



Minutes of the Meeting of Full Council in the Community Office Held at 8pm on Tuesday 8th July 2014

Present:

Councillors:

Ian Hill – Chairman
Nick Greaves
Nick Hancock
Rhian Woods
Tim Horton
Tony Williamson
Bob West
Roddy Orr
Robert Barber
Neil Boddington

Officer:

Kristina Tynan

County Councillor:

Steve Harrod

District Councillor:

Anna Badcock

Press:

David White – Henley Standard

Members of the Public:

3

105/14 Apologies for absence

David Tindale, Elizabeth Winton, Keith Lovelace, Robin Wilson.

106/14 Chairman's Remarks

Confidential Note Re Memorial Club – This was noted and there is no further discussion needed on this issue at the moment. A meeting will be taking place with Graham Smith, Trustee of Watlington Memorial Club and Robert Barber, Nick Greaves and Tony Williamson will be attending as the Parish Council representatives. They will report back to the next Full Council Meeting.

IH stated that August is usually a quiet month but this year it will not be. He asked that Councillors let the Clerk know when they will be away as there are consultations that need addressing and it will be useful to know which Councillors will be around during August.

107/14 To receive Declarations of Interest

Church Hall Site - Tim Horton declared an interest in this item as he is still part of the Church Hall Concern Group and left when the debate on this under 'Matters Arising' began. He signed the 'Declaration of Interest' book and left the room for the discussion.

Church Hall Site - Tony Williamson declared an interest in this item but would remain in the meeting to hear any discussion.

108/14 Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on the 10th June and 1st July to be signed as a correct record

The following amendments were agreed:

Page 38 (Minute 89/14 refers) -Public Questions – To note that these refer to the Air Quality Consultation and this to be added to the minutes.

Page 39(Minute 92/14 refers) Planning Appeals, 3rd line to remove the word ‘do’.

Resolved: That with the two amendments detailed above, these minutes be agreed as a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman.

109/14 Matters arising from the Minutes

The Goggs (Minute 92/14 refers) – TW reported that he sent a report to SODC, OCC and the Environment Agency on the 15th May and had still not had any response from anyone. However TH and he sent an email stating their disappointment that no response had been received and calling them to a meeting on the 4th September 2014. OCC and SODC have said that they will send a representative but the Environment Agency are not able to send anyone on this date.

Presentation on Church Rectory (Minute 91/14 refers) – RB said that he thought it would be a good idea to have a dialogue with the Diocese Surveyor and Rev Evans and that we might invite them to a meeting to see if we could put in any influence into the design of this site on behalf of the community. NG stated that he would be nervous of doing this. RW said that if we show general support for a design that would be against SODC policies this could be very tricky and said that we should be very cautious of doing this. RB said we would not have to approve any design but could raise issues such as possible covenants to the community as a whole on the green space. NB stated that we could ask a question about their long term plans for the land. RB said that there is huge concern from the community about this land. IH said that perhaps we could give a list of permitted topics that could be discussed on behalf of WPC. Further discussion took place on this issue and it was:

Vote: 5 in favour, 3 against, 1 abstention.

Resolved: That RB, IH and RO have a meeting with the Diocese Surveyor and Rev Evans

Community Governance Review (Minute 92/14 refers) – RB said that he has spoken to SODC and their papers will be published tomorrow. The Sports Field will have a recommendation that it is moved into the Watlington Parish from Pyrton Parish as we had suggested. The houses in Christmas Common which SODC suggested were moved into Watlington, and which we objected to, will remain in the Pyrton Parish. The one house in Russells Water which was in Watlington is recommended to move into the Pishill Parish as we suggested.

If we want to make any further representations we will need to speak at the SODC meeting on 17th July. Parish Councils will get 5 minutes each to speak.

After discussion it was:

Resolved: That WPC will not make any further representations at this meeting.

Strategy Action Boards (Minute 97/14 refers) Page 41 – IH stated that there seems to have been some misunderstanding about how these will work. The idea is not to set these up as committees but they are there to provide a list of people who could review an issue if necessary before a meeting and prepare a briefing paper for councillors to be circulated with the papers for the meeting. The aim is to avoid delays in actions because councillors are not fully briefed before meetings.

TW noted that there are a lot of procedures that need to be reviewed annually. These are usually delegated to the Strategy Committee. The procedures for review could be given to the Policy and Procedure Action Board a month before they are due for review. Action Board would then be able to propose any changes that are needed in a written paper for the appropriate Strategy meeting.

