



Watlington Parish Council

Parish Clerk: Kristina Tynan

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF WATLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE COMMUNITY OFFICE AT 8PM ON TUESDAY 13th MAY 2014

Present:

Councillors:

Ian Hill
David Tindale
Tony Williamson
Robert Barber
Bob West
Neil Boddington
Nick Hancock
Elizabeth Winton
Tim Horton
Robin Wilson
Roddy Orr
Rhian Woods
Keith Lovelace (after Co-option item)

Officer:

Kristina Tynan

District Councillor:

Anna Badcock

County Councillor:

Stephen Harrod

Henley Standard:

David White

Members of the Public:

3

The Meeting opened with Ian Hill presiding.

65/14 Apologies for Absence.

Nick Greaves.

66/14 Election of Chairman.

Tony Williamson proposed Ian Hill and Robert Barber seconded. There were no other nominations.

Resolved: That Ian Hill be unanimously elected as Chairman.

67/14 To receive the Chairman's declaration of acceptance of office.

Ian Hill signed the 'Declaration of Acceptance of Office' form.

68/14 Election of Vice-Chairman.

Ian Hill proposed David Tindale and this was seconded by Robert Barber. There were no other nominations.

Resolved: That David Tindale be unanimously elected as Vice-Chairman.

- 69/14 Co-option onto Council
Resolved: That Keith Lovelace be unanimously co-opted onto Council. KL signed the ‘Declaration of Acceptance Form’ and then joined the meeting.
- 70/14 Declarations of Interest
 There were no declarations of interest notified...
- 71/14 Public Questions
 There were no public questions notified.
- 72/14 To appoint Statutory or Standing Committees:
 The committees below were appointed:

Committee Structures as at May 2014

Finance	Mr Horton, Canon Williamson, Robin Wilson, Mr Hill, Mr Orr,
Planning	Ms Woods, Mr Tindale, Mr Greaves,, Mr Barber, Mr Boddington., Mr West, Mr Lovelace Co-opted: Mr Woodeson, Mrs Tolan
Strategy	All Councillors are members of this committee.
Operations	Mr West, Canon Williamson, Mr Horton. Mr Hill, Mr Boddington, Mr Barber, Mrs Winton, Mr Lovelace, Co-opted member Mrs Nicholson,
Allotment Representative	Tim Horton
Pavilion and Sport Field	WPC: Mr Boddington, Canon Williamson, Mr Orr, Mrs Winton Sports Club: Mr Owen, Mr Allen, Mr Woolfson, Mr Mitchell, Mr Hosking
Affordable Housing	Mr Tindale, Ms Woods, Canon Williamson, Mr Barber
Neighbourhood Plan Core Committee	Mr Hancock, Ms Woods, Mr Boddington Mrs Bindoff, Mr Hocking, Mr Mitchenhall
Neighbourhood Steering Group	Mr Hill, Canon Williamson, Mr Barber, Mr Wilson, Mr Tindale, Mr Horton

- 73/14 Representatives to other Bodies:
1. “Support Fund” and The Watlington Public Charity Trustees
Mrs Nicholson was elected to serve until May 2018 and Mr Barber to serve until May 2014.
 One representative needed to serve until May 2018. (The Support Fund and Public Charities have written to request that Robert Barber be re-appointed).
Resolved: That Robert Barber be appointed to serve until May 2018.
 2. Watlington Education Foundation – To note
Tony Williamson was elected in 2012 to serve until 2015.
 3. **Friends of Watlington Library**
Resolved: That Ian Hill be appointed as the representative.
 4. **Representative for Youth Club**
Resolved: That Elizabeth Winton be appointed as the representative.

74/14 Minutes of the Council Meeting held 8th April 2014 to be agreed and signed as a correct record
Housing Numbers (Minute 55/14 refers) page 26 para 1, line 6, It was agreed to take out ‘has been identified as a’ and put in ‘is’. Also on para 4, line 1 to take out ‘it would cost a developer £500,000 to contribute to a by-pass’ and replace this with ‘500 houses would be needed to meet the cost of a relief road’.

Resolved: That with the amendments above these minutes be agreed as a correct record of the meetings and that they be signed by the Chairman

75/14 Matters Arising.

Planning Issue - Angie Paterson had sent through the following response to the question raised last month which was essentially around what you get for how many houses, eg how many houses for a relief road.

