

Minutes of the Meeting of Full Council Held in the Community Office at 8pm on Tuesday 14th July 2009

Present:

Councillors:

Angie Paterson – Chairman
Ian Hill – Vice-Chairman
Charles Rowton-Lee
Tony Williamson
Nick Greaves
Roger Beattie
Rhian Woods
David Tindale
Ted Backhouse (after co-option onto the Council)

Officer:

Kristina Tynan

District Councillor:

Rodney Mann/Angie Paterson

County Councillor:

Roger Belson

Members of the Public:

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94/09 Apologies for absence

David Shannon (on holiday), Ed Baker(on holiday), Keith Lane(in hospital),
Di Tolan(off due to long term illness), Barbara Crookes(on holiday)

95/09 Chairman's remarks

There were no chairman's remarks.

96/09 Co-option onto Watlington Council – Two applications had been received from
Tim Horton and Ted Backhouse.

A vote was taken by a ballot paper. Vote: Ted Backhouse: 7, Tim Horton: 1.

Resolved: That Ted Backhouse be co-opted onto Council

Angie Paterson thanked both for putting in their applications and stated that it is
nice that the Council are in the position of having a choice of applicants.

97/09 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.

There were none.

98/09 Minutes of the Full Council Meeting on 9th June 2009 to be signed as a correct record

It was noted that David Tindale was not present at this meeting and had sent apologies. It was noted that the Library Contracts are 'Kingerlee' and not 'Kingsleys'

Resolved: That with these 2 changes these minutes are a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman.

99/09 Matters arising from the Minutes

Town Hall Charity (Minute 89/09 refers)- Tony Williamson reported that the Town Hall Charity Body had now been set up at the meeting on the 30/6/2009. Trustees are: Tony Williamson, Ian Hill, Charles Rowton-Lee, Roger Beattie, Rhian Woods, Ted Backhouse. The Trustees are not required to report to Full Council but will give a report to the Annual Parish Meeting.

Watlington Sports Pavilion (Minute 89/09 F refers) – Regarding offering the pavilion facilities to other clubs the Pavilion Committee are following this up.

Opening of the Recreation Ground – (Minute 89/09 G refers) – Angie Paterson reported that this event went really well with a lot of people there. We received a lot of positive comments on the new play equipment and recreation ground. She thanked all those who had helped organise the event.

100/09 Public Questions

Alice Nicholson/Natalie Sutton

Many of the residents of Windmill Piece are concerned that there should be a crossing on Britwell Road, especially as there is no pavement on our side of the road. They will attend the meeting to represent the residents

Alice Nicholson stated that there is some funding available for a crossing and said that the current traffic humps do not seem to have made much difference to larger vehicles although smaller vehicles do seem to slow down. She presented Council with a petition which has been signed by all households at Windmill Piece, apart from 1 family who is on holiday, asking for some extra traffic calming measure at this location.

David Tindale reported that in the original planning application for Windmill Piece there was a pedestrian crossing. But this was removed at a later stage. It was noted that the County Council had insisted on having a crossing on the

hump outside the Primary School.

Resolved: That we formally write to Roger Belson as the County Councillor sending him a copy of the petition to look into a crossing and/or other safety measures that could be put in this location.

101/09 District Councillors Report – Rodney Mann

Waste – The number of telephone calls has dropped off as more issues have been resolved. The priority is to make sure that the delivery rounds are working. One problem has been that people change the names of their houses without letting SODC know which has been a problem with collecting their waste. Rodney Mann stated that the initial survey of houses could have been more comprehensive. Verdant have had an issue with staff with 4 members leaving. They took on some of the Grundons workers when they started the contract.

Food Composting – There is about 100 tonnes a week being composted. Composting is used to cover up landfill and on farmland.

Recycling – This is now up to 70%. It was 43% prior to the new collection regime. This is very good and SODC receive credits for this. Shortly SODC will be offering extra green bins to those who need more. The old green boxes can still be used at present.

Tony Williamson reported that the Watlington Environment Group had a visit to Grundons near Newbury which was very interesting. Green Waste was put in tubes which get heated to a very high temperature so that the waste gets composted.

Air Quality – Angie Paterson said that it would be useful to ask Simon Hill to come to a Parish Council meeting to discuss this issue as Watlington has already put a lot of actions into place.

102/09 County Councillors Report – Roger Belson

Windmill Piece – Roger Belson stated that as soon as he receives the formal letter from the Parish Council on the traffic calming issue he will get comments from OCC before the next Strategy Committee.

Library – They have moved into their temporary premises opposite the library. The project should hopefully be completed by April 2010. Age Concern need to vacate their building by 3/8/09. They will be out of their building the whole of the library contract. The ‘Drop In’ have managed to find temporary premises.

Ridgeway – Roger Belson said that it seems that people are abusing it less than they used to. There is an overall fall in number but there are less cycles and more cars. The number of cars have increased by a factor of 8.

