Neighbourhood Policing team were unable to attend the meeting. Tim Davies, Bicester Community Warden and Accredited Community Support Officer (CDC) provided an update via email which TL read out.</p> <p>“All I can do is assure residents that Community Safety team at CDC still have regular dedicated patrols on Kingsmere. There was recently more damage to trees on the site and we as well as Police, are working to identify offenders.</p> <p>We would like to site our Community Safety trailer on the Kingsmere estate for a day and would like residents to suggest where they feel it would benefit residents most and also when. We have looked at siting it outside the Community Centre as this is central and accessible to all. We use the trailer to promote the work of Community Safety and partner work so we may have colleagues from TVP and OCC Fire & Rescue/Emergency Planning with us .This is a great way to engage with the whole community and also give advice on lots of issues including Crime Prevention. If you could put this to the KRA at the meeting and let me have any feedback that would be much appreciated.”</p> <p>The was a brief discussion among residents present and it was generally agreed that siting it near the community centre would be a good location, particularly with Co-op now open, which will increase footfall in that area. People felt that it would be better to have it on a Saturday, if that was possible, but if it had to be on a week day then hours would need to extend into the evening to accommodate people who work during the day.</p> <p>[ACTION: KRA to feedback to Tim Davies resident’s opinion that locating the trailer near the community centre is a good location and having it on Saturday (if possible) would be preferable.]</p>	TL	
		TL	Within 2 weeks



<p>8.</p>	<p><u>St Edburg's Primary School Update.</u> No update received from Margaret Kunzer; however TL had a couple of things to mention in relation to the primary school. School Summer Fair – this Saturday 11am-2pm – all welcome. Entry into reception year for 2019/20 was oversubscribed – no place for some residents of Kingsmere (and also some people outside Kingsmere with siblings already at the school). This is causing anguish and worry for a number of residents. TL asked Cllr Sames to raise with OCC when primary school in phase 2 will open as it is needed ASAP. [ACTION: KRA to ask Countryside at next quarterly meeting when construction of phase 2 primary is scheduled for.] [ACTION: Cllr Sames to ask OCC for an update on timetable for delivering second primary school.]</p>	<p>TL BT/VHe DS</p>	<p>Next Country- side meeting Next meeting</p>
<p>9.</p>	<p><u>Countryside Update.</u> The Kingsmere development will ultimately provide a total of around 2,400 homes (approximately 1,700 houses on Phase 1 & 700 houses on Phase 2). PHASE 1:- All Parcels of land on Phase 1 (apart from the Health Village Site) have now being built on – we have just over 1,200 houses built so far out of a total of 1,700 for Phase 1. We have 4 house builders on site at present on Phase 1 - each house builder aim to complete on average 3.5 houses per month – a total average of 150 houses per year for the whole development with all the 4 house builders. Bellways are due to complete on KM5 & KM22 in the North West corner of Phase 1 by August 2019. Persimmons are due to complete on KMC & KMD by August 2019. Bovis – have a 3 year build on KME opposite St. Edburgs School. Lindens will be complete on KMA & KMB by August this year – they have started on Parcel KMG (for approximately 40 houses) next to the school – this will be completed by early 2020. They have recently started on Parcel KMF at the back of the ESSO garage with a 3 year build period. Roads:- Countryside constructed Vendee Drive, Whitelands Way, Hexham Road and Pioneer Way and also provided some Traffic Calming on Middleton Stoney Road – all the other estate roads are built by the relevant house builders. All the main infrastructure roads will be adopted by Oxfordshire County Council – although none of the roads</p>	<p>BT</p>	



