

Minutes of the Meeting of the Strategy Committee Held in the Community Office at 8pm on Tuesday 28th February 2012

Present:

Councillors:

David Tindale – Chairman
Ian Hill – Vice-Chairman
Tony Williamson
Ted Backhouse
Barry Adby
Nick Greaves
Nick Hancock
Roger Beattie
Robert Barber

Officer:

Kristina Tynan

Members of the Public:

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11/12 Apologies for absence

Rhian Woods, Harvey Batten, Tim Horton, Charles Rowton-Lee, Di Tolan

13/12 Chairman's Remarks

David Tindale said that he had been very concerned to hear about Harvey and how pleased we all are to hear he is out of hospital. All Councillors wished Harvey all the best and a quick recovery.

14/12 Minutes of the Strategy Meeting held on 24th January 2012 received by Council 14/2/2012 to be signed as a correct record.

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

15/12 Declaration of Interests

To receive any declarations on interest from Councillors relating to items to be considered at the meeting, in accordance with the provisions of the Councils Local Code of Conduct.

There were none.

16/12 Matters Arising

Bandstand – This is being considered by the Jubilee Committee and will come back to the Strategy Committee as a proposal.

Howe Hill Speed Issues – There has been no OCC response to date and it is hoped to have received some information from them for the next meeting.

Archiving of WPC Information – A letter has been received from the Oxford Archives stating that 'There is, of course, no legislation which prevents the parish council using its own copy of the award and we will facilitate this as you wish'

17/12 Discussion Items

GoRide Buses

Ian Hill reported that he went to a meeting on 21/2/2012 called by David Turner and representatives of the 5 Parishes (Watlington, Chalgrove, Cuxham, Stadhampton, Garsington) were present. GoRide have been awarded a contract by OCC to run the Saturday and Sunday service from 1/4/2012. It will retain the 101 service number.

The timetable will vary slightly from this date to overcome the overcrowding issue on some of the earlier services. The first bus will go from Lewknor J6 straight to Garsington and the second bus will be on the original route, through all the villages. There is a copy of the new bus timetable held in the office and it will be put on our website. It is envisaged that this service will thrive and GoRide have plans for further services including a Friday night service. GoRide will purchase a ticket machine which will mean passengers can also use the Thames Travel service to Oxford and vice-versa. GoRide are very keen to boost the outward trips as some buses at present are coming back from Oxford empty. They are looking to do this by promoting a 'visit the countryside' idea and are hoping to make deals with local pubs etc to encourage visitors from Oxford. They are also planning to buy a bigger bus.

It was noted that WPC have previously committed £643.40 to this service and an invoice will be received shortly.

David Tindale stated that there has been a very positive article on this service in one of the local papers.

Watlington Speaks

Ian Hill reported that a meeting will be held shortly. He has made changes to the brochure and a copy will be emailed to Councillors when it is finalised. It is hoped that this brochure can be printed prior to the Annual Parish Meeting.

Annual Parish Meeting 26/4/2012 - format for this year's Meeting

The format for this was discussed and it was agreed the following:

1. WELCOME
2. Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 14th April 2011 to be signed as a correct record.
3. Presentation of the Annual Parish Report (to be distributed at the meeting)
4. Reports from Watlington Parish Council
5. Neighbourhood Plan - Update
6. Winner of the 2011 Planning Award
7. Report from County Councillor
8. Report from District Councillors
9. Reports from local organisations
10. Questions and Answers

It is hoped to have a power point presentation on the Parish Council information. Robert Barber and the Clerk to look into doing this. It was stated that it is very important to adhere to time and that the local organisations be notified of the time limit they will have. It was noted that the Youth Club will need to be informed that they cannot hold Youth Club on this evening as the Annual Parish Meeting will be held in the Pavilion.

SODC – Mid Examination on Schedule of Main Modifications for South Oxfordshire Submission Core Strategy– can be viewed at www.southoxon.gov.uk/corestrategy and clicking on the mid Examination Publication link. – papers attached. Deadline 23/3/2012
Resolved: That WPC put in no formal comment on this consultation as it does not relate to Watlington, only Wallingford.

OCC Consultation of Oxfordshire Rail Strategy and Delivery Plan- can be viewed at <http://myconsultations.oxfordshire.gov.uk> – see attached. Deadline 16/3/2012
Resolved: That WPC put in no formal comment on this consultation but that IH will read through and report back on anything interesting.

18/12 Correspondence

1. Watlington Youth Club – asking WPC to keep the committee in the loop about any development regarding the area of the skatepark development. **The Clerk has responded to this.**

19/12 Items for Future Meetings

Refer to Forward Plan

20/12 Any Other Business to note – Items to be notified to the Clerk in advance of the meeting.

There being no other business the meeting went into confidential session at 8.30pm to discuss the Sports Field Issue

According to:

Confidential Items

EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED: THAT under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for items of business of the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 7,8 and 9 of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Act.

However after discussion in Confidential Session it was

Resolved to issue a Public Minute that :

21/12 That WPC believed that there may have been a possibility of an opportunity to gain the freehold of the Sports Field and Beechwood Estates were approached regarding this issue. However we did not receive a positive response and this matter is now closed.

The meeting closed at 8.55pm