

## Minutes of the Meeting of Full Council Held in the Community Office at 8pm on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2010

**Present:**

**Councillors:**

Angie Paterson – Vice-Chairman  
Barry Adby  
David Tindale  
Tony Williamson  
Ted Backhouse  
Rhian Woods  
Roger Beattie

**Officer:**

Kristina Tynan

**Press:**

Jennifer Maxfield – Henley Standard

**Members of the Public:**

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**Angie Paterson chaired the meeting.**

124/10 Apologies for absence

Ian Hill, Charles Rowton-Lee, Neil Boddington, Rodney Mann, Roger Belson.

125/10 Chairman's Remarks

Angie Paterson said that it was good news it was to hear that Watlington received the Silver Gilt Award (winner of the Category) from the RHS Britain in Bloom Competition. There is an event on the 22<sup>nd</sup> October in the Town Hall by the Britain in Bloom Committee. It was agreed to write to Terry Jackson again thanking her for all her work on this.

126/10 To receive Declarations of Interest

*To receive any declarations on interest from Councillors relating to items to be considered at the meeting, in accordance with the provisions of the Councils Local Code of Conduct.*

David Tindale declared a prejudicial interest in the Grant Allocation item on the Watlington Concert Band as two members are clients of his. He signed the 'Declaration of Interest' book and left the room for this item.

127/10 Minutes of the Full Council Meeting on the 14<sup>th</sup> September 2010 to be signed as a correct record

**Resolved:** That these minutes are a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman.

128/10 Matters arising from the Minutes

**Wycombe Park and Ride** – Angie Paterson reported that there is no mention of a park and ride for Junction 6 in the Buckinghamshire LTP3

129/10 Public Questions

There were no public questions notified.

130/10 District Councillors Report – Angie Paterson

**Waste Collection** – Tony Williamson reported that The Goggs is now on the same collection regime as the rest of Watlington.

**SODC Leisure Consultation** – This consultation runs until the end of November and with housing going to grow over 20 years this is an opportunity for residents to say what leisure/recreational facilities they would like for the future.

**Core Strategy** – This is progressing with changes being made since the General Election , currently out for consultation. However there is not anything at the moment which would affect Watlington. The Parish Council is encouraged to respond.

**Budget** – SODC is awaiting a report from the County Council on further information on implications of the Comprehensive Spending Review.

**Hunters Moon** – An application has been received to retain the old property.

**Oak Tree Farm** – There is a retrospective planning application in at the moment for the retention of building to use as lambing shed and retention of gravel driveway.

**15 Chiltern Gardens** – This application has been withdrawn.

**The Barn House, Watcombe Road** – The plans for this application have been changed.

131/10 County Councillors Report

There was no County Councillor report however it was agreed to discuss the following issue under this agenda item.

**Sanctuary Care Home** – Tony Williamson

The old hospital closed in 1999 and the care home opened in 2004. There was a contract with OCC Central Services for 10 out of 60 beds to be for intermediate care (12/13 are being used at the moment). Sanctuary Care have just been notified that this contract will end in December 2010. This means that there will be no facility for intermediate care in Watlington, it will become just a nursing home. This situation is of very great concern. Sir Christopher Payne (Trustee of the Watlington Hospital Trust) has written a piece on this for the Watlington Times. There is to be a Trustee meeting with Sanctuary Care soon to see what could be done. If this facility is lost it would be very sad for the Watlington community as with this asset residents can be cared for in the Town for up to 6 weeks following a hospital stay. It was noted that OCC have already closed a similar arrangement in Witney. The Parish Council are very concerned about this issue on behalf of our local community.

**Resolved:** That we ask Roger Belson to find out more about the funding arrangement between the PCT and the County Council.

132/10 To receive the Balance of Accounts and approve the list of Payments

Tony Williamson read out the Balance of Accounts and proposed that the List of Payments be settled.

**Resolved:** That the Balance of Account be agreed and signed and the List of Payments be signed by the Chairman and that all payments be settled.

It was noted that the ADT Invoice £257.33 for the callout to the break-in of the Sports Club storage container has been invoiced to the Sports Club. The payments to Beechwood Estates were noted. It was noted that we had hoped the amount for the rent of the Sports Field would be less but this had been impossible to negotiate. Thanks were given to Nick Greaves for all his hard work on negotiating the rental payment.

133/10 Committees:

**A: FINANCE - 21/9/2010 – Tony Williamson**

**Resolved:** That these minutes be accepted by Council

**Resolved:** That the attached Financial Regulations for 2010/2011 be accepted.

Roger Beattie reported that he had attended an OALC meeting last night in which they discussed Parish Councils hopefully being able to use the BACS system for payment instead of having to use cheques.

