

Minutes of the Meeting of the Operations Committee Held on Wednesday 20th July 2011 at 10.00am in the Community Office

Present:

Councillors:

Barry Adby – Chairman
Ted Backhouse – Vice-Chairman
Roger Beattie
Tim Horton

Officer:

Kristina Tynan

Members of the Public:

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1. Apologies for Absence
Tony Williamson, Linda Nicholson
2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 22nd June 2011 were accepted by Council on the 12/7/2011
Oil Purchasing - Minute 68/11 refers – It was noted that it should read OCCA not OCVA. It was then:
Resolved: That with the correction above the minutes were a correct record of this meeting and that they be signed by the Chairman.
3. Declarations of Interest
There were none.
4. Matters arising
Tree Warden – To note that Tom Bindoff has been appointed as our 2nd Tree Warden.
5. Outstanding Issues
Salt Bin (top of Howe Road)– Still Awaiting response from OCC re Filling of these for the winter.

Wooden Salt Boxes (Watlington) – These are being fixed at the moment.

Community Office –Decorating – Community Payback Team. BA to contact them. BT to be asked to paint the ceiling in the main room.

Public Convenience – To note all the doors have been painted.

Pavilion Noticeboard – Awaiting decision from the Sports Club meeting.
Resolved: That we order a noticeboard with 3 or 4 panels.

Paddock

1. **Fence** – BA/BT to repair during the next few weeks
2. Willow Hedge – It was agreed to ask Berinsfield Community Service to cut this as soon as possible.

Road markings – School Entrance – These will be done by OCC.

Removal of White Line by Town Hall – This has been removed by OCC.

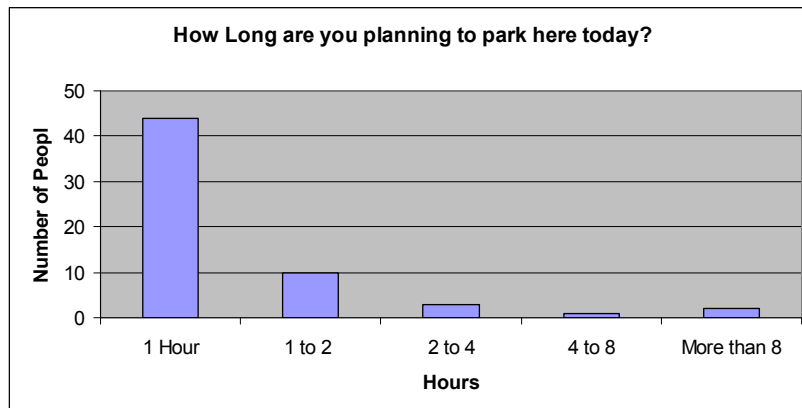
BT Phone Box in Hill Road Car Park – It was noted that the glass has been repaired. BA reported that painting of phone boxes are done on a 6 yearly programme. It was agreed that the Clerk email BT to find out where this phone box is on the cycle.

6. Property

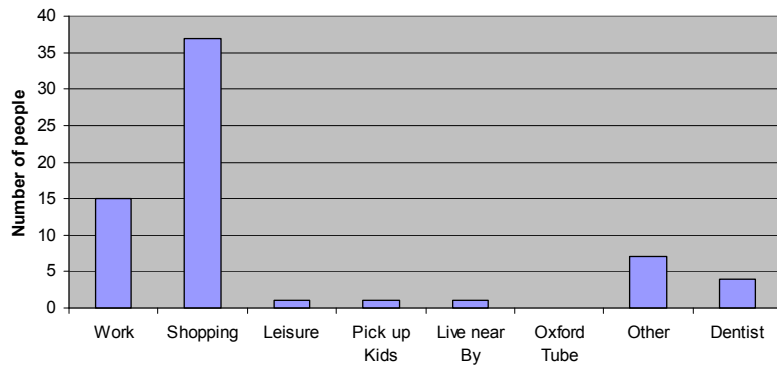
Car Park

The trial survey was undertaken on 6/7/2011 by TB/BA and MW over a 2 and a half hour period. It was noted that the car park was full on the day and there was an Auction at Jones and Jacob. The questionnaire was discussed and it was agreed that we should ask a further question on shopping and the locality questionnaire. The Clerk to add these points. The results of the survey were discussed and it was agreed to do a full day survey in August. BA and TB to arrange a date and all councillors will be contacted to see if they are available to put in a couple of hours. A note will also be taken of the cars that are parked the night before. A note will also be kept of the number of empty spaces. It was thought it would be good to do a day in the holidays if possible and then a day when the schools go back.

