



## Minutes of the Meeting of Full Council Held in the Community Office at 8pm on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2014

**Present:**

**Councillors:**

Ian Hill – Chairman  
David Tindale  
Nick Greaves  
Rhian Woods.  
Tim Horton  
Tony Williamson  
Robert Barber  
Robin Wilson  
Nick Hancock  
Roddy Orr  
Keith Lovelace  
Elizabeth Winton

**Officer:**

Kristina Tynan

**Press:**

David White – Henley Standard

**Members of the Public:**

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135/14 To receive apologies for absence  
Neil Boddington, Bob West.

136/14 Chairman's Remarks

IH stated that two scheduled meetings for September, Strategy and Finance could not be held as they were not quorate. He asked that if a Councillor cannot make a meeting that they please send apologies as early as possible so that the meeting can then be cancelled if it is not going to be quorate. This would save wasting Councillors time turning up for a meeting which then cannot be held due to lack of numbers.

137/14 To receive Declarations of Interest

**Church Hall** – Tim Horton declared a prejudicial interest in this item as he is the Chairman of the Watlington Church Hall Concern Committee. He signed the 'Declaration of Interest' book and left the room for the presentation of the report under the Planning items by Rhian Woods.

**Church Hall** – Tony Williamson declared a non- prejudicial interest in this item although he is a member of the Clergy. He therefore remained in the room for the report on this issue. . He did not sign the 'Declaration of Interest' book.

138/14 Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on the 9<sup>th</sup> September 2014 to be signed as a correct record  
The following amendment was agreed, Minute 129/14, page 62, paragraph 2, line 2 to be changed to 'happen' instead of 'happened'.

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

139/14 Matters arising from the Minutes

**Skate Half pipe** (Minute 128/14 refers) – IH asked that the bill to HAGS SMP remain unpaid while TH is dealing with them regarding the works and some issues that have arisen since the work was done. TH said that the piece of equipment is safe to use and he is following up all issues on this matter.

140/14 Public Questions

There were no public questions notified.

141/14 District Councillors Report

Anna Badcock had sent her apologies for this meeting. There is no report.

142/14 County Councillors Report

Stephen Harrod has sent his apologies for this meeting. He had submitted a written report which had been circulated to all Councillors prior to this meeting.

143/14 Thames Valley Police Report

No report has been received.

144/14 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. TH reported that the Public Charities had given a grant of £1500 towards grass cutting in the Recreation Ground and also £500 towards the cutting on the hedge on the Sports Field.

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

145/14 Committees:

**A: FINANCE** - Tim Horton

Meeting was scheduled to take place on 20/9/2014 but did not take place as it was not quorate.

**Budget Update** – this was attached to the agenda

TH stated that the Finance Committee will need indications from spending committees; Operations, PSFC and perhaps Strategy to look at items for the next year's budget. Councillors need to look at this too and give any opinions on next year's budget or comments on reserves etc to TH via the Clerk.

TH said that if there is to be a change in things that we support the Strategy Committee will need to look into this. The Finance Committee should only look at the technical aspect of the budget. TW stated that the proportion of the Parish Precept going to the Pavilion is 10% which includes a rent of £5000 for the Sports Field. At the moment the PSFC are going through a difficult time and he had hoped to ask NB what progress is being made. The amount going towards the Pavilion has not changed in the last few years but if changes are going to be made then the Finance Committee will need to look at this issue for the next year's budget. TW also said that procedurally the Sports Accounts and Bar Accounts may need to be looked at by the Finance Committee.

**B: PLANNING** –7/10/2014 – Rhian Woods.

**Resolved:** That these minutes be accepted by Council.

RW reported that this meeting was one of the liveliest and well attended Planning Committee meetings due to the Church Hall planning application **P14/S2742/FUL**. The Committee listened very carefully to

the speakers for and against the application. After discussion the Committee voted on if they were opposed to the principle of development on this site, with 6 voting in favour of development in principle, 1 abstention. In a second vote, however they objected to the planned development with 1 in favour, 5 objecting and 1 abstention. The grounds for objection sent to SODC were:

#### OBJECTION

WPC is not opposed to the principle of development of this site but our reasons for objecting to this application are:

1. Adverse impact on trees as specified in the SODC's Tree Officers report.
2. Height of proposed houses.
3. Visual impermeability of the proposed development in obstructing views from public spaces including from the burial ground.
4. The design does not reflect local vernacular traditions found within the Watlington Conservation Area.

NH stated that he understands the Church want to get onto a sound financial footing and open up the Church to parties etc and as stated above Council is not unsympathetic to a scheme in this area but the Church should listen to the comments made both by Council and the Community on the earlier consultation. RW stated that Councillors have to be very careful with any involvement with the Church that could be seen as 'predetermined' or 'prejudicial' as Planning Committee members. IH stated that the comments made by the Planning Committee shows the Church the things that Council consider important such as trees etc. NH said that it is a shame that Council could not have more involvement at an early stage on design etc and it was agreed that the Clerk see if there is any guidance on this issue.

IH congratulated the Planning Committee on their discussion, handling and consideration of this application and said it was very commendable.

**P14/S2692/HH** 1 Pyrton Lane, Watlington - Replacement of hedge with a wooden fence 1.5 metres high. The Committee objected to this application on the grounds of loss of an attractive hedge in a Conservation Area. Fence would be an urbanising feature in an area of a rural character.