Groups are to meet only when they need to and they cannot take any decisions. They can only prepare a paper for a Committee or Full Council. It was noted that the Financial Regulations review will be discussed by the Finance Committee and the Emergency Plan by the Operations Committee. It was noted that the Clerk will give any relevant issues to the Action Board for discussion and that any Action Board meeting is not a public meeting.

Consultation on Icknield Community College Post 16+ Education (Minute 103/14 refers) – The meeting with the ICC has taken place with TH, IH, EW and BW present. It was not the most satisfactory of meetings as there was a lack of understanding on both sides of what is trying to be achieved. It was noted that they did not know anything about the Neighbourhood Plan for Watlington and it was agreed that we need to involve them especially as the NPCC are considering development sites which may affect the school.

IH has an action to set up a meeting with Senior Staff and the Governors at the ICC. NB to give the ICC a copy of our NP information.

Air Quality (Minute 102/14 refers) – TH stated that it is important that we meet with Henley and Wallingford Town Councils and to look to have a meeting with them in August if possible.

110/14 Public Questions

There were no public questions notified.

111/14 District Councillors Report – Anna Badcock

Air Quality Consultation – AB stated that this has now ended.

Local Plan 2031 Consultation – This consultation is still on-going.

Customer Excellence Award – AB reported that Environmental Health and Housing won this award recently which is their first award.

Didcot – There is money going to Didcot for a cycle route which will link up with Harwell which will be a real boost to this area. There will also be money spent on re-vamping the car park at Didcot station.

Broadband Planning Applications – There is not a process that relates to timings, just because a planning application has not yet come in does not mean that it will not. OCC is still the first port of call on this issue. AB said that she is still waiting to hear what areas will be included in the extra £2M funding. The 5% that will not be covered is mostly in South Oxfordshire and the team are looking into how this can be addressed, the desire is to have the 5% covered by Superfast Broadband. RB said that some relatively short runs that would cover a lot of people have been identified. He said that Vodafone have no plans to put 4G into this area. AB stated that the best option may be that the people within the 5% area not being covered, to group together to address this issue separately. RB said he has also got some information on costs.

112/14 County Councillors Report – Steve Harrod

SH had sent through his July report which was circulated to all Councillors.

The Goggs Flooding – SH stated that he has met with Keith Stenning on this issue and Gordon Hunt will be attending the meeting on the 4th September with residents.

LTP4 and Meeting with Tom Flanagan – SH will follow this up.

LTP4 Consultation – TH reported that we have an Action Board who will be recommending a draft response to the Strategy Meeting on 22nd July 2014. A response will be sent before the deadline of the 1st August 2014.

Junction 6 Infrastructure – SH said that OCC Officers have stated that this area is monitored regularly and should be kept up to a reasonable standard. RB said that the bus shelters are not in a great condition and a long term solution for the whole area should be looked at.

Lys Mill – SH said that there could be grounds for re-doing the traffic assessment survey as when SH had a meeting with OCC Officers they acknowledged that if they had considered the current

application in the light of permitted activities, as opposed to actual (illegal) activities, the Traffic Impact Assessment would have resulted in a different conclusion and recommendation to SODC. SODC Enforcement Officers will also meet with OCC Officers. IH thanked SH for his effort in intervening on this matter.

LTP4 – TH stated that the letter we received from OCC on our questions on this issue did not address our questions as in they only related to the Neighbourhood Plan. Watlington want to be in the Local Transport Plan at an early stage for suitable treatment unlike what happened in the 2004 LTP when Watlington was taken out without any consultation and he said that it is very important that we have a dialogue with OCC Officers. SH will endeavour to set up a meeting with OCC Officers and representatives from WPC.

Signage for Howe Hill – TH thanked SH for the payment of these through the Stewardship Fund and that it is much appreciated by WPC.

OCC FixmyStreet –TH thanked SH for taking up the 3 zebra crossing issues and ensuring that the work will be done to all 3 albeit through his Councillor funding and not the OCC Budget. However TH said that he reported these through the Fixmystreet website 4 weeks ago and still no response had been received even though it was stated that these were a safety issue as vehicles are ignoring the one at the Town Hall as the markings are so poor and that it is substandard in many ways. TH asked that the website be looked into as there is a reluctance to post issues on it as they seem to be ignored. KT will also contact Mark Francis regarding this issue.

113/14 Thames Valley Police Report
No report had been issued.

114/14 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

TH stated that the tree works to Mansle Gardens have now been completed and the maps for the Town Hall walls look stunning.