**B: PLANNING – 5/10/2010- David Tindale**

**Resolved:** That these minutes be accepted by Council

**Delegated Applications Determined by SODC**

This document stated that Watlington Parish Council had a rate of difference on decisions of applications with SODC of 23.5%. David Tindale looked into this issue and noted that some applications were listed twice or thrice on the paper. When applications are only put on once it changed our rate to 9.5%. The national average is 10%. David Tindale has now emailed SODC on this issue.

**C: STRATEGY – 28/9/2010 – David Tindale**

**Resolved:** That these minutes be accepted by Council

**Committee Membership on the Pavilion and Sports Field Committee**

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL: That a change is made to the membership of the Sports Field and Pavilion Committee Membership that gives the Parish Council majority membership.

**This Recommendation was withdrawn**

**Sports Field Accounts** – We have received these accounts and are just awaiting the ones pertaining to the Bar Accounts.

**Resolved:** That the Clerk to contact the Treasure of the Sports Club asking for these,

**Flood Risk Management Presentation – Mark Heelis (Environment Agency)**

David Tindale reported that it is fascinating that the management is based on a theoretical basis rather than a practical one and stated that he hoped we had given MH enough information on Watlington, which is in the process for review for 2010/2011. It was noted that a piece on this has gone into the Watlington Times and it is hoped that any residents who have any information or evidence on this issue that they let us know.

**Grants**

**Resolved:** That the following grants be allocated.

Girl Guiding	£400
Air Ambulance	£250
Watlington Pre-School	£200
Watlington Concert Band	£700
Total Allocation:	£1550.00

Total Amount in Budget: £1745.00  
Remaining Amount in Budget: £195

**Cuxham Field** – Thanks were given to Nick Greaves for all his work on this issue and that we can now move forward on renting this field out.

**D. OPERATIONS – 15/9/2010 – Barry Adby**

**Resolved:** That these minutes be accepted by Council

**Grass Cutting Tender** – This will be further discussed at the next meeting and then a recommendation will be given to the Strategy Committee.

**Recreation Ground – Youth Club Storage Issue**

The Youth Club have asked to relocate the Storage Container in the short term as there is a health and safety issue with the position of it at the present. Now it is dark at night the table tennis table and other items have to be carried over to the Pavilion and back in the dark which is obviously not ideal. Roger Beattie showed a drawing where they would like it re-sited. Council discussed this issue and it was

**Resolved:** That we install a light at the corner of the pavilion ASAP so that the way to the container is lit. That the container remains where it is for the present. This light should address the immediate health and safety concern.

**Toilet Facilities for the Recreation Ground** – Ted Backhouse and Barry Adby are looking into various options for this as a grant may be able to be applied for. A paper will be sent to the Strategy Committee for discussion at an appropriate time. It was noted that it would be great to have this facility in this very important well used area.

Thanks were given to Roger Beattie who has stepped down from the position of Chairman of this committee for all his hard work whilst he was Chairman.

**E. ALLOTMENTS – No Meeting**

**F. PAVILION – No Meeting**

**G: BRITAIN IN BLOOM** - Silver Gilt Award noted above.

134/10 Correspondence for Information - List Attached to Agenda

*Correspondence will only be discussed if urgent and if it cannot be passed to the relevant committee to discuss.*  
Correspondence was noted.

135/10 Representation on other bodies – To note reports that have been received  
Report from FOWL – Philip Pinney

*Notwithstanding wet weather all day, over 300 people visited the enlarged and updated Library when it reopened to the public on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> September. The crowds explored all the new facilities including the reading room, a computer room with four internet terminals and the large extension which houses, amongst other things, a self-service terminal for issuing and returning books and an area devoted to children's books including an internet terminal for the young. It was evident to all the visitors that the bright decor and greatly increased stock of books now mean that we have a Library fit to meet the demands of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Indeed, by the end of the first week, over 825 people had visited the Library, 51 registered as new borrowers and over 900 books were issued with over 80% of transactions using the self-service facility. We also saw large numbers of children using their splendid area - after school on the first day, about 70 children and their parents came to a lively book*

*reading session – it was a joy to see! Our thanks to Watlington PC for their support in the long battle to turn this dream into a reality.*

*The OCC in conjunction with FOWL have arranged for a Formal Opening Ceremony at 6.00PM on Thursday 14th October. Highlight will be the unveiling of a plaque by The Duchess of Kent. In recognition of space and number limitations, sadly this OCC event must be by invitation only. That said, we hope that all members of the Parish Council will come to see and use the Library soon and often. We are thrilled with the finished product!*

It was noted what a fantastic asset the new library is to Watlington.

136/10 Other Matters for Discussion at the discretion of Chair

*To note any other matters raised by Members of the Council*

**OPFA Social Event to mark the Retirement of Roger Davies – 30/11/2010**

It was noted that Roger Beattie will be attending this event.

**Resolved:** That we write a letter to Roger Davies wishing him all the best and thanking him for all his support and help he has given Watlington over the years.

**THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.07PM**

