



KRA

Kingsmere Residents' Association

Kingsmere Residents' Association Annual General Meeting	
Date:	Thursday 21 st November 2019 19:00
Venue:	Youth Room (front), Kingsmere Community Centre

Guests:-	
Ryan Onody (RO)	Resident and member of Burnehyll Community Woodland Project group
Margaret Kunzer (MK)	Head Teacher St Edburg's Primary School
Cllr Lucinda Wing (LW)	Cherwell District Council (CDC)
Richard Emery (RE)	Senior Project Manager, Countryside Properties PLC

Attendees:-
Viki Heil (VH), Bryan Taunton (BT), Joe McKenna (JM), Teresa Lamb (TL), Ashley Hayden (AH), Ryan Onody (RO), Margaret Kunzer (MK), Cllr Lucinda Wing (LW), Richard Emery (RE), Marc Thielke, S Abo El Nour, Ibrahim Abo El Nour, Gill Cornes, Mike Cornes, Clifford Baker (CB), Penny Baker, Ayad Ahmad, Barbara Mott (BM), Richard Herbert (RH), Mary Herbert (MH), Wendy Toh, Charles Toh, Tamas Ferete, Laura Lewis, Colette McCarter, Chloë Burridge, Adrian Reeve, Denise Green, Carolina Martin.

Apologies:
Jackie Newbury (resident); John Bentley (KRA); Steve Price (Countryside); Cllr Dan Sames (BTC/CDC); Nicola Riley (CDC); Tim Davies (CDC Community Safety); PC Kerry O'Leary (TVP); Kingsmere Community Centre Directors, James Hiscott (resident), David Ford (resident), Bob Mott (resident), Graham Brogden (KRA Patron). [Emailed apologies were received from Cllr Les Sibley and Cllr Nick Cotter, but the email was not read until after the meeting.]

Item #	Actions	By Whom
1	Welcome & Introductions KRA Co-Chair Bryan welcomed all to the meeting and introduced the other current KRA committee members.	BT
2	Apologies TL had received apologies prior to the meeting from Jackie Newbury (Resident); John Bentley (KRA); Steve Price (Countryside); Cllr Dan Sames (BTC/CDC); Nicola Riley (CDC); Tim Davies (CDC Community Safety); PC Kerry O'Leary (TVP); KCC Directors, James Hiscott (resident), David Ford (resident). Apologies were also given at the meeting from Bob Mott (resident) and Graham Brogden (KRA Patron).	TL



	[Emailed apologies were received from Cllr Les Sibley (OCC) and Cllr Nick Cotter (CDC/BTC), but the email was not read until after the meeting.]	
3	<p>Review of Minutes from previous meeting/matters arising</p> <p>Minutes from previous meeting 20/06/19 were reviewed and agreed as a true representation of the meeting.</p> <p>Matters arising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TL to seek update from Cllr Sibley regarding two outstanding actions from 29/01/19 meeting – No communication has been received from Cllr Sibley prior to this meeting. [Continue to seek response from Cllr Sibley.] • KRA feedback to Tim Davies regarding location and timing of a Community Safety trailer day. Unfortunately, a different day was chosen and due to miscommunications and concern about closing the car park near the shops/community centre, the event was cancelled. We hope that this can be re-arranged in the future. • To seek an update on timing of construction of the primary school on phase 2. RE confirmed that the land has been formally offered to Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) and Countryside are awaiting their response. • KRA to ask Countryside about possible zebra crossing for Whitelands Way and about permanent solution to stopping vehicles using footpaths. These are big issues that the KRA will continue to persue. [ACTION: KRA to continue to seek safe crossings across Whitelands Way and permeant solutions to use of footpaths by vehicles.] • Issues with landscaping/maintenance of communal spaces that are the responsibility of developers. RE will continue to remind developers of their responsibility. RE thinks that the play area in Ripon Close may have been adopted but he will check. LW will also follow up on this with CDC. [ACTION: LW/RE to determine if the play area has been adopted. RE to continue to remind developers of their continued responsibility to maintain communal areas until they are adopted.] • Work at junction of Fontwell Road and Whitelands Way was completed. 	<p>TL</p> <p>TL</p> <p>BT</p> <p>LW/RE</p>
4	Annual Co-Chairs report (see appendix 1)	VH