‘I have raised this with the policy team and they have confirmed what I thought at the meeting – that it is really a negotiation with developers. There are average figures for some things but in the end it’s usually a negotiation as an application is negotiated. Peter Canavan is happy to discuss this further with either the Neighbourhood Planning team or the Parish Council.

With these discussions the starting point is usually what is in the Local Plan as the ideal for an application and then there may be some trade off if a community wants something in particular. This can be an area where a Neighbourhood Development Plan is helpful as it sets out what is agreed to be desired by the community in a formal planning document’.

The Goggs Flooding – There will be a report sent by the residents to the Parish Council in the next few days.

LTP – TH reported that there has been a reply from Tom Flanagan (OCC) which states ‘*We believe that communities should have the freedom to develop their own plans providing they conform to the relevant local plan and they follow the process of public engagement and examination which the district council helps to administer*’. They have given no concession to have a meeting with the Parish Council. TH said that he feels the response is totally inadequate and asked if we could re-iterate our invitation to have a meeting with him to discuss the LTP more broadly than just Watlington. IH said that there is a consultation on the LTP starting shortly and would this be the place to raise this issue again and involve the new County Councillor. DT stated that the original letter came from a Strategy meeting where it was agreed that we should have a meeting on this issue. It was agreed that we send another letter asking for a meeting on the LTP. **DT/TH to draft this.**

76/14 To receive the Balance of Accounts and approve the list of Payments

Tim Horton read out the Balances of Accounts and proposed that the list of payments be settled.

Resolved: That the Balances of Accounts and the list of payments be settled and signed by the Chairman.

77/14 Committee Reports.

A **Finance** – There has been no meeting. The next scheduled meeting is on the 20th May 2014.

B **Planning** – 6/5/2014 – Rhian Woods

Resolved: That these minutes are accepted.

RW stated that at the meeting 3 applications were considered:

P14/SO505 Land adjacent to Britwell Hill Farm Britwell Hill (in the parish of Britwell Salome) which the committee unanimously opposed.

P14/S0960/HH Kestrels, Howe Hill and an amendment to P14/S0434/FUL 78 Hill Road both of which were agreed unanimously.

OCC Traffic Impact Assessment for P13/S0561 and P13/S1992- A letter on this has been sent to

SODC and we are awaiting their response to this.

C **Strategy** – There has been no meeting. The next scheduled meeting was agreed to be on Thursday 29th May 2014

D **Operations**- 16/4/2014 and 7/5/2014 - Bob West
Resolved: That these minutes are accepted

Flooding – Simon Morrissey is the Deputy to OCC Head of Drainage and he is looking into the flooding issues.

Pothole in Hill Road Car Park – We have one quote and are still seeking more.

Upgrading of Public Conveniences – BW and TH are meeting tomorrow to discuss this issue.

Green Dog Walker Scheme – EL and KT are meeting with Melanie Penfold from Biffa on the 4th June to discuss funding of this.

Brook Street/Ingham Lane – DT said that he has noticed that the new tarmac on this section is deteriorating badly. KT to speak with Ian Fieldwick at OCC on this.

Love Lane road surface – TH said that he is very concerned about the condition of this road which looks like it needs a total treatment. He asked that Stephen Harrod, our County Councillor look into this and report back to us at the next meeting.

SODC Infrastructure Money – TH said that money is available for various schemes from this grant pot.

Nielsen's Global Awareness Day – They will be sending people to Watlington on the 12th June to help on various things in Watlington which will include the Paddock, Churchyard, Care Home and Mansle Gardens. Last year they sent over 40 people. Any suggestions of other areas are welcome and to contact KT with suggestions in the first instance.

E **Allotments**- AGM – 3/5/2013 – Tim Horton
The AGM has taken place and George Bruce was elected Chairman for the 25th year. TH praised the enormous amount of work he does on the allotment. He has expressed a wish to stand down as Chairman but would be willing to assist in the transition period. TH said that at the AGM he encouraged the committee to build up some reserves for the future. They are very proud of their independence and they actually make money which they pass onto the Parish Council. The Finance Committee will look into the issue of reserves at the next meeting.

F **Pavilion and Sports Field** – There has been no meeting

G **Affordable Housing** – There has been no meeting.

H **Neighbourhood Plan**- 12/5/2014 – The minutes will be circulated to Councillors shortly. IH reported that there was a meeting last night and the NPCC now have an idea where it is heading in the short term. The committee are setting up a vision and a range of options and will be consulting on these later in the year around September/October. The NP is progressing and last night's meeting was very encouraging.

