

Minutes of the Meeting of the Strategy Committee Held in the Community Office at 8pm on Tuesday 26th October 2010

Present:

Councillors:

David Tindale - Chairman
Ian Hill – Vice-Chairman
Angie Paterson
Tony Williamson
Barry Adby
Nick Greaves
Roger Beattie
Charles Rowton-Lee

Officer:

Kristina Tynan

1. Apologies for absence
Rhian Woods, David Shannon, Ted Backhouse, Di Tolan, Neil Boddington
2. Chairmans Remarks
David Tindale remarked that it is unfortunate that this is the main forum for discussion and that a few members are frequently absent.
3. Minutes of the Strategy Meeting held on 28th September 2010 accepted by Council 12/10/2010
Resolved: That these minute are a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman.
4. Declaration of Interests
There were none.
5. Matters Arising
Crossing at Cuxham Road (Minute refers)
A response from the last meeting was sent to the resident who asked for this item to be discussed stating that a crossing is not practical in this area and that residents have been asked to cut back their hedges as visibility is a major concern. David Tindale is meeting with Malcolm Bowler(OCC Traffic Engineer) in a few weeks to discuss Shirburn Street and will discuss Cuxham Road with him also at this time. After this discussion it is proposed that we have a meeting with any concerned residents of Cuxham Road, OCC representative and representatives from the Parish Council.
David Tindale then mentioned the posters that had been put up on the Cuxham Road which he personally deplores. The Police have been informed and have advised us that they may look into obtaining fingerprints from inside the laminates and investigating further.
6. Short Discussion Items
 1. **Complaints Procedure Review** – Current procedure was attached to Agenda
Resolved: That Ian Hill and the Clerk review and draft an amended procedure to the next meeting.

2. Watlington Distinctiveness

Tony Williamson reported that it may be possible to get a volunteer to do some work on improving the Watlington.org website. He has spoken to David Walton who thinks this website is now very dated. It would also be good to involve the Business Association with this. It would also be very useful if we could have a town diary on this site and a 'What's coming up' page.

Resolved: That Tony Williamson looks into the issue of the website. The Clerk to give costs to date for both our websites.

This issue to be an agenda item for the next meeting.

3. SODC – Leisure facilities strategy consultation – Consultation ends 5/11/2010.

Information can be found at www.southoxon.gov.uk/haveyoursay - attached to agenda
Angie Paterson explained that this is to with one of Planning Policy statements which gets developer contributions for new housing schemes. Watlington is in the middle of Thame, Henley and Wallingford so residents use facilities in all three towns, there is no specific link with one particular town.

Resolved: That the Clerk fills in the form

4. The Local Government Boundary Commission – Electoral Review of Oxfordshire – Deadline 22/11/2010 – attached to agenda

This issue was discussed and it was noted that some areas have had greater increases in growth than others.

Resolved: That we make a submission of No Strong Views on this issue.

5. OCC – Review of Subsidised Bus Services – attached to agenda– Deadline Friday 24/12/2010

Ian Hill has looked into this and has drafted a letter which will be given to people using the buses. It was also agreed that Ian Hill drafts a piece on the proposed changes for the Watlington Times. It was noted that some residents are reliant on the buses to get to work and if they are reduced this could result in people not being able to keep their jobs. Ian Hill will be attending a meeting on this issue in Thame on 10/11/2010. It is very important that as many residents as possible let us have their views prior to Council sending in their views.

6. Possible Development and Infrastructure Works at Watlington on Land to the North

It was noted that Council has had an approach by the Agent of two pieces of land (one piece is in Pyrton). Both pieces of land are on the SODC Public Access Website. The fact that these pieces are on a list is nothing new, lots of landowners have put pieces of land on this list. There is a suggestion that a relief road would be part of a housing scheme on these pieces of land.

Resolved: That Angie Paterson drafts a response to the Agent stating that we would like to be kept informed on what they are doing with regards to this land.

7. Main Topics for Discussion

1. **Five Year Review of Current Arrangements with Sports Club** – Paper was attached to the agenda.