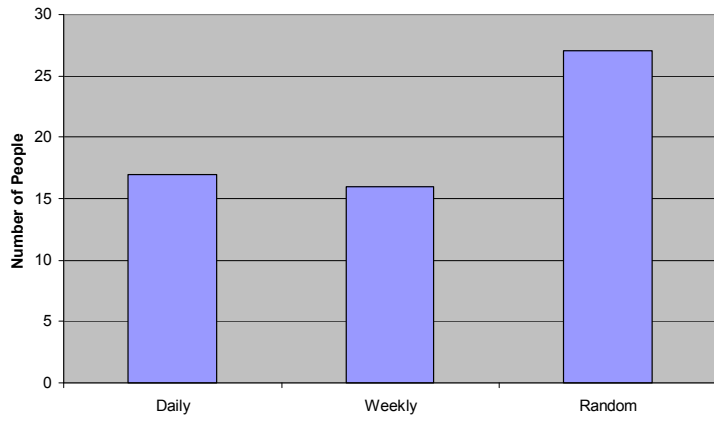
Survey results shown below:



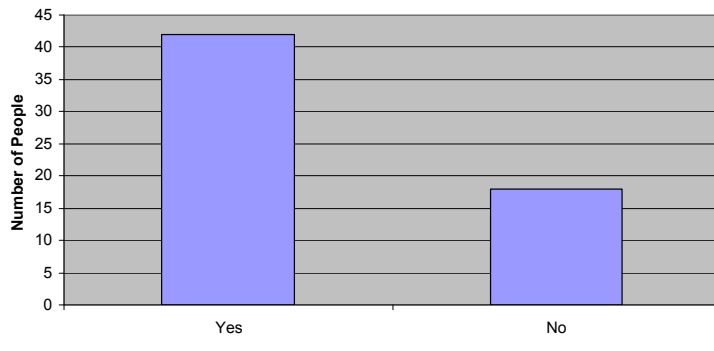
Why have you parked here today?



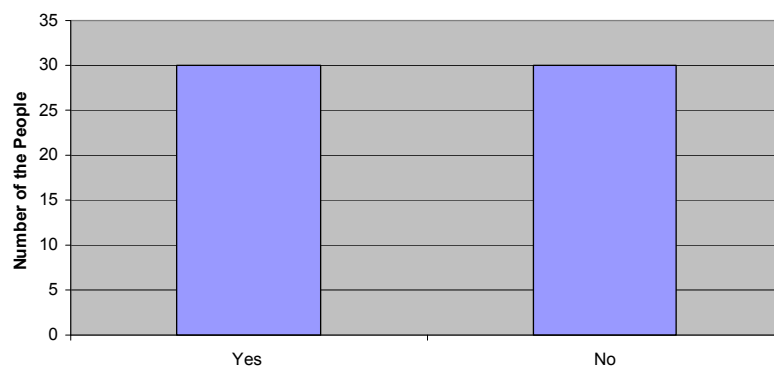
How often do you use this car park?



Did you find a space today easily?



Are you local to the Watlington area?



7. Open Spaces

Recreation Ground

1. Toilet for Summer (Porta Loo). This has been ordered and will need daily monitoring and a weekly review. A padlock will be purchased and it will be locked at night.

2. Rabbit Problem - BA has spoken to a couple of people and this issue is being dealt with.

3. Play Equipment – to note repairs:

1. Ski-Stepper – one of the bolts has no thread and BA will repair. This fault to reported to RSS

2. Eco-scape surfacing – It was noted that this is no longer green but black. The Clerk to contact Eco-scape regarding this.

3. When RSS repaired a piece of fitness equipment a piece of eco-scape surfacing had to be cut out. This needs to be filled in. BA to look into this being done.

4. Trees in Recreation Ground – Robert Barber had produced a report on this and he has also spoken to Martin Gammie, Forestry Officer at SODC. These trees were discussed and it was agreed the following:

Recommendation to Council: That we put TPO's on the line of trees that border Lampits Close as shown below:

5. Trees up the Trackway from Shirburn Road – It was agreed that we ask Robert Barber and Tom Bindoff to have a look at these trees and report on them.

8. General Issues

Lorry Watch

The issue of a small group doing a lorry watch was discussed in Full Council. PC Ian Kent has been contacted and we are awaiting contact from Trading Standards. The Police are in favour of this being done by the Parish Council.

Resolved: That we organise doing this with the Police and Trading Standards and that we ask for volunteers in the August Watlington Times.

Roads and Footpaths – State of repairs – It was noted that TH is doing this under his own name. However he will make the information available to the Parish Council.

It was noted that Gorwell is down on the OCC list to be re-surfaced. It was noted that Shirburn Street is in very poor condition, Couching Street to the Fox and Hounds (B4009)

Resolved: That we send a letter to OCC asking them to review this road with a copy sent to Cllr Roger Belson.

Walk About Watlington – This issue to be discussed in the September meeting.

Watlington in Bloom –The draft constitution paper from Watlington in Bloom was attached to the agenda and was noted. The WIB inaugural meeting will be held on 23rd September 2011.

British Legion Fete – TH/BA and TB will available on the 29th August to man the stall. The Clerk to arrange the displays. Lorry Watch to be promoted here also.

Water Bowser – Should we purchase one? TH stated that it is very difficult to water areas such as Mansle Gardens, the tree bases on Brook Street etc. It was agreed that we look into various options of watering. TB, BA and KT are attending the Saltex Exhibition in September and will also have a look at the options that are there.

9. Correspondence

1. Sue Ryder – Women of Achievement Awards 2011- nominations asked for – **Noted.**
2. D Elliott – re War Memorial- **Noted.**
3. OCC – Update on Community Emergency Plan.- **This is to be an agenda item for the next meeting.**
4. H Wiedermann – Comment on tubs in town – **Noted.**

10. Future Issues for Discussion

Emergency Plan – September
Walk around Watlington - September

11. Any Other Business

Car Park Noticeboard – Agreed to ask BT to refurbish.

THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 11.20AM