

# Minutes of the Meeting of the Strategy Committee Held in the Community Office at 8pm on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2013

**Present:**

**Councillors:**

David Tindale – Chairman  
Harvey Batten – Vice-Chairman  
Tim Horton  
Tony Williamson  
Ted Backhouse  
Barry Adby  
Neil Boddington  
Ian Hill  
Robert Barber

**Officer:**

Kristina Tynan

9/13 Apologies for absence

Rhian Woods, Nick Hancock, Charles Rowton-Lee, Nick Greaves

10/13 Minutes of the Strategy Meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2013 were received by Council on the 12/2/2013 to be signed as a correct record

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

11/13 Declaration of Interests

There were no Declarations of Interest notified.

14/13 Matters Arising

There were none other than agenda items.

15/13 Discussion Items

1. **Car Park Order** – IH reported that this has been sent to OCC for their comments. However we have not heard back from them as yet. IH will chase this up.

2. **Code of Practice for Complaints procedure** – IH was thanked for drafting this document. There were a couple of minor changes agreed.

**Resolved:** That this Code of Practice for Complaints procedure to adopted and signed by the Chairman.

### 3. Youth Club

a) Youth Club letter - draft by HB was attached to the agenda. This was discussed and it was agreed that paragraph 3 needed some tidying up. A few points were noted and it was: **Resolved:** That the letter to be sent be delegated to HB/DT and KT to agree and send the final version to the Youth Club.

b) **Letter and Budget from Youth Club re WPC support for 2013/2014** – this was discussed and it was noted that it contained some useful information. The accounts sent were noted but it was agreed that we also need to see the previous years accounts.

**Resolved:** That this be sent to the Finance Committee for further discussion. TH to let KT know if any further information will be required.

4. **Grievance Procedure** – HB to prepare a paper on this for the next meeting

5. **Strategic Review of the Budget Process** – IH had prepared a draft for this. There were a number of comments made regarding consistency with our Standing Orders.

**Resolved:** That this paper be further discussed by the Finance Committee to make sure that it matches to the Financial Regulations.

6. **Triathlon 2013** – Discussion on WPC view

The following motion by Caroline Newton to OCC committee was noted. It was also noted that her original motion had been amended by the Deputy Leader.

*"The Henley Triathlon has taken place for the last two years and there are plans to hold another event this year. The event comprises three stages, swimming, road running and long distance cycling. The swimming and road running take place in Henley but the road race takes the cyclists around South Oxfordshire on the County road network. The cycling route has been changed each year due to the complaints of local residents, businesses and Parish Councils. The roads over which the event is held are closed to traffic for many hours on the Sunday of the event causing a disruption to those situated on the route.*

*The company organising the event, Just Racing, are a private company who aim to make a profit. The event is said to be prestigious and brings business to Henley. There is much discussion locally on the validity of this statement. The County Council are virtually powerless to control the route or timing of the event.*

*Council therefore requests that the Leader writes to the relevant Ministers to request that the responsibility for decisions relating to such events be given to the County Council in line with the Government's stated aim that more decisions should be taken locally."*

It was noted that our community are concerned about the time length of the closure.

**Resolved:** That Watlington Parish Council are happy to support the statements on this motion and that IH and RBr will draft a statement on this.

Two people will be speaking to the motion: Julia Wells and David Hammond. IH will be having a meeting with them to discuss the issues they will be referring to as he is unable to attend the OCC meeting. IH stated that if anyone has any input to let him know by Wednesday evening at the latest.

7. **Storage Requirement** – KT had put together a report of the comments received further to our letter on this issue. This was noted.

8. **Format and Venue for Annual Parish Meeting –April 25<sup>th</sup> 2013**

There was much discussion on this. It was thought that a different format for next year should be considered in October. However at this late stage it was:

**Resolved:** That we keep the same format for the Annual Parish Meeting for this year and that we hold the meeting in the Town Hall.

It was noted that the 2 minute buzzer that was used last year worked well and should be used this year also.

#### 9. Procedure for Co-option to Council

After discussion the following procedure was agreed:

1. All applicants to submit an A4 sheet giving information about themselves, their interests and what they feel they could bring to the Parish Council. This information to be received one week before the relevant meeting.
2. That at the relevant meeting each candidate is given 2 minutes to speak and the WPC given 2 minutes to ask questions.

IH and RBr to draft up some relevant questions.

The meeting to which the next co-option will take place is Tuesday May 14<sup>th</sup> where there will be one vacancy to be filled.

#### 10. Skatepark Project

It was noted that the group are not yet ready to submit an application for funding for this project. They will probably aim to put in an application to the Lottery next year. WPC note that a proposal will come at some stage. IH reported that Anna Capel-Davies from SODC will be providing the group with support. WPC are happy to help the group if they need it.

11. **Re-establishing an Adult Education Function within Watlington** – a background note from TH was attached to the agenda.

TH reported that there was a meeting on this issue yesterday with Ian Hill, Carol Horton and himself and Carole Lushington.

TH said that the last Adult Education classes in Watlington were held in the Icknield School 8 years ago. OCC are interested to explore with groups new ways of providing adult Education. Money may be available for start up costs. There could be some re-activation of courses in Watlington with a different structure than previously there was at the Icknield. This could possibly include Chalgrove also. It was noted that we have a very active U3A group but that there is nothing for the younger adults. TH suggested starting up a Watlington and Chalgrove Learning and Skills group who could find out the demand for courses locally. Administration costs would be covered.

TH will put together a note on this meeting and circulate to Councillors

12. SODC –Pre Consultation Draft on the new Proposed Air Quality Action Plan for South Oxfordshire – **This will be taken in confidential session at the end of the meeting.**

13. Parking Spaces –Love Lane and Shirburn Road – BA – **To be deferred to the next meeting.**

#### 16/13 Correspondence

1. Thames Valley Police – Do we wish to nominate anyone? **It was agreed that we would not nominate anyone this year.**

#### 17/13 Items for Future Meetings

Water Resource

Watlington and the Local Transport Plan for Oxfordshire – Letter has been sent Icknield Community College and links with the Community

Review of Solicitor

Annual Parish Meeting – change of format and venue for 2014 – October 2013

18/13 Any Other Business to note – Items to be notified to the Clerk in advance of the meeting.  
**Go-Ride Connection Bus Watlington to Lewknor** – IH reported that OCC will be withdrawing the funding for this bus service and Daniel Douglas from GoRide has asked for an urgent meeting to discuss this. It was agreed that IH and TH meet with him. It was noted that Watlington depends on transport to Junction 6.

**THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING WENT INTO CONFIDENTIAL SESSION  
AT 10.05pm TO DISCUSS THE DRAFT AIR QUALITY REPORT FROM SODC**

**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