

Minutes of the Meeting of Full Council Held in the Community Office at 8pm on Tuesday 10th April 2012

Present:	
Councillors:	Ian Hill – Chairman David Tindale – Vice-Chairman Ted Backhouse Barry Adby Tim Horton Nick Greaves Robert Barber Tony Williamson
Officer:	Kristina Tynan
District Councillor:	Angie Paterson
Thames Valley Police:	PC Ian Kent
Press:	Janine Rasiah
Members of the Public:	1

48/12 Apologies for absence
Rhian Woods, Charles Rowton-Lee, Roger Beattie, Nick Hancock, Di Tolan

49/12 Chairman's Remarks
There were none.

50/12 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.
Tony Williamson declared a non-prejudicial interest in the Church Planning Application and the possible extension to the Pavilion.

Tim Horton declared a non- prejudicial interest in the Diamond Jubilee issues and also with regard to the letter from the Watlington Church Hall Concern Group regarding the possible Pavilion extension. He left the room for the Jubilee Mugs Issue and did not vote on this item.

51/12 Minutes of the Full Council Meeting on the 13th March 2012 to be signed as a correct record

Robert Barber stated that in Minute 42/12 , speed camera signs, this related to Christmas Common and not Howe Road as stated in the minutes.

Resolved: That with the above amendment the minutes were a correct record of this meeting and that they be signed by the Chairman.

52/12 Matters arising from the Minutes

Annual Parish Meeting (Minute 40/12 refers). Tim Horton asked that we ask if Mat Hunter, Headteacher of the Icknield Community College could attend this meeting. It was noted that Andrew Markham, Headteacher of the Watlington Primary School will be in attendance.

53/12 Public Questions

There were none.

54/12 District Councillors Report – Angie Paterson

Boundary Review – The recommendation is to have 36 Councillors. There are 48 at the moment. They will be looking at where the boundaries will be.

Deep Cleanse in South Oxfordshire- It will be important that parishes liaise with them regarding areas that need special attention. It was noted that the Operations Committee are seeking a meeting with the SODC Officer responsible for this.

Waste Contractors, Biffa – Biffa has their business up for sale however SODC have been assured that the contract with SODC will not change.

Clearance of the pavement on B4009 - Biffa has cleared this well. The Clerk reported that she had a few emails from residents who were delighted that this work had been done and they can now use the pavement to walk to Watlington.

Angie Paterson asked if there were any questions/comments.

Tim Horton said that Council has received a Final Notice (received 31/3/2012) for the election invoice (received 21/3/2012). He stated that he has never seen a final notice issued to a Parish Council. He stated that the letter(received 2/2/2012) stating that Returning Officer would not be taking his share of the parish cost towards the Returning Officer. He said that there were a number of other parish council's refusing to pay their election invoices and said that he was appalled at us receiving this final demand.

Angie Paterson asked that a copy of this notice to be sent to her and that she will look into it.

Ian Hill thanked Angie Paterson for her report.

Triathlon

Robert Barber said that he attended the recent meeting regarding the Triathlon. We have received a letter from John Howell on this issue. It is too late to change the route for this year. OCC stated that communications will be better this year. We need to clarify with OCC why this event has international status thereby having rights over road closures. He also stated that a different route for next year needs to be looked at. At this meeting it was also said that Watlington is being promoted as a cycling centre,

with its close proximity to the M40 and its narrow roads.

Angie Paterson stated there could also be implications of people training here prior to the main race in September.

Tony Williamson said there are local Government procedures and that we should ask the Organisers of this event to come to a meeting to discuss next year's event.

It was noted that County Council spent money last year on patching up roads that were on the route and probably doing the same this year, for a commercial event. The money could perhaps be spent on other roads. It would be proper to ask for a meeting specifically with SODC, OCC, Henley Town Council and the organisers to be arranged.

Barry Aaby reported that initially OCC turned down the request for a Triathlon but they were told that it had to happen. Last year there were 600 competitors and this year they are hoping for 2000.

Resolved: That Watlington Parish Council send a formal request for a meeting with OCC and the Organisers of this event. The County Councillor once elected to be asked to be involved with this.

55/12 County Councillors Report

There was no report.

56/12 Thames Valley Police Report - Ian Kent

Local Priority - Theft from Motor Vehicles/Parking - There have been a number of thefts from motor vehicles this month from six reported cars over the Easter period in areas in and around Watlington . All of the Neighbourhood Policing Teams on the Thame sector are working on a number of different operations which include car park locations , urban areas and rural beauty spots which has included an extensive leaflet drop in this area. These include checking vehicles for security and valuables on show especially as this recent spate includes offenders targeting unlocked and insecure cars.

Parking Issues- Junction 6 M40 continues to be monitored with regard to the issues around Hill road and the associated verges which have now been subject to some hard standing provision by OCC Highways . Parking issues in and around the centre of Watlington continue to be included on the local Patrol Plan .

Crime information :

Hare coursers / Poachers have been active this month in the area with an incident near Shirburn where a farmer was driven at by offenders and an unconnected incident some days later between Watlington and Britwell Salome with Police initially making 4 arrests and seizing 4 Lurcher type dogs after the Police were alerted by local Land owners within the Country Watch scheme . Local Neighbourhood Officers , Response Officers a Dog Unit and the police helicopter from Benson were all deployed to contain the area . One vehicle was located, abandoned near fields as offenders were pursued over open farm land. The four suspects were all arrested and later reported for hunting offences and Police enquiries are on going .