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5	<p>Annual Treasurers Report</p> <p>JM presented the annual Treasurers report including a breakdown of current Association finances.</p> <p>The KRA accounting year runs from May-May. The opening balance on 1st May 2018 was £140.30. There was no expenditure before 1st May 2019 so the closing balance was still £140.30.</p> <p>There has been some expenditure since 1st May 2019, including fees for website hosting/email server; KRA are now paying KCC to hire space for meetings and also needed to get public liability insurance to facilitate this; the KRA has also paid to have a tree at the St Edburg's Church Christmas Tree festival. Fortunately the KRA have received a generous donation of £500 from Countryside for which they are extremely grateful. This will cover KRA costs for at least the next year and hopefully longer. The current balance as of 18th November 2019 is £464.26</p>	JM
6	<p>Election of Committee/Officers for 2019/20</p> <p>MK oversaw the election of Residents' Association committee members for the next year. All positions/committee members were proposed by a resident and seconded by another. The elections were agreed by a show of hands from those present.</p> <p>The following residents were voted into Resident Association committee roles:</p> <p>Bryan Taunton – Chair Teresa Lamb – Secretary Joe McKenna – Treasurer</p> <p>John Bentley and Ashley Hayden were re-elected as committee members and David Ford was elected in his absence to join the committee, roles would be decided upon and formally ratified at a future meeting.</p> <p>An expression of interest had also been received from Harry Meacher. As he was not present and had not confirmed that he definitely wanted to join the committee, he will be invited to the committee meeting and if he'd like to formally join the committee his appointment could be ratified at a future public meeting.</p> <p>Gifts were presented to VH who has stepped down from the committee. BT invited VH to become a Patron of the KRA, which VH accepted.</p>	MK
7	<p>Burnehyll Community Woodland Update</p> <p>Land between Kingsmere and Chesterton (other side of Vendee Drive, behind Park & Ride). Waiting for legal handover. Project to be run by CDC.</p>	RO



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	<p>First planting 6th December – if anyone wants to help then get in touch. There are 350 whips to go in. This planting will coincide with press release about the project.</p> <p>It is a “Friends of” group that hold monthly/bi-monthly meetings at Chesterton Community Centre. It is currently putting together ideas of how it could run. Long-term is will have a hands on role. The group are also in the process of completing a Charitable trust application. The land occupies a huge area (circa 108 acres). There is an area near the P&R for allotments.</p> <p>Residents welcome to join the group and get involved – contact Ryan for further information.</p>	
8	<p>Green spaces update</p> <p>New tree planting on Kingsmere this season – early part of December Friars Walk/Whitelands. Countryside aim to get green spaces ready for adoption by council by the end of the planting season (March 2020).</p> <p>After a successful litter pick in the spring, a second litter pick is happening this Saturday (23rd November) 11:30-13:00. All are welcome to come and help out. There will be some hi-vis vests and litter pickers available, but if you have your own then please bring along. Afterwards, why not warm up at the Community Christmas Fair.</p>	AH
9	<p>Community Centre Update</p> <p>The Directors send their apologies. As Ashley mentioned, this Saturday is the Community Centre Christmas Fair (13:30-16:00) and the KCC team would love to see as many residents there as possible. There will be stalls, refreshments and festive activities.</p> <p>The KCC team are always looking for volunteers. They’d particularly like an odd-job/handy man/woman, gardener, and people to help in the café. But if you have a skill you’d like to contribute, or you’d just like to get involved in whatever capacity then please contact the KCC team.</p>	TL
10	<p>Front Runner Newsletter Update</p> <p>There have now been two editions of the newsletter published. It is being put together by a small group of residents. We always welcome new ideas, contributions or team members, so if you have an idea or would like to get involved then get in touch. We also welcome feedback as we are learning and evolving with each edition. The next edition is planned for late February and we are already starting to think about it. Let us know of any stories, items or events that you’d like included.</p> <p>TL also thanked the numerous residents, many of whom were present in the room, that help to deliver the newsletters to all houses in Kingsmere, as they are a very important part of the Front Runner team and it would not be possible without them.</p>	TL



