



News from Watlington Community Office

1 Old School Place, Gorwell, Watlington OX49 5QH
Telephone: 01491613867
e-mail: wpc@watlington-oxon-pc.gov.uk
website: www.watlington.org

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Watlington Parish Council Limits Council Tax increases to 1%.

Watlington Parish Council has agreed unanimously a budget prepared following an extensive review of council expenditure and of the increased demands placed on the Parish by cuts in other Council's services. The Council was also aware that the Government is likely to prohibit precept increases after this year. The budget does not require any reduction in the services provided by the Parish Council next year and does include increases in level of support provided in some areas. For example, it includes an increased grant to the Youth Club to help cover the withdrawal of County Council funding of youth services in rural areas, and the grant to the Town Hall Charity for maintenance and operation of the Town Hall has been restored to the level it was before last year's cuts. Significant repairs and refurbishment of the public toilets in Church Street are planned for 2012-13 but will be funded from reserves provided by SODC for this purpose.

In spite of the current inflation rate of nearly 5%, the Parish Council has been able to maintain its level of services with only a 1% increase in next year's tax rate for that part of the Council Tax committed to the Parish. The extra annual cost to households in Watlington will be only 71 pence for a Band D properties and less than 50 pence for Band A properties. This low increase is possible as the number and value of homes in the Parish has increased. This means that the total amount raised through Council tax (the precept) has increased by more than the tax rate to give a total increase in precept of 1.9%.

Staff costs are a significant fraction of the full parish budget but, because local authority staff salaries have been frozen by central government, the total staff costs will not be increased next year. The total increase in precept can therefore be allocated to non-staff related costs, thereby giving an effective increase of 3% in the budget for these costs. While this clearly benefits the majority of tax payers in the Parish, as a council we are very aware that our dedicated employees who do so much for the community will be suffering a second year with no increase in their income in spite of the higher level of inflation.

Full details of the budget for 2012-13 are available from the Parish.

Christmas Common Polling Station Review.

SODC has agreed to reinstate the Fox and Hounds Public House as the polling place for Watlington No2, Pyrton No2 and Shirburn No2.

Planning Decisions

<u>Application</u>	<u>SODC</u>	<u>WPC</u>
P11/E1516/LB 36 High Street -Minor alterations to improve access and bathroom	Listed Building Consent is GRANTED	<i>No Strong Views WPC would support the Conservation Officer's views</i>
P11/E1555 42 Couching Street Change of use of former retail showroom	Planning Permission is GRANTED	<i>No Objection</i>
P11/E1636/LB Christmas Common Farm New free-standing porch	Listed Building Consent is GRANTED	<i>No Objection</i>
P11/E1731 1 St Leonards Close Single Storey Rear Extension	Planning Permission is GRANTED	<i>No Objection</i>
P11/E1719/LB The Old Stables, Greenfield Removal of modern lean-to and internal configuration	Listed Building Consent is GRANTED	<i>No Objection</i>
P11/E1628/LB Blenheim House 25 Church Street – solar PV Panels on south facing roof	Listed Building Consent is GRANTED	<i>No Objection</i>
P11/E1610 Blenheim House 25 Church Street – solar PV Panels on south facing roof	Planning Permission is GRANTED	<i>No Objection</i>
P11/E1855 Barn Cottage Howe Road – Single Storey rear sun room extensions	Planning Permission is GRANTED	<i>Objection</i>

CAB

Citizens Advice Bureau is in Watlington Community office every Thursday from 10.00am-1.00pm. They have a 'drop in' between 10 – 11am and then appointments only. To book your appointment phone 08444 111 444 Look at their new website www.ca-ox.org.uk/henley

PCSO Diane Greenwood C9840 and PC Ian Kent 4555

Non-emergency number to contact the Police is **101**. If you wish to contact PCSO Diane Greenwood on any issue telephone 0845 8505505 - to leave a message or report an incident or email at: diane.greenwood@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk Alternatively you can always leave a message via the Parish Office.

Dates of forthcoming regular meetings:
Planning Committee – Tues 7th February

Full Council – Tues 14th February

Operations Committee: Wed 22nd February at 10am

Strategy – Tues 28th February

Finance – Tues 31st January

Pavilion – Monday 30th January in Community Office

All meetings start at 8pm and are held in the Community Office unless otherwise stated. We welcome residents attending any of these meetings as observers. If people wish to speak on a particular agenda item it is necessary to contact the Parish Clerk during office hours by noon the day before the meeting. Minutes of all Parish Council meetings are available to members of the public and can be viewed on our website or in the Parish Office during opening hours.

The Parish Office is open: 9.30am-12.30pm Mon, Tues, Weds, Fri and 9.30am -1pm on Thurs.

*Collated by Kristina Tynan, Clerk
and Ian Hill, Chairman*

[If you wish to be added to onto our email list for local information please let us know](#)

Weekly Events in Watlington

Day	Event	Venue	Start Time	Finish Time
Monday	Exercise Class	Church Hall	09:30	10:30
Monday	Zumba	Pavilion	09:30	10:30
Monday	Yoga	Britwell Salome Village Hall	18:30	
Monday	Aerobics	Watlington Town Hall	18:30	20:30
Monday	Scouts	Scout Hut Memorial Club	18:30	20:00
Monday	Watlington Fire Cadets	Watlington Fire Station	19:00	21:00
Monday	Line Dancing	Church Hall	19:30	21:30
Tuesday	Undercroft Fruit and Veg	Undercroft Town Hall	08:30	14:30
Tuesday	Aerobics	Watlington Town Hall	09:30	10:30
Tuesday	Girl Guiding	Watlington Primary School	18:30	20:30
Tuesday	Circle Dancing	Church Hall	19:00	21:00
Tuesday	Youth Club	Pavilion	19:00	21:00
Tuesday	Slimming World	Memorial Club	19:30	21:00
Tuesday	Zumba	Watlington Town Hall	20:00	21:00
Tuesday	Watlington Ladies Netball	Icknield Community College	20:00	
Wednesday	Senior Citizens Lunch and Social Club	West Room - Old School Place	12:00	15:00
Wednesday	WI Art Group	Methodist Church	14:00	
Wednesday	Watlington Concert Band Rehearsals	Pyrton Village Hall	20:00	22:00
Thursday	Mobile Van with fresh fish from Grimsby	Undercroft Town Hall	08:30	11:30
Thursday	Undercroft Fruit and Veg	Undercroft Town Hall	08:30	14:30
Thursday	Citizens Advice Bureau	Community Office	09:00	13:00
Thursday	Watlington Day Centre	West Room - Old School Place	09:00	15:00
Thursday	Drawing and Painting Class	Community Office	14:00	16:00
Thursday	Puppy and Dog Training	Church Hall	18:45	21:00
Friday	Aerobics	Watlington Town Hall	09:15	10:15
Friday	Hair Cutting by Clare	Community Office	10:00	13:00
Friday	Judo	Church Hall	18:30	21:30
Saturday	Undercroft Fruit and Veg	Undercroft Town Hall	08:30	14:30
Saturday	Ballet Class	Watlington Town Hall	10:00	13:15

