



## There will be a Meeting of the Operations Committee On Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2018 at 8pm In the Community Office

**Present:**

**Councillors:**

Tom Bindoff (TB) – Vice-Chairman (8.05pm)  
Ian Hill (IH)  
Terry Jackson (TJ)  
Tony Williamson (TW)  
Fiona Butler (FB)

**Co-opted Member:**

Jenny Wilkinson (JW)

**Officer:**

Kristina Tynan (KT)

Ian Hill chaired the meeting until the arrival of Tom Bindoff who had been stuck in traffic.

01/18 Apologies for Absence

Bob West, Roger Beattie, Fergus Lapage

02/18 Minutes of the Meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2017 which were accepted by Council on the 12/12/2017 to be agreed as a correct record

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

03/18 Declarations of Interest

There were none notified.

04/18 Matters arising

1. **Christmas Tree Collections at the Church Hall Car Park** – TW reported that this had been successful but asked when SODC will be collecting them. KT said that she would check and let him know. It was noted that this was a good location, however this may be a building site by next Christmas but there may be another location suitable near to the Church. It was agreed that we ask the Rector in autumn 2018 about this. It was agreed that a letter of thanks to be given to the Rector and the Committee thanked TW for organising the taped off area.

05/18 Update on Outstanding /Completed Issues

1. **Unofficial path to Watcome Road in the corner of the Hill Road Car Park** – On-going  
TB said that BW will be away a lot until March but he will look and see what can be done. TW asked if this is something the Community Payback Team (CPT) could do. They are in Watlington every week on Mondays doing work in the churchyard but can be asked to do other jobs around the town. He also mentioned that the ditch in West Meadows needs clearing out and he has been in touch with the Support Fund to see if they would like the CPT to do this work.

2. **Cobbles by Public Conveniences clearing out** – This is currently being done. It now needs to be

pressure washed and the correct sand/cement mix put in. BW needs to advise. KT will speak to him.

3. **MUGA Proposal for Recreation Ground** – RB and Nicky Smallbone have been investigating this. They have asked for agreement to put something into the Watlington Times and on the Watlington Town Noticeboard Facebook page asking for comment on this.

**This was agreed**

4. **Signs for Black Horse Alley** – the sign is now up. TB stated that it looks very good.

5. **Paving Slabs by ½ pipe** – these works have been commissioned.

6. **Clearing of hedges and tidying up around the half pipe**- these works have been commissioned and are scheduled to be done on 29/1/2018.

7. **Sports Field Hedge Cutting (by net)** – this work has been done and looks excellent.

8. **Leylandi trees belonging to BT** – KT has filled in an on-line form and has a reference number.

9. **Hi-Viz Jackets for Volunteers** – These have been ordered. JW stated that as soon as they arrive they will start wearing them around the town, words on the back are ‘Watlington Parish Council Volunteer’ and hopefully this may encourage more people to offer to volunteer with tasks in the community. JW said that it also gives volunteers more status.

#### 06/18 Highway/Footpath/Tree Issues

##### 1. **Trees in Watlington**

**Little Orchard** – TB asked if the WPC support letter had been sent to SODC. The Clerk confirmed that this has been sent. There have been lots of letters of support for this by our residents.

##### 2. **Footpaths**

**Update on Footpath 13** – An email from Mr Logan had been received on this saying that the path is dreadful at the moment. TB said that he is monitoring this footpath regularly and this is the worst it will get. It is vastly improved since the grading has been done. He will continue to monitor it regularly and report back. KT will contact Mr Logan regarding this.

#### 07/18 Open Spaces

##### 1. Recreation Ground /Sports Field/Pavilion

1. **I-Play** – BW – KT to speak to BW.

2. **Hedge on Allotment side** - It was asked if we could obtain a quote for the cutting of the hedge at the recreation ground, rec side and top only. KT will obtain one from Owain Devey.

##### 2. Paddock

a) **Performance Space** – KT to speak to BW.

b) **Noticeboard for Children’s Play Area** – Deferred to the next meeting.

c) **Hedge in Paddock** – KT has asked Nigel Adams about the suitability of laying this hedge but has not heard anything back. She will chase him up.

##### 3) Other Areas

a. **Triangle on Cuxham Road** – TB reported that Robert Barber has marked with a red dot four trees for felling. The two full sized trees that were in the original specification plus a small ash in the front and a tiny

sapling at the back. The two full sized trees are to be cut leaving the bottom 1 m in the ground to allow for them to be shaped later into seats.

**Next Step** - TJ to draft the works programme and get an idea of approximate idea of cost for the project. The Clerk will then send out formal letters for quotations.

#### 4) Grass Cutting Tender for 2018

It was noted that IH and KT have now done these subject to a few minor corrections. Companies can tender for all the contract or specific parts only eg hedge cutting or gardening.

After discussion it was:

**Resolved:** That these be sent out ASAP to companies.

#### 08/18 Property

##### 1. Car Park

No issues raised for discussion.

##### 2. Public Conveniences

a) **Updating of the facilities** –RB to be asked for an update on when the works will be starting. There will need to be notices put up alerting users to these works. JW said that there should be one toilet available at all times during the update. JW to meet with Dixie.

##### 3. Parish Office

a) **Carpet for Office** –BW – KT will speak to him regarding this. This item is in the budget for the next financial year.

#### 09/18 General Issues

a) **Poster for Cars parking on pavements and one for cars leaving engines running** –TB and IH will work on these. KT will check the wording with PC Ian Kent to check it is appropriate.

b) **Jerry Page, National Trust** – He is leaving should we be doing something for him – TB stated that he has been the Ranger for Watlington Hill for 33 years and has helped the community immensely. It was agreed that the Parish Council send a formal letter of thanks to him which all Councillors can sign. IH/KT will arrange this.

c) **Marlbrook Green Space – Cars driving over** – KT reported that there are some residents who are driving regularly over our green. Discussion took place and it was agreed that in the first instance a leaflet be sent to all Marlbrook residents to say that this is not allowed. The green will then be monitored. KT will draft the leaflet.

#### 10/18 Correspondence

There was no correspondence for discussion.

#### 11/18 Future Issues for Discussion/Implementation

1. Monitoring of Footpath 13

#### 12/18 Any Other Business

**THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.55PM**