<p>within the Kingsmere development have been adopted as yet. [None of the side residential roads will be adopted until the spine road(s) serving them have been.]</p> <p>Phase 1 has been split into 3 separate sections to speed up the adoption process:-</p> <p>OCC require that a least 80% of the houses fronting the road to be complete before they will consider adopting the adjacent road.</p> <p>The roads will be snagged jointly with OCC, repaired by Countryside and then go into Maintenance for 12 months.</p> <p>The remedial works to the Northern Section from Middleton Stoney Road to Friars Walk has been marked on the ground - these works will be carried out over the next few months.</p> <p>The Middle Section which includes Pioneer Way - will be the last to have 80% house completion and adoptions are two years away.</p> <p>The Southern Section of Whitelands Way from Pioneer Way to Vendee Drive will be inspected and prepared after the Northern Section is complete.</p> <p>The bypass - Vendee Drive has already been adopted by OCC. The A41 Signalised Junction at the Premier Inn has also already been adopted by OCC.</p> <p>Once a road has been adopted the website 'Fix my street' is the best way to raise issues regarding these roads.</p> <p>The yellow lines have been installed and have generally been well received - 6 months monitoring has now been observed and as from 20th May 2019 this restriction is a Police matter.</p> <p>Countryside understands that it is OCC's desire for all roads on Kingsmere to be 20mph once adopted.</p> <p>The junction on Pioneer Way between parcels KME, KMF and KMG / Retail park (new Bovis and Linden homes and retail park) is to have road markings.</p> <p>Street Lighting: Countryside are responsible for the Street lights on Whitelands Way, Pioneer Way and Hexham Road and also the lighting on Friars Walk and the Secondary School Cycleway on the Northern Boundary to the proposed secondary School. All other street lights on the development are the responsibility of the relevant House builders. – Need post number to identify.</p>		
--	--	--



<p>Public open space / Play areas:- All the Strategic open spaces have been completed and are open to the public – one small LAP has been closed because the swing is unsafe – this will be repaired in the next visit by our play equipment contractor. Countryside have installed all the main play areas on Phase 1 including Friars Walk, the Green route between Persimmon and Bovis and Whitelands Farm. The housebuilders are responsible for the Play areas within their parcels. [The KRA are aware of problems with the park in Ripon not being maintained. This is the responsibility of David Wilson. As they are no longer on site it is harder to get action from them but will keep pursuing it.] All of the open space areas on Phase 1 will be adopted by Cherwell District Council and we are trying to get areas signed off and adopted. There continues to be lots of tree vandalism and also vandalism to the play areas – if see anything please report to police (via 999 if in progress or 101/online if it has already happened).</p> <p>Travellers Travellers were on site at the end of April for 1 week - additional fencing and bollards have been installed around the Southern balancing pond and Sports Pavilion area. [Comment from BT that hopefully these measures have had some effect as recent group in Bicester didn't come to Kingsmere.] [Question from residents to Councillors on how the travellers were moved off so quickly from Sports Centre recently but when there was an encampment here it took much longer. DS: Council have taken on board residents opinions and lots of work has gone on since last summer to improve the process and improve communication so that it can be resolved quicker. If residents witness them arriving to contact CDC councillors and if criminal damage is caused in the process of the travellers accessing site then police should be informed.]</p> <p>Residents have requested low level fencing on the boundary to the cycleway which runs alongside the Northern Boundary to the Secondary School this is to prevent children crossing the open space onto private gardens - Cherwell District Council have agreed that a low level knee rail fence can be installed. BT has Countryside to meet with residents affected about what has been agreed with the council before</p>		
--	--	--



<p>installation commences.</p> <p>Premier Inn Hotel:- Extension works started in April 2019 for an additional 40 bedrooms</p> <p>Holiday Inn Express:- Works started in January 2019 for opening this year. An additional Toucan crossing is planned for the proposed Bicester Gateway Hotel development opposite the Park and Ride.</p> <p>Retail Park:- Works started in January 2019 with a 43 week build program - it is anticipated that stores will be opening in late 2019 / early 2020. Site access is via the A41 at Premier Inn Roadworks on the A41 is due start at the end of July 2019 (but roadworks on Vendee Drive need to be completed first). 4 No. main stores (Including M&S Food, & Next) plus a Gym and 2 No. smaller stores.</p> <p>Health Village:- We have no fixed programme for delivery. An outline planning application has been submitted for 57 houses and a 2.5 acre GP Facility. [There are 3 potential locations for a large “hub” healthcare facility that are currently under consideration, one on Kingsmere and two potential sites on Grave Hill. The decision of where to locate will ultimately be taken by the Clinical Commissioning Group.]</p> <p>Bus Service / Travel Plan There is little patronage on the Bus service provided by Countryside into Bicester (Bus number S26) – wider catchment / route is being considered. [BT is actively trying to engage in these discussions with the aim of the route being extended to take in the different retail locations in this area of town, which can be inaccessible to some Bicester residents without a car.] The S5 Bus service in the early morning and late afternoon has much better patronage.</p> <p>Phase 2:- Infrastructure works of the main roads started in September</p>		
--	--	--