#### **Committee Membership**

**Resolved:** That Nick Hancock become a member of the Planning Committee.

**P14/S2118/FUL** 22-32 Chapel Street, Watlington - Retrospective application for erection of satellite dishes and TV aerials on block of flats – Rhian Woods stated that a Planning Meeting had taken place to this Full Council meeting on this application and the committee unanimously agreed this application.

#### **C: STRATEGY – David Tindale**

Meeting was scheduled to take place on 23/9/2014 but did not take place as it was not quorate. The following issues from the agenda for that meeting were transferred to the agenda for this meeting for discussion.

1. **Charlotte Coxe Governance** – Draft paper by TH was attached to the agenda.

TH was congratulated on this helpful and clear paper. Some comments were made such as for the two representatives one appointment should be for 2 years and one for 4 years so would have a rolling 2 year vote on the representatives. Some minor changes to wording were also suggested. The broad principles of this paper were agreed. After discussion it was:

**Resolved:** That Tim Horton, Robert Barber, Tony Williamson and Nick Greaves meet and discuss this and bring back a revised Governance Paper for approval to the November Full Council meeting. TH to lead this.

2. **Civil Parking Enforcement** – (response date 31/10/2014) – letter from SODC was attached to the agenda.

After discussion the Council were in support of Civil Parking Enforcement.

**Resolved:** That David Tindale prepare a response in support of this, to be agreed by the Traffic Action Board and the Clerk will then send the response to SODC.

**3. Raised Zebra Crossing at Town Hall** – note on the ‘Dorset Model’ by DT was attached to the agenda.

DT stated that after the letter from Mr Irons this model was looked at by the Strategy Committee. A section of road is looked at in a ‘holistic’ way without using signs etc. After discussion it was:

**Resolved:** That this issue should sit within the Neighbourhood Plan and therefore discussed by the NPCC Committee.

**4. Response to PCSO Michelle Jacques on Watlington Parking issues** – this issue will be further discussed at the next Strategy Committee meeting in November.

**5. OCC Bus Service Review** – (response date 15<sup>th</sup> November) – IH/TH. TH had emailed a note on this to Councillors. TH stated that GoRide have made some new proposals for a very flexible bus service but with some fixed timetabling. At other times it would be available to other people on a 1 hours’ notice. This service would cover Watlington, Wallingford, Benson, Chalgrove and Junction 6 on six days a week. It would be free to Bus Pass holders.

**Resolved:** That Council delegate Ian Hill and Tim Horton in supporting a flexible bus service.

**6. Car Park Order** – IH reported that the Order will be published in the Henley Standard in the next few weeks which is one of the last actions needed to put the Order in place.

**7. Buckinghamshire County Council Draft Countrywide Parking Guidance – Public Consultation.** – Deadline for response 31/10/2014

**Resolved:** That Watlington Parish Council note this consultation.

**D. OPERATIONS** – 17/9/2014 – Bob West.

**Resolved:** That these minutes be accepted by Council.

#### **Willow Hedge in Paddock**

RB said that in view of the many problems this hedge has given over the years after discussion the Committee felt that they had no alternative but to recommend that the willow hedge be removed. TH stated that when Sue Goss last came to the Paddock she also feared that it may be a difficult hedge to keep maintaining. RW said that when the hedge is high it has led to unsocial behaviour in this location. TW stated that he hoped that some alternative type of hedging could be looked at by the Operations Committee as well as types of fencing.

**Resolved:** That the willow hedge is removed and that we replace it with a type of fencing or a more suitable hedge.

**E. ALLOTMENTS** – There has been no meeting

**F. PAVILION AND SPORTS FIELD** – 8/9/2014 – Tony Williamson

**Resolved:** That these minutes be accepted by Council.

TW reported that there is still a clash on principles on being a single unified Sports Club by the various Sports Section. KT reported that NB is working on various issues pertaining to the Pavilion and Sports Field.

**G. AFFORDABLE HOUSING** – There has been no meeting.

**H. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN CORE COMMITTEE**- 8/9/2014 – Minutes attached and 6/10/2014 (minutes not yet available) – Nick Hancock.

NH stated that the Traffic Survey, Business Survey and Landowners Survey have been done. He also said that Gill Bindoff has resigned from the Committee and a procedure for a replacement member will be discussed the Neighbourhood Steering Group at a meeting on the 28<sup>th</sup> October.

- 146/14 Charlotte Coxe Trust Advisory Body- to appoint 2 Councillors onto this body.  
**Resolved:** That Ian Hill and Tim Horton be appointed as the representatives on this Advisory Body until May 2015.
- 147/14 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 362** – Reply from Beechwood Estates to our letter on Footpath 4 – Robert Barber congratulated Tim Horton on this reply following the letter he drafted to be sent to Beechwood Estates.
- 148/14 Reports from Organisations and Representation on other bodies – To note reports that have been received  
**WATNEXT Report – October-** This had been circulated to all Councillors and was noted.
- 149/14 Other Matters for Discussion at the discretion of Chair  
*To note any other matters raised by Members of the Council*  
**Outreach Meeting** – This will take place next Monday 20<sup>th</sup> October at the Fox and Hounds, Christmas Common at 8pm. It is hoped that as many Councillors can attend as is possible. IH has prepared an updated list of the Actions.

**THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 10.10PM**