11	<p>Community Safety Update</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Incidents of fly tipping in the public bins have been reported to CDC Environmental Enforcement and 1 offender is currently being investigated with a view to prosecution for persistent fly tipping of household waste and furniture in bins2. ASB occurrences are being dealt with in partnership response with Community Safety at CDC and TVP neighbourhood. PLEASE continue to report any anti-social behaviour or criminality3. Details of the Community Safety team on social media : Facebook-(Search for) Cherwell district council Community Safety Team.....Twitter-@CherwellTeam <p>Police Update</p> <p>TVP continue to monitor both speeding and parking issues where possible including around the school. They will ensure if issues are raised that we increase patrols if there is a need.</p> <p>The crime on the estate is low as is the rest of Bicester, they are unable to break down data to specific housing estates and therefore cannot provide exact figures for Kingsmere. They do not have particular concerns that this area is a target.</p> <p>TVP patrol the area regularly. The dedicated PCSO for the estate is PCSO Val Guest and she can be contacted on either 101 or their email address which is BicestertownNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk.</p> <p>Crime in action – 999 After the incident - 101/online</p>	TL (on behalf of TD and TVP)
12	<p>Cherwell District Council (CDC) Update</p> <p>LW is not currently aware of any major issues affecting Kingsmere residents, but if anyone does have something that they'd like to raise with CDC or would like help with then please contact Lucinda (Lucinda.wing@cherwell-dc.gov.uk).</p> <p>LW is now chair of the CDC Overview and Scrutiny Committee, which can look at many different areas of the council to review and monitor the effectiveness of different aspects of the Council.</p> <p>Members of the public can submit questions or suggest topics for the Committee to review.</p> <p>Current areas of interest include: Efficacy of Bicester town centre; Climate emergency declared by CDC – looking at what they (as a council) can do;</p>	LW



	<p>Electric charging points (only private ones at the moment in Bicester – is it feasible to install council ones, concern about changing technologies);</p> <p>Healthcare provision – Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group (OCCG) looking to centralising GP provision into hubs. [BT: OCCG looking at sites Kingsmere and Graven Hill – Alchester Medical have expressed preference for Graven Hill. RE was asked what would happen to land Countryside have set aside for healthcare if Graven Hill is confirmed as chosen site – not sure yet. Could be more housing or could be considered a better site for assisted care facility that is in outline plans for phase 2.]</p> <p><i>Questions for LW/CDC from residents:</i> <i>BM – asked if pedestrian crossing on A41 (to get to/from Tesco) was working again? – Works are almost completed and junction should be fully opened any day now.</i> <i>RO - Is there any update on the Oxford-Cambridge expressway: it's all gone quiet due to the election. Still don't have a route.</i></p> <p>TL thanked LW for attending the meeting (and being the only councillor to do so on this occasion) and for her support regarding access to the secondary school/installation of a fence between private properties and the footpath/cycleway that runs alongside the secondary school.</p>	
13	<p>Countryside Update</p> <p>Phase 1: All parcels sold apart from land earmarked for healthcare provision. ~1400 homes completed. Bellway – almost finished on phase 1 (although will continue to build into phase 2 parcel.) Persimmons – built all of their houses and are just finishing off final ones. Bovis - ~40/240 completed, remaining build time likely to be ~2 years. Linden – almost finished original parcel (Whitelands, opposite Co-op); other new parcels ongoing.</p> <p>All roads will eventually be adopted by OCC. First section to be adopted will be MSR to Friars Walk – should have done this year but problems with contractures so put back to March 2020. Second area (from Vendee drive end) once secondary school build finishes. Middle section will be last as all houses fronting it will need to be completed.</p>	RE