Oakley Wood – Tony Williamson thanked Roger Belson for moving quickly

on this issue. He was concerned when he visited the updated site that all rubbish had to be lifted to above shoulder level. After Roger Belson's intervention now there are containers in place which do not need people to lift up the rubbish. He noted that it is now a very impressive facility.

Light Bulbs – Light bulbs need to be separated out into low energy and fluorescent bulbs and ordinary bulbs. Only the low energy and fluorescent bulbs are recycled.

Tony Williamson asked if they are going to recycle ordinary light bulbs in the future. Angie Paterson said she would look into this.

Traffic Orders – At the moment the orders are with the legal department at OCC. Roger Belson will check on the progress of this.

Verges on top of Watlington Hill- It was reported to Roger Belson that these are in urgent need of attention as it is difficult for walkers and cyclist to see what is coming which could be very dangerous. Roger Belson to ask for these to be cut urgently.

103/09 To receive the Balance of Accounts and approve the list of Payments

Resolved: That the Balances of Accounts and List of Payments be signed by the Chairman and that the list of payments be settled. The cheque for Ben Vaux to be paid once the Clerk has seen if she can reduce this payment.

104/09 Committees:

A: **FINANCE - 9/6/09** – Tony Williamson

This meeting was held with the only item on it to elect a Chairman. Tony Williamson was unanimously elected as Chairman to the Finance Committee.

B: **PLANNING – 9/6/09 and 7/7/09** – David Tindale

David Tindale reported that Robert Barber has been elected as Vice-Chairman of the Planning Committee with Nick Greaves presenting the minutes to Council if the Chairman is absent.

Oak Tree Farm Retrospective Application – This was refused by the Committee.

Angie Paterson reported that the consultation on this is still open. Pishill with Stonor Parish Council have also objected. The enforcement on this site is still being gone through and is now with the Legal Team at SODC with a notice to be served in 30 days.

Olde Wine Shop – Couching Street – This application was passed by the Committee as there are no facilities exclusive for business use on this site which is a fairly exceptional situation.

Resolved: That Ted Backhouse becomes a member of the Planning Committee

Resolved: That these minutes are accepted by Council.

C: STRATEGY – 22/6/2009- Ian Hill

Market Towns – Further information from SODC was not available yet. Angie Paterson has asked for this but the key officer has been off work. She will seek her input when she is back. It was noted that the Co-op have joined the Watlington Business Association.

Resolved: That these minutes are accepted by Council.

D. OPERATIONS – 25/3/09 – Roger Beattie

Co-option onto Operations Committee

Resolved: That Linda Nicholson and Barry Adby be co-opted onto the Operations Committee

Emergency Plan

It was noted that this would be circulated to the Police and Fire Service. This paper is only a first response. The Police and County Council would then be in control. It was noted that we need to add the schools to the location plan and some extra phone numbers. This Emergency Plan would be held in the Community Office in a sealed envelope. Roger Beattie and the Clerk to go through carefully and make the changes needed.

Resolved: That subject to the changes above we adopt the attached Emergency Plan.

Mansle Gardens

Resolved: That we purchase a piece of York Stone and that we mount the slate ‘Watlington Plaque’ onto it.

Mansle Gardens Artwork

Resolved: That we formally ask the Icknield Community College to produce a piece of artwork for Mansle Gardens and that the Parish Council pay for the cost of the materials.

National Play Day

This will take place on August 5th at the Recreation Ground, 10.30am-3pm. Our programme has been selected for one which will hopefully have some media coverage.

Resolved: That these minutes be accepted by Council

E: ALLOTMENTS

There was no report.

F: PAVILION

Sports Field

Dog dirt on pitches – As bye-laws are the responsibility of the District

Council, it was agreed to ask the Parish Council to seek bye-laws prohibiting dog fouling on the sports field. (It was noted that the sports field is in Pyrton Parish).

Resolved: That the Clerk look into this issue and also speak to our PCSO Diane Greenwood about this.

105/09 Correspondence -List Attached to Agenda

Letter No 196 – Sarah Glover – repair of stained glass in Town Hall – This will form part of the Insurance Claim.

Letter No 200 – ORCC Training Event on Rural Affordable Housing – Please let the Clerk know if you wish to attend.

106/09 Representation on other bodies – If any reports have been received

No reports have been received.

107/09 Other Matters for Discussion at the discretion of Chair

Long Term Sickness of Councillors – A resolution to be brought to the September meeting.

Mason's Wood – Angie Paterson has chased them up regarding this issue. They do not have a meeting until October. Angie Paterson will send another letter on this.

Resignation of Angela Briggs – Headteacher at Watlington Primary School
Resolved: That a letter be sent noting her bringing the Primary School to such a high standard.

THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.35PM

