



Minutes of the Meeting of the Strategy Committee Held in the Community Office At 8pm on Tuesday 25th October 2016

Present:

Councillors:

Roger Beattie (RB) - Vice-Chairman
Tom Bindoff (TB)
Terry Jackson (TJ)

In Attendance:

Stephanie Van de Pette (SvP)

Officer:

Kristina Tynan

39/16 Apologies for absence
Matt Reid, Jon Lorimer, Ian Hill, Tony Williamson.

40/16 Chairman's Remarks
There were none.

41/16 Rob Pritchard – SSE Community Liaison Officer- Presentation on Smart Meters

Roger Beattie welcomed Rob Pritchard (RP) to the meeting.

RP said that SSE are providing Smart Meters to their customers free of charge. All energy providers should provide Smart Meters. Most households should be having one by 2020. These are voluntary not compulsory. The main drive for these is to reduce carbon emissions. With them it is also possible to offer renewable energy free or for a reduced charge at off peak times.

SSE are inviting customers to register for a meter after which an appointment will be made and this meter will replace the existing one. The Smart Meter will tell you all your usage and it transmits this every half an hour, ensures everyone gets accurate bills and meter readers will no longer be needed. However the meter readers are being retrained to be able to install these meters so there should not be any jobs lost with this change.

Commercial Smart Meters have been available for some time.

RP said that uptake of these meters has not been as good as was expected and asked if the PC could help to publicise these and give contacts of any relevant organisation that would be interested in having a presentation on this issue. KT will do this. It was also asked if we would be able to find out the figures for uptake of these in Watlington.

TJ stated that the WPC will be having a stall at the Christmas Fair on how to help the environment and said that space could be made to publicise this.

After further discussion on this issue the following was agreed

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL: That the Parish Council install Smart Meters in all our buildings and that we help to promote these.

42/16 Minutes of the Strategy Meeting held on 26th July 2016 which were received by Council on the 13th September 2016 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.

42/16 Declaration of Interests

There were none notified.

43/16 Matters Arising

There were none other than agenda items.

44/16 Update on on-going issues

1. **Subsidised Travel Review/Buses** – It was noted that OCC have wrongly removed the 2 bus stops in Shirburn Street but they will be put back ASAP. IH has made a request for an additional bus stop on Brook Street.
2. **33 High Street** – TW reported that we have sent the agreement to our solicitor for her comments. However OCC still have not provided the financial information that they have promised to let us have.
3. **Children's Centre**- SvP said that it is thought that they need £35,000pa to run the Watlington and Chalgrove Children's Centre. Julie Quarell will be attending the November Full Council meeting to give an update. RB said that OCC are asking Children's Centres to put in a request of intent and costings. However OCC have not yet let them have the amount of rent they would charge.
4. **Air Quality** – TB reported on the SODC Air Quality Consultation held in the Town Hall last Saturday (15/10/2016). He said that the presentation was very poor, there was a large number of people who attended it but they run out of the response forms after about an hour and a half. He said that IH had done his own modelling on this and it does not match up to the Ricardo modelling. We asked SODC in March 2016 if we could meet Ricardo and look at their data but they said we could only see the data if we paid £350. The research was paid for by a DEFRA grant so it does not seem unreasonable for us to access this data. Anna Badcock has also been asked to help us to see this data but we still have not. TB said that he thinks it is important that we see this information sooner rather than later. After discussion the following was agreed:
RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL: That we spend £350 and ask Ricardo to have a meeting with us and supply the information for the Air Quality Modelling.

45/16 Discussion Items

Main Discussion Items

1. **Communications Policy** – Awaiting reviewed document from MR. Initial paper given out at last meeting dated 17/7/2016)
 - a Communications Policy and Method of reviewing the Parish Council's performance during the last year and how to prepare a plan for the next year including a set of criteria by which to judge our performance.
 - b. How we communicate with ourselves
 - c. How we communicate with others
 - d, How the outside world communicates with the Parish Council**Resolved:** To defer this item to the next meeting.
SvP had some ideas regarding this and she will contact Matt Reid to discuss. It was thought that we should have a Communication Policy and also a 5 Year Strategic Policy for the work on the Parish Council
2. **Equality Act** – NALC Legal Briefing note (LTN 78) is attached to these minutes. After discussion the following was agreed:
RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL: That Watlington Parish Council agreed to abide by the NALC LTN 78 on equality and discrimination issues.
3. **Co-option Process** – Information from OALC was attached to the agenda. It was thought that a process of having a list of prepared questions in place which we can then pick a few when we are co-opting a Councillor and the same questions will then be asked of each candidate. SvP will draft a list of questions which will then be discussed at our next meeting.

46/16 Consultations

1. **The Big Health and Care Conversation Consultation** – Deadline 30/11/2016 – This was attached to the agenda - **Noted**

47/16 Short Discussion items

1. **Youth Club** – Nothing to report.

2. **Sports Club; insurances, running costs and long term strategy** – MR will prepare a paper for discussion which will be circulated prior to the meeting. Awaiting document from MR – **Deferred to the next meeting.**

3. **Watlington Public Conveniences** – Should we be asking SODC to possibly sell this property. RB asked that this issue be withdrawn. This was agreed.

48/16 Correspondence

1. SODC – Stating that they have provided additional funding to Better Broadband

2. SODC – Unitary Issue – Clarification of their position – attached

3. Goring Heath – Rural Broadband Provision – attached.

4. Steve Harrod – Local Plan Preferred Options – attached.

5. Steve Harrod – Urgent SHMA review – attached

6. A Craddock – Traffic Management Decisions on Shirburn Street – attached.

7. Peter Clark – Unitary Issue – this has been emailed to Members.

All correspondence was noted.

49/16 Items for Future Meetings

Communication Policy

Co-option – questions to be asked.

Welcome Pack for New Residents in Watlington

50/16 Any Other Business to note

Welcome Pack for New Residents in Watlington - It was thought that this would be a good idea and TJ and SvP to discuss this. It was thought that Rachel Huckvale may like to be involved with this also.

THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.42PM