The Parish Council are totally responsible for the Pavilion. It is important that we see the bar accounts. It was agreed that any recommendation to be sent to the Pavilion and Sports Field Committee so that they can comment on it prior to the Full Council meeting.

It was noted that there is a lot of money being spent on this area, which is a great asset to the town.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL: That we move forward with the points below with the Parish Council taking the lead on A and B and the Sports Club taking the lead on C and D:

A) That a Financial Business Plan be drawn up to take into account:

1. Income for the use of pavilion and sports field for football and cricket
2. Income from lettings

3. Income from bar
4. Cost of maintenance and regular cleaning.
5. The financial value of the voluntary maintenance of the sports field
6. The cost of the sports field rent.

B) The a Use of the Whole Site Business Plan be drawn up to take into account:

1. Use of the pavilion for football and cricket
2. Use of the pavilion for other activities run by the Sports Club.
3. Possible use of the pavilion for the benefit of families and young people who use the Recreation Ground facilities, including Youth Club members.

C) That discussions take place with Oxon FA, Chalgrove Cavaliers, and Benson FC with a view to drawing up a Football Development Plan, on the basis that the clubs continue to be separate, with separate finances;

D) That the Sports Club be asked to draw up a Cricket development plan

E) That the “Pavilion and Sports Field Committee” be made up of four members of the Parish Council and four members of the Sports Club.

2. Insurance Review – attached to Agenda

David Tindale has gone through the document carefully. The only issue which was unclear was that of subsidence. It was agreed to check with our Insurance Company the subsidence issue and to report back to the next meeting.

3. SODC Oxfordshire Core-Strategy – review work – attached to agenda.

Resolved: That the Clerk respond to the questionnaire with the following response

Q1. What do you think about us working to the South East Plan numbers? **Fine**

Q2. What do you think about our approach to growth dividing the district into just two areas and making it proportional to the size of each market town and village? **Fine subject to a minimum size criteria.**

Q3. What do you feel about us including a windfall allowance when we work out how many homes we need to identify land for? **Fine**

Q4. What do you think about the scale and approach set out in our example density policy? **Fine**

4. Grass Cutting Tender for April 2011 – attached paper from the Operations Committee.

Please note: All figures are confidential at this stage.

The paper from the Operations Committee was discussed. It was noted that budgeted figure for this is £7500 and it was agreed that we need to try to keep within this amount.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL: That Berinsfield Community Business be awarded the Grass Cutting Contract for three years (April 2011- March 2014).

5. Cuxham Field –

1. Discussion of Field Usage- Uses applied for: Pony Field, Use for grandchildren, Orchard, Ploughing&Cultivation, Riding Lessons, Horticultural use

It was noted that all these uses would be acceptable for this field.

2. Cuxham Field – Individuals interest in field

To be held in Confidential Session according to: EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED: THAT under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public

be excluded from the meeting for items of business of the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of

exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 7,8 and 9 of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Act.

8. Correspondence – All Correspondence is attached to the Agenda
 1. Chilterns Conservation Board – Questionnaire to be filled in – **To send an email back that we do not have any common land in our area.**
 2. CPRE – Advertising on Roundabouts – **This will be discussed at our Planning Meeting.**
 3. NATS – Update on progress regarding airspace change proposals in Terminal Control North (TCN).- **Noted.**

9. Items for Future Meetings

Refer to Forward Plan
Items for November
Budget Review and Budget for 2011/2012
Bandstand Proposal – if information received
Watlington Speaks
Watlington Distinctiveness

10. Any Other Business to note – Items to be notified to the Clerk in advance of the meeting.
Ecoscape Surfacing for the Outdoor Fitness Equipment – This has now been completed by the Community Payback Team. Thanks were given to Barry Adby for the organisation of this. A letter has been sent to the Supervisor saying that we were very impressed with the quality of work of the men that were allocated to this project.

BT Broadband – To encourage everyone to vote on the BT site for this in Watlington

Intermediate Beds in the Sanctuary Care Home - Our County Councillor, Roger Belson will be attending the Health and Overview Scrutiny Committee on the 11/11/2010 when this issue will be discussed.

THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.56PM