Rural crime remains a concern locally with a recent increase in reports of various thefts including farm machinery , vehicles and metals etc with a recent report locally of the theft of lead from Watlington Library roof. Other examples include a Land Rover stolen from the Christmas Common area while the operator was working nearby and items including a hedge cutter, lawn mower , garden strimmer and other

garden equipment stolen recently from a property in Cuxham .Officers from the local NH team are focusing on the local rural area, deploying extra resources when available and are currently operating Operations Maginot , Magpie , Mangrove and Precious to assist in the prevention and detection of these crimes.

Speeding Issues - Following my bid and repeated requests, TVP traffic management have confirmed that there are no current plans to include Christmas Common to the deployment area of the Mobile Speed enforcement vans following assessment by traffic management on currently held data and a site visit by RP officers. Local enforcement and education operations will be conducted by members of the local NH team in conjunction with Roads Policing Officers. Enquiries with Traffic Management re road signage as per last months question and the result is still awaited .

Ian Hill thanked PC Ian Kent for his report.

- 57/12 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. He stated that we have received the first half of the precept.
Resolved: That the Balance of Accounts be approved and the List of Payments be settled and that these both be signed by the Chairman.

Tim Horton, in respect of the last meeting, said that the SODC cheque for the election costs was agreed not to be paid. He stated that no detail was given regarding the impact on costs to the parish on the Referendum. The Chief Executive has decided not to make a claim for his personal allowance for the Parish Elections only. How were parishes that did not have an election handled? We have not been provided with the amount of compensation other parishes have been given.
Resolved: That we send a letter to SODC asking on what grounds the charges have been based on and how much the Chief Executive was paid for the European Election and the SODC Election. To ask also how much he was given back from the Printers. Once we have received a response this issue will then be discussed again.

- 58/12 Committees:
A: FINANCE - There was a meeting held prior to Full Council 10/4/201- Tony Williamson
Jubilee Mugs - Committee looked at the financial position for this exceptional circumstance of the Diamond Jubilee and do not see a financial reason to recommend against doing it. The Committee looked at the two quotes received and did not see there was any justification to order the more expensive mugs.

This issue was discussed and it was:

Resolved: To purchase mugs from Running IMP for children in the Primary School, Rainbow Nursery and Watlington Pre-School at a total cost of no more than £1000.

B: PLANNING – 3/4/2012 – Nick Greaves
Resolved: That these minutes are accepted by Council.

Nick Greaves reported on the following applications:
P11/E2510 St Leonards Church, this application was approved by the Committee.

P11/S0001 54 Love Lane application, this was objected to. In response to the previous application, WPC had stated "Five new dwellings and additional vehicle access resulting in extra traffic movements in this already dangerous vicinity, creating additional hazard adjacent to the intersection of the Primary and Secondary School main exits, an entrance and exit of the Nursery School and the entrance and exit to the Allotments." This application exacerbates this problem by increasing the number of parking spaces required and therefore the number of vehicular movements per day over the approved scheme. Therefore the same comments apply. Overdevelopment of the site over and above that of the approved scheme.

C: STRATEGY – 27/3/2012- David Tindale

The GoRide issue was discussed and it was agreed that the second sentence in the minute on this should be removed.

Resolved: That these minutes are accepted by Council with the change above.

Diamond Jubilee Projects

Resolved: That we do not charge the Jubilee Committee for the use of the paddock and community office.

Road Closures

Resolved: That we ask the Clerk to make arrangements for the road closures and detail timings.

Local Transport Plan

Resolved:: That we write to OCC and ask them to review the latest Transport Plan 2011-2013 with a view to reintroducing the technical assessment that was envisaged in the 2006 Local Transport Plan

Junction 6 – It was noted that works for safety reasons have been carried out which has led to a reduction in parking. A meeting is to be set up with Lewknor Parish Council and the Clerk to arrange this.

D. OPERATIONS – 21/3/2012 – Barry Adby

Works to Sport Field Trees – These will be done shortly.

OCC Tree Works in the Town – These will be done during this year. We have a list of all works on record.

E. ALLOTMENTS – They are having their Annual Meeting on 13/4/2012.

F. PAVILION AND SPORTS FIELD – 26/3/2012 – Tony Williamson

Resolved: That these minutes are accepted by Council.

The agreement between the Sports Club and Parish Council has still not been agreed by the Sports Club. Barry Adby said that this needs to be sorted out as it is now a year since it first was put on the table.

Resolved: That we send a note to the Sports Club stating that we require them to sort out this issue prior to the next Full Council meeting.

G. AFFORDABLE HOUSING – Next Meeting 3/5/2012

H. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN GROUP – Next Meeting 17/4/2012

- 59/12 Correspondence for Information - **List was attached to Agenda**
Correspondence was noted.
- 60/12 Representation on other bodies
There were no reports received.
- 61/12 Other Matters for Discussion at the discretion of Chair
Diamond Jubilee Committee – Tim Horton reported that there will be a 32 page magazine on this delivered to all residents . There are 14 official events on in Watlington over this weekend. The Photo Exhibition has been moved from the Town Hall to the Church to allow disabled access. There is still a lot of work to be done including putting forward a legacy project.

THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.50PM