<p>and is due to be completed early 2020.</p> <p>The main strategic landscaping will be finished by the end of the next planting Season in 2020.</p> <p>Middleton Stoney Road entrance has been completed and will be open to Sales traffic only in August.</p> <p>The haul road off of Middleton Stoney Road will remain open for site traffic only.</p> <p>The permanent entrance off of Vendee Drive will open in July, initially for Ashberry Homes sales office only.</p> <p>The Haul road is now open off Vendee Drive and will be the main entrance for deliveries and Site traffic until Phase 2 is Complete</p> <p>Cala's will have 1st occupancy in September 2019.</p> <p>Ashberry started in May 2019</p> <p>Bellway are due to start in June 2019.</p> <p>There is open space and a kick-about pitch to the Southern end of Phase 2 – next to the farmhouse development.</p> <p>There is land for a Primary School to the East of Phase 2.</p> <p>There is land for an Extra-Care facility on Phase 2.</p> <p>General enquiries from residents can be directed to the Kingsmere Information Centre :-</p> <p>Run by 'Spring'</p> <p>Email address is :- enquiries@kingsmereinfo.co.uk</p> <p>Comments/issues raised by residents in relation to the Countryside update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Speeding on estate continues to be an issue. Even on cul de sac residential roads. Currently little can be done. VHe is currently enrolled on a community speed watch course so that residents can monitor speeds of vehicles using speed detection devices (vehicles caught exceeding speed limit are referred to police for education about reducing their speed but if education is ignored and repeat/excessive occurrences then enforcement and prosecution can follow.- It can be dangerous trying to cross Whitelands Way, particularly with young children. It was suggested that a Zebra crossing where the main footpath crosses Whitelands Way (as this is heavily used by pedestrians and cyclists, including many children and families going to/from Whitelands Farm park area) would improve safety. KRA will raise this with Countryside at the next quarterly meeting and see if it could be feasible.- The footpath that runs between the (old) Bovis and Persimmon parcels currently has plastic bollards at the		
---	--	--



	<p>end to try to stop vehicles using it, as it looks more like a road than the actual road in that area. What is the permanent solution for this as the plastic bollards cannot remain indefinitely? (Countryside were not present to comment but this will be raised with them.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The state of road between Fontwell Road and Pioneer Way is terrible due to the amount of mud. Residents appreciate that it is an active building site and that at time the weather doesn't help but has been allowed to get so bad that road sweepers have little effect. (Countryside were not present but TL said when she has reported a stretch of road being particularly bad to Countryside that they have tried to do something about it. Residents are therefore asked to report these problems to Countryside and KRA. BT also said that the roads would need to be clean before they are adopted by the council.) <p>[ACTION: KRA to ask Countryside about potential zebra crossing for Whitelands Way <u>and</u> about permanent solution to stopping vehicles using footpath at the next quarterly meeting.]</p>	BT/VHe	Next Country-side meeting
10.	<p><u>Local Shops Update.</u> Site now owned and managed (including responsibility for carpark and landscaping) by Gada Limited. Co-op opened this morning (20th June)! Busy Bees Nursey Unit is due to open at the beginning of July. The 2 units that will be the fish and chip take-away and sit down restaurant (Finest Catch) has started to be fitted out and is aiming to open in August. Waiting for Domino's to confirm a fit out date for their unit and Spicer Haart Estate Agent haven't confirmed their plans as yet.</p>	TL	
11.	<p><u>OCC Update.</u> Cllr Dan Sames does not represent Kingmere at OCC (Cllr Sibley who is Kingmere's OCC councillor was unable to attend) but the area he does represent also has A41 as it's boundary. Cllr Sames expressed his sadness regarding the recent fatal RTC at the Vendee Drive roundabout. There is a site visit of Councillors and council Officers tomorrow (21st June) to look at the road and roundabout. Cllr Sames was hoping to attend, but he wasn't sure if he was able to. There is also a locality meeting scheduled (when all Bicester OCC Cllrs meet with Officers). They will be reviewing all signage coming into Bicester (Too much? Not enough? Clear? In correct place?). There has also been a review of the Premier Inn Junction and are looking to make improvements</p>	DS	