115/14 Committees:
A: FINANCE - There has been no meeting

B: PLANNING – 1/7/2014 –Rhian Woods
Resolved: That these minutes be accepted by Council

RW stated that a Planning Meeting was held prior to this meeting and the minutes will be available for the next meeting. All applications that were considered in both meetings were uncontentious.

C: STRATEGY – There has been no meeting

D. OPERATIONS – 18/6/2014 – Bob West
Resolved: That these minutes be accepted by Council

BW reported that Martin Gammie was present. A useful discussion took place and RB is seeking quotes for the works that need to be done. The Skateboard ½ pipe has a grant from the Doris Field Trust of £1000 towards the work needed and the Public Charities have been approached for some funding. This will be discussed again at the July meeting.
The missing posts at the Meadows have been found and put back in.

E. ALLOTMENTS –There has been no meeting

F. PAVILION AND SPORTS FIELD – 30/6/2014 – Neil Boddington

Resolved: That these minutes be accepted by Council

NB stated that it was a very busy meeting with a lot of issues discussed. The Football Support Day is taking place on the 19th August and they need the Business Plan and other documentation that needs to be put together. EW is doing an assessment regarding a cleaner/caretaker for the Pavilion. The Committee supported a proposal to have a Tuck Shop in the Pavilion for 4 weeks in the summer holidays and they have undertaken to keep clean all the communal areas during this period. This will start on the 21st July 2014.

PSFC Committee Structure

The Resolution agreed at the Full Council meeting held on 11th February was reviewed as it proposed a way of working that was only in place until this meeting on the 8/7/14. Following discussion it was

Resolved: That until the 31/12/2014 the following is agreed:

- a. PSFC membership would be 4 Parish Councillors, 2 representatives each from football and cricket and one representative each from the Darts and Aunt Sally Clubs. The Clerk would take minutes.
- b. Proposals for use and development on the recreation ground should be presented by either Club to the PSFC for discussion and ratification. Papers should be presented in advance to the committee. The Pavilion will operate in a similar way with responsibility for cleaning and maintenance the responsibility of the incumbent section. The section can either clean on a voluntary basis or use their own funds to have the pavilion cleaned professionally. It must be stressed that the main hall is hired out so must be kept in good order.

It was noted that this will be reviewed at the next PSFC meeting. TH stated that some substantial thinking needs to take place on the financial issues also.

G. AFFORDABLE HOUSING – There has been no meeting.

An email from OALC asking us to complete a questionnaire on Rural Affordable Housing has been received (Letter No 242)

Resolved: That David Tindale be delegated to complete this short questionnaire and send it to them.

H. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN CORE COMMITTEE- 9/6/2014 and 7/7/2014

Resolved: That these minutes be accepted by Council.

NH reported that the major activity taking place is the process of replanning the timetable and bringing forward the process by one year. This would mean the Referendum would take place in 2015. NH said that he will produce a report and this will be circulated to all Councillors. RB said that he is pleased to see a list of extra helpers and NH said that he has a number of volunteers. To date the NPCC has not had enough tasks to give them but now they will be able to be utilised. NH also said that they are looking into running some community outreach sessions for comments also. NH said that we are now getting to a point of understanding of what needs doing and will have some focus groups to discuss what input has been given. It is hoped that the second consultation will take place in October and information will be given on this in September. NG stated that we needed to accelerate the process as if it is not achieved in a small time frame it will never be achieved as events will overtake things. RW said the faster the NP is put in place the faster we can defend ourselves on sites.

116/14 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.

Letter No 246 – T Hebborn – Possibility of holding Funfair at the Recreation Ground. – This was discussed and it was agreed that there is no room for doing this in this location.

117/14 Reports from Organisations and Representation on other bodies – To note reports that have been received

Report from WATNEXT July 2014 – This was noted along with their response to the SODC Air Quality Consultation. IH said it is very useful to get this monthly report from WATNEXT.

Town Hall Trust Body – TH reported that the 3 maps, which are stunning, for the walls of the Town Hall will be put up by Friday so will be able to be viewed by everyone at the reception. Also the brickwork repairs needed to the outside of the Town Hall will be undertaken in August by Boshers. The 350th Town Hall Anniversary which is taking place on Friday will be attended by our special guest Lord Camoys who will be presented with a key to the Town Hall. TH also referred to the Paddock event and entertainment also on Friday from 6pm and encouraged everyone to attend this event. He also asked for volunteers in roles of stewards etc. Residents in the local area were informed of the event in good time.

118/14 Other Matters for Discussion at the discretion of Chair

THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.38PM