



MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING OF WATLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT 7PM ON TUESDAY 12th APRIL 2022 VIA ZOOM

Present:

Councillors:

Matt Reid (MR) – Chairman
Ian Hill (IH) – Vice Chairman
Tim Horton (TH)
Steve Bolingbroke (SB)
Margaret Noon (MN)
Terry Jackson (TJ)

Officer:

Kristina Tynan (KT)

County Councillor:

Freddie van Meirlo

In Attendance:

Gill Bindoff

45/22 Apologies for Absence

Andrew McAuley, Roger Beattie, Alex Basden, Rob Smith

46/22 To receive Declarations of Interest

There were none notified.

47/22 Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 8th March 2022 to be agreed and signed as a correct record

Resolved: That with the change above, these minutes are a correct record of this meeting and will be signed by the Chairman.

48/22 Matters arising from the Minutes

Car Park EV Charging Points (Minute 40/22 refers) – IH reported that we missed the opportunity of putting in 3 phase when electrical works were being done in this location. However, the Spire and Spoke are also looking to install 3 phase and the route will be from the pavement opposite the S&S. WPC can speak to him regarding this.

49/22 Chairman's Report– Matt Reid

There was no report.

50/22 Public Questions

There were none notified.

51/22 County Councillors Report - Cllr Freddie Van Mierlo- His monthly update has been emailed to all Councillors.

20mph – Watlington will be in the first tranche along with Chalgrove, Pyrton, Little Milton, Nettlebed and Christmas Common. Shirburn is not included as there are doubts as to whether this location is appropriate for 20mph. The timing is loose, but he is hopeful 20mph can be achieved by the end of the year.

FvM Chalgrove Motion at OCC – He reported that this had not been successful due to his earlier

assurances of support he had, not being made at the meeting. Their reasoning was that this was an SODC matter which OCC should not be commenting on. However, Councils frequently comment on other Councils proposals. There had been concern from the SODC monitoring officer that Councillors on both Councils may be at risk of predetermination. However, the amendment was accepted which softened the motion and removed the legal concerns. Cllr Liz Leffman understood the reasons why this development should not go ahead, and she will be speaking to Homes England about her concerns.

TH stated that WPC does not take political views but that this issue is vital to Watlington.

23 Parishes wrote previously opposing this and we could utilise this coherent opposition to send an update to all of them.

It was agreed that this is not urgent and should be discussed at a further meeting.

CCT – An OCC committee has been formed and the members are Cllrs Robin Bennett, Jane Murphy, Felix Bloomfield, Freddie van Mierlo. A Labour Councillor will also be nominated to this committee.

FvM said that these meeting should be open to the public and this committee should make accountability visible and clear. When only one person was in charge this led to a conservative approach. It will also help improve decision making and that when the transfer takes place to WPC that the decision is taken as a collective rather than by one person who is at risk of being criticised.

IH said that he thought that this is a very positive step, and he is encouraged by this. IH reported that FOWL members were on the CCT Shadow Body but no longer wish to be involved. MR stated that when things start progressing, they may wish to reconsider this.

Shirburn Road Works – TH said he had concerns about these works and that there seems to be no thought given to the impact on Watlington by Highway Engineers. He said that this will affecting businesses again and said that WBA should consider making a collective application for business rates discounts. MR will speak to WBA on this.

It was noted that these works are taking place during ArtWeeks with another road closure at Cookley Green. The Parish Office have been in contact with OCC and the contractors on this. FvM will be bringing up the issue of road closures many times on the same road and that residents are not being leafleted about road works.

Pyrtan Lane – FvM said that he had hoped that works would be started before Easter, but these have been delayed but it is moving ahead. IH said that the road has been marked up. There is a wish to reinstate one verge and a crossing point, and he will talk to the local residents about this.

Lights not working at Cuxham Road Roundabout by the Industrial Estate – The works have still not been done by SSE.

FvM reported that he had been for a walk on Red Kite view with GB and others to look at the environmental issues and he will follow up on this.

52/22 District Councillors Report - Cllr Anna Badcock
No report had been sent.