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<p><i>Issues raised by residents:</i> <i>Lights on Stratford Way not working and road (at junction with Whitelands) needs to be completed. KRA had also been asked by a resident on Facebook to ask about when the roads around Sandown/Southwell will be completed as there are still street lights to be sorted and there are holes outside houses and no street signs whatsoever. ACTION: Richard to follow up with Linden.</i></p> <p><i>Parking problems – inconsiderate parking shared space. On paths. Permission for garage conversion been granted. Speeding is also an issue. Problem of enforcement as roads aren't adopted but dangerous driving should be reported to the police – report number plates of offending vehicles.</i></p> <p><i>CB has raised a number of issues with Bovis, particularly in relation to the footpath that runs from MSR to Whitelands between original Bovis and Persimmon developments– not all the all the street lights work (5 were installed by Bovis but only 3 in plans – not clear what will happen to additional 2 lights) and vehicles repeatedly using footpath to drive on and also used by residents to park on. LW asked CB to contact her with full details of these issues so that she can chase. KRA are also keen to get a solution to problem of vehicles driving on footpaths both here and on Friars Walk. ACTION: LW to follow-up on issues raised by CB</i></p> <p><i>RO – asked RE and LW to feedback to Countryside and CDC Planning department about these concerns so that taken into future developments. ACTION: RE and LW to formally feedback concerns regarding planning of roads, footpaths, parking etc. and take into consideration when planning future developments.</i></p> <p><i>Play areas/public spaces: (Larger play areas installed by Countryside, smaller ones by house builders.) Close to getting them adopted – play areas need ROPSA, get all planting done this season (by March). Will be adopted by CDC then handed to BTC to maintain. If witness vandalism to trees report to police. [Question regarding dead tress within play area in Ripon close. ACTION: LW to check if Ripon Close play area has been adopted by CDC yet.]</i></p> <p><i>Community Centre: Gada management company responsible for shops, car park, landscaping, bins.</i></p>	
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<p>Car park was repaired in October but already failing again and will need further remedial work in 2020.</p> <p>Remaining shop units: Estate agent – waiting for Brexit Dominoes – fitting out ongoing</p> <p>Primary School: Countryside will be meeting with school and David Wilson homes about Cartmel parking situation. MK confirmed that school has planning rights for pedestrian access. School run a drop-off at front of school each day that is manned by school staff. The school now has nearly 400 children (200+ families) and estimates ~70 cars used each morning/afternoon, many by parents on their way to work.</p> <p><i>MH asked about a greenway/walk way that went from corner Whitelands/Haydock (between David Wilson/Bellway) towards the copse/primary school and could have been used as alternative walkway to Cartmel. However, it has now been blocked off by planting – was this meant to be an access route? ACTION: RE to check master plan to see if there was supposed to be any sort of public right of way here.</i></p> <p><i>MH also asked about a path area on Sedgefield where there is no covering – is it meant to be like that or does it need to be completed? ACTION: MH to contact RE with details/photo of exactly where this is so he can find out.</i></p> <p>Secondary School – due to open September 2020 and build appears to be on course.</p> <p>Retail Park – Next; M&S; Nike; Boots; 7 small units under gym. Road works almost complete.</p> <p>Healthcare village – 60 house and GP. If no GP, will probably be more houses.</p> <p>Bus service – S26 funded by Countryside. Looking to improve. Possibly going via Tesco/garden centre/reverse route. Need to make it viable and sustainable once Countryside complete and withdraw subsidy.</p> <p>Phase 2: Main roads through almost complete. Cala first occupation in December. Ashberry homes first occupation February 2020.</p>	
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	<p>Barratts and David Wilson homes purchased last parcels of phase 2. Assisted care space - currently being marketed. (Possible option to relocate to healthcare village space in phase 1 if that is not going to be used for healthcare and is thought to be a more suitable site,) Central square and large kick-around space near Whitelands Farm.</p> <p><i>Questions from residents:</i> <i>RO – Are there any speed limit signs on WW?</i> <i>There is “20” at MSR end and “30” Vendee Drive end. As not adopted there is currently no enforceable speed limit. Within Bicester town there is a blanket 30mph limit, although it is thought that OCC might be happy with 20mph within Kingsmere once adopted. KRA have previously asked about additional signage. Attendee suggested “20 is plenty” signs rather than official speed limit signs. ACTION: KRA and Countryside to raise with Mike Smith/OCC at next quarterly meeting.</i></p> <p><i>Resident raised concerns about safe crossing points across Whitelands Way, particularly around area with parking in the middle of the road. As discussed at the previous meeting, the KRA also feels that there is a need for formal crossing(s), possibly zebra crossings, particularly where major footpaths cross this road. ACTION: KRA to continue to press for formalised crossings and will raise again at quarterly meeting with Countryside.</i></p>	
14	<p>Schools Update St Edburg’s Primary School: MK had no specific update from primary school. Secondary school: There have been a couple of meetings for parents to hear more about the school. TL hasn’t had any update from the council/academy trust about the school opening. Prospective pupils for year 7 intake in September 2020 had to complete an expression of interest by 31st October 2019. MK understands that more than the minimum number of pupils needed have expressed an interest. BT gave a brief update on the status of the build. It remains on course to be completed on time.</p>	MK/TL
15	<p>AOB</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) RH asked if there are plans to add markings to the ends of side roads, as problems/accidents caused by drivers not stopping in the correct place. RE responded that Oxfordshire County Council don’t want white lines (although they did end up adding them at Pioneer Way/Haydock Road junction, near Premier Inn/traffic lights).	



