

# Minutes of the Meeting of Full Council Held in the Community Office at 8pm on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2013

**Present:**

**Councillors:**

Ian Hill – Chairman  
David Tindale - Vice-Chairman  
Tim Horton  
Robert Barber  
Tony Williamson  
Barry Adby  
Nick Greaves  
Harvey Batten  
Bob West  
Roddy Orr  
Rhian Woods

**Officer:**

Kristina Tynan

**Press:**

Janine Rasiah

**Members of the Public:** 3

110/13 Apologies for absence  
Nick Hancock, Neil Boddington

111/13 Co-option onto Council  
**Resolved:** To defer this item to the Full Council Meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2013.

112/13 Chairman's Remarks  
There were none.

113/13 To receive Declarations of Interest  
There were no declarations of interest declared.

114/13 Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on the 9<sup>th</sup> July and 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2013 to be signed as a correct record  
**Resolved:** That these minutes were a correct record of these meeting and that they be signed by the Chairman.

115/13 Matters arising from the Minutes  
There were none other than agenda items.

116/13 Public Questions

There were no public questions.

117/13 District Councillors Report

Angie Paterson had sent her apologies for this meeting and there was no report given.

118/13 County Councillors Report

Caroline Newton had sent her apologies but had sent a written report. The Clerk will email this to all Councillors.

119/13 Thames Valley Police Report

There was no report received.

120/13 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 said that the War Memorial works shown on the list of payment was actually paid by a grant from the Doris Field Trust and he thanked Ted Backhouse for his work on this. It was agreed that in future Receipts will also be listed with the Accounts for Payment.

**Resolved:** That the Balance of Accounts be agreed and the list of payments be settled and signed by the Chairman.

121/13 Committees:

**A: FINANCE**

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

**Outside Decoration of Community Office** – TH advised that this work will be commencing in the next fortnight

**B: PLANNING** –23/7, 6/8, 13/8 and 3/9/2013 - Rhian Woods

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

It was noted that Bob West was present at the meeting held on the 3/9/2013.

There had been 4 Planning Committee meetings since last Full Council. The meeting on the 23/7/13 was only to discuss the Lys Mill application. The meeting on the 6<sup>th</sup> August had Lys Mill on the Agenda but the committee agreed to defer these application to the 13<sup>th</sup> August. The meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup> August was to discuss the Lys Mill applications and the vote on these was split with the Chairman having the casting vote and she then voted against the application.

TH said that we could ask the Traffic Commission to survey the Lys Mill site and asked if it was thought this would be appropriate and beneficial for Watlington for the Parish Council to ask for this to be done. RW said that the Watlington Residents Pressure Group are looking into traffic issues and they will lobby anyone that could help with the congestion and traffic problems.

**Resolved:** That the Strategy committee look into this issue. It was agreed that this be looked at at the same time that the Air Quality response to SODC is dealt with.

The Model Farm application will be discussed by SODC tomorrow night and RW will speak against this application.

IH stated that the Planning Committee could do with some more members and Councillors to consider this.

The National Consultation on Greater flexibilities for change of use which has a response date of 15/10/13 is a significant consultation for this parish and indeed for all parishes in South Oxfordshire.

This has considerable implications for all High Streets.

**Resolved:** That Tim Horton, Robert Barber, Nick Graves and Rhian Woods put together a response which will be delegated to the Strategy Committee being allowed to send a response on behalf of the Parish Council.

**C: STRATEGY – 23/7/2013 – David Tindale**

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

**Outreach Meeting** – This will be held on 30/9/2013 at the Fox and Hounds, Christmas Common at 8pm. RB said that it is principally for all the people in the parish who live outside the town. A skeleton agenda will be devised to start things off but will be run as a public forum. It was said that if councillors could attend this would be welcomed.

**Shirburn St/Love Lane Parking** – DT will prepare a paper for the next Strategy Committee meeting.

**Ingham Lane/Brook Street road repairs** – It was noted that no letter has been received in response to our letter. The Clerk to chase this up. Permission was given to IH and TH to bring this issue up if appropriate at their meeting with OCC.

**33 High Street** – We wrote to OCC on this issue and received a reply a few days ago but the contents have not yet been digested.

**Resolved:** That IH, NG and TH meet up to discuss this and it can then be discussed by the Strategy Committee.

**D. OPERATIONS – 17/6/2013**

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

**Drains** – BA said that we now need to contact a specialist drain company to try and sort out this issue. It was noted that the drains and hedges need to be kept clean and cut regularly.

**E. ALLOTMENTS** – Nothing to report.

**F. PAVILION AND SPORTS FIELD – 14/7/2013**

There was discussion on the Business Plan and it was hoped that the Sports Club would have completed this by the end of August.

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

DT said that we have been chasing ORCC for 1 year and we have just received the following response from them. 'Sovereign have contacted the owners of the three sites identified as having merit as a Rural Exception Site. They have only heard back from one landowner who has confirmed that they are not interested in selling their land at RES prices.

Usually we would go back to the other two owners and see if could get a response from them, but as Watlington is currently undertaking a Neighbourhood Plan (and any sites that are ultimately designated in the plan cannot be considered for Exception Site development), we suggest that the search for a Rural Exception Site is put on hold until the Neighbourhood Plan is completed'.

RW stated that this would be part of our neighbourhood plan if a suitable place for affordable housing was agreed.

**H. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN GROUP** – There has been no meeting

Ian Hill stated that there was an Exhibition on this by SODC held in the Town Hall on the 3<sup>rd</sup> August and that there was also a stand at the British Legion Fete on the 26<sup>th</sup> August. At the exhibition at the Town Hall 130 attended and many did give comments which are with SODC but will be sent to us. There have been 4 people who have volunteered to be part of the steering group.

It was noted that Peter Richardson (Howe Hill) has proposed having a CLP for Howe Hill as yet

undefined. It was noted also the Parish Council would need to give their approval for this.

Watlington Residents Group want to carry out a survey which is in direct conflict with our Neighbourhood Plan and at an inappropriate time. They have asked to use the Parish Office as their address. This was discussed and it was:

**Resolved:** That we do not allow the Watlington Residents Group to use the Parish Office address.

122/13. 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.*

123/13. Representation on other bodies – To note reports that have been received

IH has received a letter of resignation from Martin Edis who is a parish council representative on the Public Charities and Support Fun. Martin Edis has been on this body for 20 years. The Public Charities have to have 2 people appointed by the Church, 2 appointed by the Parish Council and 4 community representatives. We need to appoint someone before the 3<sup>rd</sup> December which is the date of their next meeting. RB said that it would be good to have some new blood.

Resolved: That we appoint a new trustee at the November Full Council Meeting and that we send a letter of thanks to Martin Edis.

124/13 Other Matters for Discussion at the discretion of Chair

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

**Watlington Hill SSSI** – RB said that we have received a letter from the Land Agent for Beechwood Estates, John Errington about their plans for their land in this area. Last year they cleared a substantial area and they are now planning on fencing around it. It was agreed that we sent a letter expressing our disappointment that what we assured previously would not happen now is now going to happen and if the fencing is to be done that a gate is installed. TH stated that the public have walked this path for more than 20 years and it therefore should be kept clear, this path must be regarded as a right of way. It was agreed to see if Natural England has to say in respect of this area. However it was noted that they will have been consulted on this.

**Triathlon** – This took place last Sunday and IH is still waiting for responses to the survey he put out last week to people directly on the route in the Watlington parish. There is a Wash Up meeting scheduled with John Howell and there will be a pre meeting with other parishes prior to this. RB asked that thanks be given to IH for all his work on this issue.

**THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.25PM**