

# Minutes of the Meeting of the Strategy Committee held in the Community Office at 8pm on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2010

**Present**

**Councillors:**

David Tindale  
Angie Paterson  
Tony Williamson  
Ted Backhouse  
Barry Adby  
Roger Beattie

**Officer:**

Kristina Tynan

**Members of the Public:**

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David Tindale presided over the meeting until the Election of Chairman.

40/10 Apologies for absence

Nick Greaves, Charles Rowton-Lee, Neil Boddington, Ian Hill, Rhian Woods.

41/10 Election of Chairman

Angie Paterson proposed David Tindale and this was seconded by Roger Beattie. There were no other nominations.

**Resolved:** That David Tindale be elected unanimously as Chairman.

42/10 Election of Vice-Chairman

**Resolved:** That this item be deferred until the June meeting.

43/10 Minutes of the Strategy Meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2010 received by Council 11/5/2010 to be signed as a correct record.

Toilets in the Recreation Ground(Minute 39/10 refers) – ‘to add ‘no’ so that it reads that ‘it is no longer possible to put a temporary toilet block..’

**Resolved:** That with the addition of ‘No’ in Minute 39/10 that these minutes are a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman.

44/10 Declaration of Interests

There were none.

45/10 Matters Arising

**Speeding in Christmas Common (Minute refers)**

It was agreed that a copy of our report on speeding be sent to OCC asking for their comments and asking to arrange a meeting with them to discuss.

46/10 Short Discussion Items

**33 High Street (Former Age Concern Building) – Possible use by local organisation  
Presentation by Jaine McCormack and Cate Hewetson-Smith**

David Tindale welcomed them both to the meeting.

Jaine McCormack and Cate Hewetson –Smith gave the following presentation:

Their initial business suggestion for 33 High Street is:

1. Child friendly drop in/shop for the benefit of Watlington families and residents.
2. Opening hours minimum 2-5pm, Mon-Fri (possibly Sat am)
3. Selling of second hand school items, toys and childrens clothes (probably utilizing the back room). Homemade cakes, teas, smoothies and healthy snacks. Decorative hand crafted items. Front room to be used for this.
4. Important that there is no competition or conflict with existing businesses.

There is a number of issues that still need to be resolved including the issue of there being no water supply, no downstairs toilet and the garden has been destroyed. They gave a list of costs that would need to be paid including, rent, business rates, heating, lighting etc. There are a number of other matters that would need consideration such as public liability, fire alarm system etc. There was discussion on various issues which Jaine and Cate found helpful. The full presentation paper is available in the office.

**Resolved:** That we give unanimous support to this idea and ask that we are kept updated.

**Gates to the Entrances to the Town - Report by Roger Beattie**

Roge Beattie reported that he has been in touch with the Community Pay Back Team who are prepared to undertake the works needed to the gates. Council would only have to pay for the materials.

**Resolved:** That we ask the Community Pay Back Team to undertake the works on these gates and that the Operation Committee are delegated with the responsibility for this action.

**Cars obstructing High Street – Request from OCC with any possible help.** Last week the key Commuter 101 bus was held up for 10 mins which may have resulted in people being late for work.

This issue was discussed and it was agreed that we ask the Police to keep an eye on the High Street parking situation, a suggestion was made that shopkeepers put notices up saying ' have you parked legally?'. It was noted that the Police have made notices which they put on illegally parked cars and they have been ticketing cars over the last few weeks. It was also suggested that the Council put their own notices on cars but this was deemed not to be a good idea as it may make residents aggressive to the Council – much better they are put on by the Police.

**Resolved:** That we ask the police to be extra vigilant in this area and also that we draft an article for the Henley Standard and Watlington Times using photos to show the extent of the problem.

**Local Transport Plan 3 – Consultation from Monday 10<sup>th</sup> May – Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> June.** Information was attached to Agenda.

**Resolved:** That a draft response by done by David Tindale and Tony Williamson and that this be an agenda item for the June Full Council meeting.

47/10 Main Topics for Discussion

**Grants Procedure for 2010**

**RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL:** That the attached procedure and form be agreed.

It was noted that the Council in allocating grants are looking for value for money, prudent self-management and good management of the organisation applying for a grant.

**Emergency Plan**

**Recommendation to Council:** That the attached Emergency Plan be agreed.

**Paddock – Discussion of having no dogs in this area.**

**Resolved:** That we put the following notice up in the Paddock area, which in principle promotes community tolerance and respect for other community groups.

**The Paddock**

The Paddock is a community space intended to be for the benefit of parishioners. It has been carefully designed to be an attractive area for members of the town to relax and coexist with each other.

We do not believe it is appropriate for the area to be used for cycling, by unleashed dogs or for the playing of ball games by older children for which the Recreation Ground is the appropriate location.

**Watlington Parish Council**

**Festival – Results from Watlington Speaks and Note from Tim Horton regarding this issue was attached to the agenda.**

Angie Paterson reported that she had a meeting with the Business Association today in which they were discussing the St George Festival and also the Christmas Festival and they are looking into improving these two events and they would like help with these festivals.

It was agreed that we look into organising a community event which could develop mutual support, in September and invite all organisations and schools etc to have a stall to show people and other organisations what there is locally and also what they are about. It was noted that it will take a good deal of organisation and could be used as a fundraising experience. It was agreed to have this item on the June Strategy Committee agenda. It was noted that Chinnor have done something along these lines and the Clerk to contact the Clerk of Chinnor and obtain some information. Regarding the old festival format it was noted that a lot of work had to be done by a very small group. I

**Watlington Speaks Update** – A meeting will be arranged with Caroline Lye and Julia Heyworth and a couple of Councillors after which it will be an agenda item on the Strategy Committee agenda to look at how the information can be fed into a Parish Plan.

48/10 Items for Future Meetings

Refer to Forward Plan – latest update given out at Full Council March Meeting.

Watlington Distinctiveness – June

Watlington Speaks - July

49/10 Correspondence – All Correspondence was attached to the Agenda

1. The Chilterns Conservation Board – Do we wish to nominate anything for an award.

Deadline June 30<sup>th</sup> - **Noted.**

2. OCC – Re 101 Bus – obstruction in High Street- **Discussed above.**

3. Greg Stacey – OCC re 33 High Street- **Noted.**
4. OCC Social & Community Service – Emergency Plans and information of issues of care in local neighbourhoods – **Noted.**
5. ORCC – Re Watlington Speaks – Environmental Actions – **The Clerk to respond.**

50/10 Any Other Business to note – Items to be notified to the Clerk in advance of the meeting.

**Fitness Equipment in the Recreation Ground** – This has now been installed apart from the surfacing. Go- Active who work in conjunction with SODC will be holding some classes on this equipment and also the trim-trail for adults and young people. Details will be through shortly.

**Kick Wall for 5 a side** – This has been removed after inspection by ROSPA. It is still under guarantee and Playdale are having discussions with Wicksteed, who supplied it, to sort out the problem.

**THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.40PM**