



Minutes of the Meeting of the Operations Committee Held on Wednesday 30th May 2018 At 8pm In the Community Office

Present:

Councillors:

Bob West (BW)
Tom Bindoff (TB)
Ian Hill (IH)
Terry Jackson (TJ)
Tony Williamson (TW)
Roger Beattie (RB)
Fergus Lapage

Co-opted Member:

Jenny Wilkinson

Officer:

Kristina Tynan

Bob West presided over the meeting until Election of Chairman.

49/18 Election of Chairman

Tony Williamson proposed Bob West, and this was seconded by Tom Bindoff. There were no other nominations.

Resolved: That Bob West be elected as Chairman.

50/18 Apologies for Absence

There were none.

51/18 Election of Vice-Chairman

Bob West proposed Tom Bindoff, and this was seconded by Ian Hill. There were no other nominations.

Resolved: That Tom Bindoff be elected as Vice- Chairman.

52/18 Minutes of the Meeting held on 18th April 2018 which were accepted by Council on the 8/5/2018 to be agreed as a correct record

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

53/18 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest notified.

54/18 Matters arising

Community Payback Team (Minute 45/18 point 4 refers) – TW asked if we could get them to cut the grass and nettles at the back of 33 High Street. KT will request this.

It was noted that they have done an excellent job in clearing the car park of rubbish and other jobs around the town.

New door to West Room 'Barbara's Door' – TW reported that this will be installed soon and that there will be an official opening held on Thursday 2nd August.

55/18 Update on Outstanding /Completed Issues

1. **Cobbles by Public Conveniences clearing out** – This is currently being done. JW has asked to borrow the pressure washer from Bob West.
2. **Removal of white line at the Town Hall** – No update but it was agreed that a photo be sent to OCC.
3. **Watlington Map on entrance to Car Park** – Bob has fixed the surround. It has been put back up.
4. **Refurbishing of the Public Conveniences** – this work is currently being done. JW said that there used to be a sign on the ceiling saying that there was asbestos present, but this is no longer there due to the repainting. It was agreed to put a sign stating this on the wall. KT to check the rules with SODC as they belong to them. JW said that Martin Dix and his workers have been a delight to work with.
5. **Porta Loo for Rec** – To arrange one for the summer from TuLu for the summer holidays – RB to arrange.
6. **Paddock Lights** – KT reported that Neil Campbell had isolated these lights as there was an issue with the ones not working and she will ask him to come back and fix these.
7. **Junction 6 Noticeboards** – It was noted that there was an issue of cleaning the maps. TW has said that he will do this. It was suggested that perhaps the Community Payback Team could refurbish and paint these. OCC would need to be contacted as they belong to them.

56/18 Highway/Footpath/Tree Issues

1. Trees

Martin Gammie has suggested that we write to Heritage Tree Services thanking them for their excellent work as he has said that they have done a fantastic job. It was noted that no tree works can be carried out until the Autumn.

Resolved: That the Clerk send a letter of thanks to Heritage Tree Services.

2. Highways

Potholes by the humps on Britwell Road – OCC have now fixed these.

3. Footpaths

a) **Footpath 13** – TB said that he has met with a contractor on site who will come back with a quotation. He said that OCC have offered £500 toward these works.

57/18 Open Spaces

1. Recreation Ground /Sports Field/Pavilion

a). **I-Play** – Quote for total refurbishment and also a quote for works needed to get this working was discussed. Discussion took place on having a discount. BW will contact the Managing Director. To further discuss at the next meeting.

b). **MUGA Proposal for Recreation Ground** – RB said that the planning application has been sent to SODC.

c) **Table Tennis tables for Rec** – RB said that a lot of research has been done on this with Sally Gardner

and they are also looking for funding avenues.

d) **Canopy for small children's area** – RB has obtained some quotes for a canopy over the picnic tables in this area. An approximate cost for the sail would be around £400. He will visit the company to look at the material with Nicky Smallbone. He has been offered a donation to pay for this and also to erect it. Stephanie Van de Pette has also been involved with discussion on this, which would be welcomed by the community.

Resolved: That we go ahead and erect a canopy over the picnic tables which will have no impact on WPC finances.

d) **General Works for Rec** – To agree – two quotes received – *these were attached to the agenda.*

Resolved: That we agree the quote by Adam Clissold in principle subject to the materials being purchased by WPC and to check whether we need to do both 3a and 3b or just one option. RB will find out and let KT know who will inform the committee by email. This is also subject to KT seeing what money is left over from the 2017/2018 Operations Budget.

e) **Skateboarding Festival at the Rec** – 15th-17th June – Asking for our permission

It was noted that this has been held annually for a number of years.

Resolved: That this event is given permission to be held at the Recreation Ground.

2. Paddock

a) **Performance Space** – BW showed the committee some drawings from David Parker who has done these free of charge and the Committee thanked him for doing this. The area at Woodley was mentioned as being a good example of this type of space and which has been up for a number of years and still looks excellent. The issue of lighting was also raised. BW will also have a look into the potential cost of doing this.

After discussion it was agreed to have a site visit on the paddock prior to the next meeting and to invite all interested parties.

3. Other Areas

a) **Landscape Design for Triangle on Cuxham Road** – Three quotations for this work have been received

After discussion it was:

Resolved: To accept the quote from Prestige Garden Experts, who are a local company.

It was noted that as the quote is higher than the budget figure it was thought that we could approach people to fund the seats in this location and also seek donations for the shortfall.

The Clerk will inform the neighbours and also ask them to address some issues on their properties ie a gate accessing this land and also to ask another neighbour if they re-instate a hedge that was taken out due to building works.

58/18 Property

1. **Car Park** - The Payback team have been collecting rubbish and tidying up this area and collected 36 bags of rubbish. Bob Thomas is doing the yellow hatching.

2. **Public Conveniences** – No discussion needed

3. **Parish Office**

a) Carpet for Office – Quotes are being sought for this. Still awaiting two more.

59/18 General Issues

1. **Neilsen's Global Day – 21st June 2018.** TJ has put together a list of jobs. The painting of the white gates at the entrances to the town will be added to the list.

2. **Volunteering and Volunteer Awards** –RB will obtain more information on this for the next meeting.

General Volunteering - JW said as regards volunteering we could encourage people to do this for a health benefit and perhaps schools could also be part of it – JW to prepare a draft good health leaflet for volunteering for the next meeting.

3. **Community Payback Team** – More jobs needed for them to do. It was agreed to add clearance of the garden at 33 High Street, cutting nettles and clearing rubbish by the half pipe and clearing of the ditch in Mansle Gardens. KT asked Members to send her any jobs they can think of.

60/18 Correspondence

1. **SODC – Tree preservation order 17S35** (Mason's Wood) is confirmed. Any works will need the permission of SODC -This was noted.

2. **Martin Gammie** – email – Trees – discussed above.

3. **River Thame Conservation Trust** – requesting help in sharing information about Clean Water Quest - This was noted.

4. **Owain Devey** – recommending a September cut for our hedges in his contract - This was agreed in principle.

61/18 Future Issues for Discussion/Implementation

Noticeboard for Children's Play Area

Tree Replacement Scheme -Autumn

Kissing Gate with disabled access – Project 2019 (TB)

62/18 Any Other Business

WPC Stall at Beaconfest – FL suggested having this. There was discussion on this. It was thought that this would not be practical for this year. However, it was agreed to obtain the views from the Beaconfest Committee on whether they would think this would be appropriate and relevant for a subsequent year.

THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.45PM