	<p>to make turnings safer.</p> <p>Cllr Cotter raised that sat nav directions to Bicester Village are misdirecting motorists to continue on A41 towards Langford/Rodney House. This leads some to use the layby on A41 to make a U-turn and has cause several accidents and near-misses. He will be asking if it would be possible to close this layby and also asked if OCC had any influence with sat nav companies to correct the error? DS didn't know.</p>		
12.	<p><u>BTC Update.</u></p> <p>JM – new councillor introduced himself</p> <p>NC – meetings are held at Garth House. Members of public able to attend. Covers the town. More than a parish council, has a precept (from council tax). Remit is limited but includes, play areas, parks and cemetery. Planning issues, main decisions at district level, but BTC feeds their views/recommendations into that.</p> <p>(Question from KRA regarding timescale for council to adopt parks in Kingsmere. DS replied that there is currently no timescale for town council to take on LAPs (local area for play). Don't know if BTC will adopt LAPs – district council may. LEAPs (Local equipped area for play) will be adopted by council.)</p> <p>DS – Added that as well as areas Nick mentioned, BTC also provide events and community activities. There are upcoming summer events, including Bicester town carnival and armed forces day on 29th June.</p>	JM/NC/ DS	
13.	<p><u>CDC Update.</u></p> <p>Cllr Sames has been promoted to CDC Executive. He is Lead Member for "Clean and Green". Within this remit he will be looking at car parking and electric car charging points.</p> <p>[Resident Mary Herbert – it would be green if could have bus route between Bicester and Banbury, which took in both hospital and Castle Quay bringing more people to the council-owned shopping centre and reducing the need for people to drive to Banbury. DS took the comments on board but buses are not under his direct control.]</p> <p>Cllr Wing (who was unable to attend) is now the chairperson of the "Overview and Scrutiny" committee, which reviews and monitors the effectiveness of Council services.</p> <p>Cllr Cotter was only elected in May so did not have any specific update on CDC matters for this meeting.</p>	DS/NC	
14.	<p><u>Environmental Issues.</u></p> <p>Thanks to everyone who came to the litter pick in March. It was a very successful morning. Collected a horrendous amount of rubbish!</p>	VHe	



	<p>Planning another litter pick in August with a community event (picnic/rounders game) to follow – date to be announced via KRA Facebook page.</p> <p>Large tree cut down near balancing ponds to south of Goodwood Close/Redcar Road – this was because the tree was unsafe as there was a large rabbit warren underneath and it could have fallen down. No bunnies were harmed and warren is still there. A replacement tree will be planted.</p>		
15.	<p><u>Open Panel Discussion.</u> (Questions were asked during each section so no additional panel discussion was required.)</p>		
16.	<p><u>Any Other Business.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - During the meeting a resident asked if the Post box that is located in front of St Edburg's school would now be relocated near the shops or be replaced with a larger version. VHe replied that the KRA was not aware of any plans to move or change the existing post box, but having learned from the mistake of not planning one for phase 1, there will be another post box installed in phase 2. - Hedgehogs – a resident had noticed a number of hedgehogs in the area and so has cut holes in their fence to allow hedgehogs to move through and around the area. He would encourage other residents to consider doing the same. - Mary Herbert (resident) asked if there had been a change in the landscaping contract as the cutting of grass doesn't still seem to be done as frequently. KRA were not aware of any changes but will check with Countryside. - KRA are also aware of problems of weeds in paths and play areas, particularly in Ripon Close and Ascot Way. As these areas are not adopted, they remain the responsibility of the developers. KRA will ask Countryside to remind developers of their responsibility in this regard. - Fontwell Road/Whitelands Way junction: the barriers in front of the houses being built by Persimmon on Whitelands Way are obscuring visibility, particularly for smaller vehicles. TL was told by Persimmon that they would only be there for 2 weeks, but this date has now past. It does appear that the work is almost complete, so hopefully they will soon be removed. TL will try to chase again with Persimmon. - There is a community band (Bicester Concert band) who meet on Tuesday nights 19:45-21:45 during term time at St Edburg's school – they welcome new band members. There is also a concert coming up – the resident will post 	<p>BT/VHe</p> <p>BT/VHe</p> <p>TL</p>	<p>Within 1 month</p> <p>Within 1 month</p> <p>ASAP</p>



KRA

Kingsmere Residents' Association

	details of the concert on the KRA Facebook page.		
17.	<u>Date of Next Meeting.</u> Is likely to be in October and will be the AGM – the KRA are looking for new members to get involved.		

The meeting closed at: 20:48