78/14 County Councillors Report. – Stephen Harrod
SH had sent through a written monthly report which had been circulated to Councillors in advance of the meeting. Regarding the LTP he said he would support us in setting up a meeting with Tom

Flanagan on this issue and will look into this. He stated he will also look into the issue of Love Lane which was brought up earlier in the meeting. He also said that he was aware that H&H does not have a license to operate out of Lys Mill only one to operate out of the Industrial Estate. RW stated that WPC is aware of this and asked to have a meeting with him and some other Planning Members to discuss this issue.

TW asked about the School Nurse issue in his report and if he knew where the funding for a nurse came from. SH said he did not know but would find out.

79/14 District Councillors Report. – Anna Badcock
Council Tax – SODC reduced this by 2.5% this year.

Flooding – There is compensation available for victims of flooding and the information on how to claim is available on the SODC website.

Infrastructure Funding – There is £150,000 available this year and is available for Towns and larger villages to apply to until March 2015. It is for Capital infrastructure items. TH stated that this fund was greatly under utilised last year and that it is an opportunity for Council to look at significant matters.

Broadband – RB said that we had the initial maps from OCC a year ago and now have a second set of maps which he could not see any change in them and asked following the SODC press release yesterday on this issue is it known where the money will be spent. AB stated that OCC have said that coverage in South Oxfordshire would be between 80-90% by population, not spread. 10% left a big chunk of South Oxfordshire with no coverage therefore SODC have allocated an extra £1M and BDUK have matched this amount. There is now £2M available which is hoped will take coverage up to around 95%. SODC want to see 100% coverage and are exploring what kind of vehicle would be best to close the remaining gap and get total coverage. There are a number of options such as Vodaphone 4G which are being looked into.

Planning Appeals – RO asked if SODC are reluctant to object to applications, even though there are objections, because they do not wish to spend money on appeals. AB said that it is not just about planning resources SODC need to look at what is happening in other parts of the country. AB said she would speak to a Cabinet Member about this issue and will report back.

80/14 Town Hall Charity –To agree Members of the Charity Trustee Body for this year
Trustees as at April 2014: , Mr Horton, Ms Woods, Mr Hill, Mr Orr, Mr Wilson, Canon Williamson, Mr Greaves, Mr West, Mrs Winton, Mr Lovelace.

81/14 Correspondence For Information –List attached.
Correspondence will only be discussed if it is urgent and if it cannot be passed to the relevant committee to discuss.

Letter No 187– Howard Sharp- Land of Willow Close/Pyrton Lane – IH reported that the same letter was sent to the NPCC requesting a meeting and that he has replied that it is far too early in the NP process to discuss this issue. They have requested a meeting to discuss purchasing the strip of land at Willow Close which is in the ownership of the Parish Council. There can be no decision on this until the NP is further advanced. It was agreed that IH will draft a letter with KT stating this and send to Howard Sharp. It is thought that this should also be discussed at a Strategy meeting.

Letter No 180 – Peter Logan - Footpath 13 – It was agreed that the Operations Committee meeting discuss this and find out some information about it prior to the meeting such as ownership.

82/14 Reports for Other Organisations/Groups

1. **Report from WATNEXT** (May) –this was attached to the agenda. It was noted that they now have a revamped website and it extols the positive virtues of Watlington and they were commended on this.

2. **FOWL** – They had their AGM on Friday 9th May followed by a Public Meeting. All the proposals put forward by FOWL were agreed by the Public. There is a meeting scheduled for the 29th May for anyone who is interested in volunteering to work at the Library following the changes OCC will make to the paid staff hours. IH reported that Philip Pinney had offered to come to a meeting to explain the changes to the Council but it was agreed that this was not necessary at the moment.

TW said that the OCC money is sufficient to pay for a staff member to be there at all times when the Library is open. Volunteers will be needed to help the staff member and to ensure that two people are on duty whenever the Library is open. Without volunteers he cuts in staffing would mean that the Library would have to be open for fewer hours. This is a significant issue and FOWL have come to the best solution for managing the situation.

83/14 Any Other Business

Operation Committee Walkabout – This has been scheduled for Wed 28th May at 11am. Members to send suggestions of areas to visit to KT so a route can be drawn up.

THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.25PM