

Minutes of the Meeting of the Strategy Committee Held in the Community Office at 8pm on Tuesday 27th September 2011

Present:

Councillors:

David Tindale – Chairman
Tony Williamson
Robert Barber
Ted Backhouse
Barry Adby
Nick Greaves
Harvey Batten
Rhian Woods

Officer:

Kristina Tynan

1. Apologies for absence
Roger Beattie, Ian Hill, Tim Horton, Di Tolan.

2. Chairman's Remarks
There were none.

3. Minutes of the Strategy Meeting held on 26th July 2011 received by Council 13/9/2011 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.

4. 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.

5. Matters Arising
Olympic Torch and Diamond Jubilee 2012 – Update on Meeting 16/9/2011- To be an Agenda Item for next month.

Watlington Speaks - Update - To be an Agenda Item for next month's Full Council

Watlington Library – The Consultation ends on 30/9/2011. It was noted that there has been a tremendous response to this from the people in Watlington and surrounding areas.

Website – Ian Hill is to speak to Simon Jones and then the Business Directory will be changed.

6. Short Discussion Items

Proposal to empower local councils

This proposal sets down a recommended procedure if a large developer is proposing a major development within the parish. It was noted that this proposal would not give us any further power it would only instigate communication with the developer. It would be up to them whether to take the Parish Councils comments on board or not. Rhian Woods stated that there would be no disadvantage to us supporting it but does not come with huge benefits either.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL: That Watlington Parish Council support the following planning policy/guidance to apply to large planning applications

1. That any applicant or representatives of any applicant who submits such an application that will have a significant effect on an area must, if requested by Watlington Parish Council attend a meeting of

(i) that Council to answer questions from elected councillors; and

(ii) a Town Meeting, should one be duly called, to answer questions from all electors.

2. That any applicant who submits such an application that will have a significant effect on an area must, if requested by the Parish Council, or a Town Meeting, pay for the Council or Meeting to get an independent assessment carried out as to how the proposed development will affect the sustainability of the local communities.

Grant Application received from Watlington Pre-School

Resolved: That we are unable to award a grant to the Watlington Pre-School as there is no grant money in the budget for 2011/2012.

It was noted that they have been successful in their applications in the past when money has been available. The Clerk to reply to this application.

OCC Consultation on Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Plans. — Do we wish to comment? Deadline 31/10/2011 – attached.

Resolved: We do not wish to comment on this at this stage.

OCC – Electoral Review of Oxfordshire – Do we wish to comment? Deadline 10/10/2011 – attached.

Resolved: That as we are not affected by this we do not comment.

Buckinghamshire Minerals and Waste Core Strategy Submission – Do we wish to comment? Deadline 14/10/2011 – attached.

Resolved: We do not wish to comment on this but that we thank them for their courtesy in consulting with us.

Wycombe Delivery and Site Allocations Planning Document - Do we wish to comment?

Deadline 14/10/2011 – attached.

Resolved: We do not wish to comment on this but that we thank them for their courtesy in consulting with us.

Initial Discussion on Precept review – David Tindale stated that we will be faced with the same situation as last year – a high level of inflation. We need to look at all issues we will be facing. We need to look at the current level of reserves and at individual budget items to see if they are in line for the end of the year. This issue to be considered in the October Strategy meeting.

7. Main Topics for Discussion

Buses

a. **Paper from Tim Horton**- This paper was discussed and it was :

Resolved: That Council supports the efforts of GORIDE to sponsor through the use of County-held 'Challenge Funds' new bus services that will aid public service travel in the Watlington area and for journeys to London and Oxford especially.

b. **Review of Subsidised Bus Services** – June 2012

The committee noted this letter and that a further letter will be sent to us.

SODC Core Strategy

This item to be an agenda item when we receive further information.

8. Correspondence

1. Copy email to OCC – re Cuxham Road Crossing. **This was noted and it was noted that there is no OCC funding for a crossing and that visibility is the main problem. The Clerk to contact OCC re the hedge at Bulrushes again.**

It was noted that the pavement by the Goggs is also a dangerous place to cross as the pavement is only 12” in one part.

2. **OCC re recent lorry prosecutions – Noted.**

3. Chilterns Conservation Board – Asking for help with funding – **to write to them stating we have no funding available**

4. Berks, Bucks & Oxon FWAG – asking for help with funding – – **to write to them stating we have no funding available**

9. Items for Future Meetings

Refer to Forward Plan

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

Hill Road

Robert Barber raised the issue of cars parked just inside the 30mph limit near the dangerous corner at the bottom of Watlington Hill and raised the possibility of an area of double yellow lines. It was agreed to ask OCC for their comments.

Triathlon 18/9/2011 – Comments have been received on this by residents. It was noted that Barry Adby is attending the 'Wash Up' Meeting at County Hall on the 4/10/2011 and he will pass on all comments to OCC.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.59PM