	<p>2) MH if there is an electricity point out of the front of the Community Centre and if in future it would be possible to have a Community Christmas tree. Could have community carol singing around it. AH suggested planting a tree and will look into this. ACTION: AH to look into feasibility of a permanent community Christmas tree.</p> <p>3) Mud/puddles/state of road near Co-Op (submitted by resident via email). "With this very wet weather the mud is quite exceptional. This isn't helped by the huge hole on the site entrance the same side as the shop, which ponds with some wonderful yellow brown mud, which is then dragged into the shop and splashed over the road and any passers-by. Could the developer please fill in that hole, and ensure that they clean the public parts of the pavement and road with a pressure sprayer. This might also help the poor ladies at the shop who seem to be cleaning multiple times a day." RE responded that the road is part of Bovis' land. He will ask if they can put some sacrificial tarmac to fill the hole and stop the water pooling there. Countryside already have plans for some minor works to improve entrance around that junction in the next few weeks. ACTION: Richard to ask Bovis to level entrance to their site (road adjacent to shops) with sacrificial tarmac.</p> <p>4) When are the areas of footpath from MSR to Fontwell marked with crosses a year ago going to be fixed – question from resident prior to meeting. (Answered during Countryside update earlier in the meeting.)</p> <p>5) Roads around Sandown/Southwell – when will they be completed as there are currently holes outside houses, street lights not working and no street signs. (Answered during Countryside update earlier in the meeting.)</p> <p>6) MH wanted to let other residents know that if you live on block paved area that doesn't have a drain you don't have to pay surface water charge as part of your water rates. Contact your provider if this applies to your property.</p>	
16	Date of Next meeting: Likely to be February 2020	

20:53 BT closed the meeting and thanked all who attended.

Appendix 1: Co-Chair's Report from VH

My co-chair, Bryan, and I, welcome you to the 6th Kingsmere Residents association AGM. We would like first to thank our fellow committee members who volunteer their time to ensure the KRA exists.



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We would also like to thank, John and Mandy for their incredible hard work in developing a real sense of community through the churches group and their support of various Kingsmere issues.

Our thanks also to Richard and Steve at Countryside for their continuous support, and for addressing resident's issues and concerns. We would also like to thank our MP, Victoria and all our local and town councillors for their support on various issues across Kingsmere.

We would also like to thank Ashley for organising our first litter pick in March, it was a very successful morning and we collecting an enormous amount of rubbish. Our next litter pick is this Saturday (23rd November 2019) starting at 11.30 from the Community Centre.

It has been another interesting, busy and fun year. We have continued to make some great new friends and neighbours and have moved forward with and kept a watching brief on a few key issues.

We are continuing to consult with Kier who are constructing the secondary school on residents' concerns to ensure that considerable construction is followed.

We are also continuing our discussion with Countryside, Highways and the emergency services about how to address the issue of speeding, parking and accessibility along and around Whitelands Way.

We have also tried to help as many residents as possible address some specific or localised issues that have included ensuring builders stick to the agreed working hours, the vandalism of trees and overflowing litter bins.

We are continuing to support the committee who produce Kingsmere front runner on their newsletter focussed on Kingsmere and things of interest to Kingsmere residents.

On a personal note I would just like to say that it has been an honour to be Co-chair for the past 6 years. I have seen Kingsmere grow from a few houses to over 1300. When we set up this group we never realised what we would achieve, from installing high speed broadband, the post-box, the Toucan crossing and helping to design the local community centre. I know that the KRA will continue to grow from strength to strength especially with Bryan at the reins.

It just remains to thank you all for your interest, input and support and for me to personally thank my co-chair Bryan, Teresa, Joe, James, John, Ashley and Fellow Patron Graham.