

# Minutes of the Meeting of Full Council Held in the Community Office at 8pm on Tuesday 11th January 2011

**Present:**

**Councillors:**

Ian Hill – Chairman  
Charles Rowton-Lee  
Ted Backhouse  
Barry Adby  
David Tindale  
Roger Beattie  
Nick Greaves  
Rhian Woods

**Officer:**

Kristina Tynan

**Thames Valley Police:**

PC Ian Kent

**Press:**

Jennifer Maxfield – Henley Standard

**Members of the Public:**

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01/11 Apologies for absence

Angie Paterson, Tony Williamson, Di Tolan

02/11 Chairman's Remarks

Ian wished everyone present a Happy New Year.

03/11 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.

04/11 Minutes of the Full Council Meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup> December 2010 to be signed as a correct record

**Resolved:** That these minutes are a correct record of the meeting and that they be signed by the Chairman.

05/11 Matters arising from the Minutes

**Website** (Minute 162/10 refers) – Ian Hill reported that a meeting had taken place on this issue with Tony Williamson, Sarah Pullen, Kristina Tynan and himself. A good discussion was held and another meeting will be held at the end of January to look at the changes that will have been made to date. The Council and Watlington.org website will be merged. He also stated that the new Events page is looking good and we need to encourage people to let us know of any events that are taking place locally.

- 06/11 Public Questions  
There were no public questions notified.
- 07/11 District Councillors Report  
There was no District Councillors report.
- 08/11 County Councillors Report  
There was no County Councillors report.
- 09/11 Thames Valley Police Report – PC Ian Kent  
**Barclays Bank – Robbery** – PC Ian Kent reported on the Watlington Barclays Bank armed robbery on the 6/1/2011. A statement has gone out reinforcing where the Police are with this issue which is that a 45 year old man had been arrested in connection with the armed robber on Friday 7/1/2011 and has been released on police bail. This incident happened at around 2pm on Thursday 6/1/2011 when a man walked into Barclays Bank in the High Street carrying a weapon. He used this to threaten a female cashier in the bank and demanded she put money into a black record-style bag before leaving. The man then got into a white transit van, with a vertical black stripe on the bonnet and drove off. The van was later recovered burnt out in the car park of St Leonard’s Church Hall where it is believed the robber transferred to a motorcycle. Anyone who was in Watlington on the day of the robbery, or the days leading up to it who may have witnessed the incident or seen anyone acting suspiciously is urged to contact Thames Valley Police.  
The Police have also had extra police people in the area reassuring the community. A man has been arrested and is now on bail. Investigations into this are still on-going.

**Other Issues**–Other criminal activity around Watlington eg poaching etc has dropped off a little bit and the Police are still continuing to tackle this issue.

**M40/J6 Issues** – PC Ian Kent stated that he attended the Lewknor Parish Council meeting last night (10/1/11) and let them know about the meeting that will be arranged shortly on traffic issues in this area. Road markings could do with being improved etc and the joint partnership meeting will discuss this. The Police are doing a survey of bus users and Lewknor Parish residents. Need to see if some sort of solutions can be found.

**Questions to PC Ian Kent**

BA said that he thinks that the HGV Weight Limit Sign is too near the exit and that some lorries may not see it in time. Ian Kent said that he will speak with Trading Standards on this as there are stringent stipulations as to where signs can be placed etc.

BA also said that he followed a HGV right through Watlington and reported the registration to Trading Standards. However they have said that they cannot take the matter further as the company refused to name the driver of the vehicle. IK said that if BA gives him the details he will look into the matter.

- 10/11 To receive the Balance of Accounts and approve the list of Payments  
Ted Backhouse read out the Balance of Accounts and proposed that the List of Payments be settled.

**Resolved:** That the Balance of Accounts are agreed and signed by the Chairman and the List of Payment be signed by the Chairman and settled.

- 11/11 Committees:  
**A: FINANCE – No Meeting**  
The next meeting will be held on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> January at 8pm

**B: PLANNING** – 4/1/2011- Ian Hill

**Resolved:** That these minutes be accepted

It was noted that the Committee had no objection to any application.

**Planning Award** – The two resolutions below were accepted.

**Resolved:** That it would not be appropriate to include Councillors' properties.

**Resolved:** That the Planning Committee at its meeting on the 1<sup>st</sup> February to establish a shortlist and arrange site visits where appropriate to allow a recommendation to be made.

**C: STRATEGY – No Meeting**

The next Strategy Meeting will be on the 25<sup>th</sup> January at 8pm and prior to this meeting there will be a Full Council meeting at 7.30pm to agree the Budget and Precept.

**D. OPERATIONS – No Meeting**

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> January

**E. ALLOTMENTS** – Nothing to report

**F. PAVILION AND SPORTS FIELD – No Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on the 31<sup>st</sup> January.

12/11 Correspondence for Information - List Attached to Agenda

*Correspondence will only be discussed if urgent and if it cannot be passed to the relevant committee to discuss.*

One letter had been received tonight from Mrs Harvey (Letter No 707) asking that it be discussed tonight. Ian Hill read it out and it was discussed. The three points that it refers to are:

1. **The Paper Shop** – The Parish Council agree that this building is an eyesore in the middle of the High Street and have contacted the owner but he has refused to engage in any discussion. It was noted that this building is a listed building in a conservation area but is privately owned. It was also noted that the Business Association have spoken to the owner but with no success to date.
2. **Fly Posting** – It was noted that this can be a problem at times but our Caretaker pulls notices down when out of date, in the areas that he looks after. However some can get overlooked. It is expected that people who put them up should pull them down when their event is over. A piece on this issue to be put in the Watlington Times.
3. **Advertising on Roundabouts** – Businesses pay SODC for this, The Parish Council has no involvement with this.

**Resolved:** That the Clerk draft a response based on the above points and the Chairman to agree it prior to it being posted.

**Resolved:** That we put a piece in the February Watlington Times asking that people who put up posters to please take them down when the event is over.

13/11 Representation on other bodies – To note reports that have been received

No reports had been received.

14/11 Other Matters for Discussion at the discretion of Chair

*To note any other matters raised by Members of the Council*

**THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.40PM**