53/22 To receive the Balance of Accounts, Receipts received and approve the list of Payments to be settled.
TH read out the Balance of Accounts and proposed that the list of payments be settled as per the prescribed process. The receipts were also noted.
Resolved: That the Balances of Accounts and the List of Payments be settled and that they be signed by the Chairman and the Vice- Chair of Finance.
These are shown at the end of these minutes.

54/22 Committees:
A: FINANCE–24/3/22 -Tim Horton
Resolved: That Council accept these minutes

Car Park sinking fund.

Resolved: That Council approve £6K on the car park sinking fund to be used for the EV charging points in this location.

Preferred Contactors List

Resolved: That for areas of general maintenance the Clerk is allowed to spend as per our Financial Regulations 4.1 'the Clerk, in conjunction with Chairman of Council or Chairman of the appropriate committee, for any items below £2,000'.

TH stated that WPC will always look for best value for money. TH said that he will be stepping down from this committee and others in May and he thanked the Finance Committee and Full Council members for what has been achieved since 2019.

Budget 2022/23 – SB reported that when the Finance Committee put together this budget there was a mistake on the Pavilion Account in which an item had been double counted. This has the effect that there will be a deficit of £5K so there will not be a balanced budget. The £5K will be taken from the general reserves. However, at the end of 2021/22 there is likely to be underspends, so this is likely to compensate for this error.

Riverside Counselling – MN asked why the Finance Committee did not award a grant to this organisation. TH said that we had not received information we had requested and that there had been no allocation in the budget. WPC give a generous grant to First Steps and thought that some of the issues were undertaken by them already. WPC also have to consider the limit of 137 spending of which this money would be part.

MR asked that MN look to see what services/counselling are available in our community already.

B: PLANNING 5/4/2022- Matt Reid

Resolved: That Council accept these minutes

Wat B and C – The reserved matters application was withdrawn due to a technicality and a new one has been submitted which divides both sites and making the distinctions between both sites.

Resolved: That there is a special meeting to discuss this.

[Post Minute Note – This will take place on Tuesday 26th April.]

C: STRATEGY – 22/3/22 – Steve Bolingbroke

Resolved: That Council accept these minutes

SB stated that we had 6 shortlisted projects and 2 projects have had their business cases approved. The 2 remaining projects: The Performance Stage and the MUGA have been presented in draft and 2 have not presented business cases.

Traffic 2030 – The NPAB are reviewing this and then Council needs to discuss this,

D. OPERATIONS – 17/2/22– Ian Hill

Resolved: That Council accept these minutes

Marlbrook – The local resident's group had asked if the rewilding project could be repeated, and the Operation Committee agreed this.

Bins in the Town – The committee reviewed the paper sent by IH and have requested that some bins be repaired and also suggested locations for new bins.

E. PAVILION AND SPORTS FIELD –Matt Reid- There has been no meeting.

F. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN ADVISORY BOARD – 21/3/2022

Resolved: That Council accept these minutes

Resolved: That the WNDP be reviewed to meet the criteria for “material modifications” which does not require a referendum.

SB said that in regard to the Climate Strategy and Rec Master Plan no extra sites were put into the plan. However, this will be a significant matter we will need to look at after 2035.

Regarding the review, we will need to do a level of public consultation to get the views of our community. We are unaware of what will be in the joint local plan for the South and Vale and therefore we need to have our review as a holding position until we have seen their plan as WPC will be affected by what is in their plan. We will need to do another review in 5 years. It was noted that we will need to know what additional land is needed e.g., for Sports Field, Solar Farm etc. This issue will be discussed by the Strategy Committee.

G. ALLOTMENTS –4/4/2022 - Ian Hill/ Roger Beattie – Minutes to be accepted at the next meeting.

H. INTERFACE COMMITTEE –Matt Reid stated that there was a short meeting at the end of last month to discuss reserved matters and both parishes have written to Duncan Enright at OCC. Pyrton are very concerned about traffic feeding into Pyrton.

I. CHARLOTTE COXE SHADOW BODY – MR reported that there will need to be discussion on a few matters but this needs to be once we have received the relevant paperwork.

55/22 Councillors Motions

1. Environment Emergency – Proposer Steve Bolingbroke

Council notes:

- That at its meeting of 11th January Council voted to declare an Environmental Emergency
- That no definition was provided as to what an Environmental Emergency is or what Watlington Parish Council can do to avert or mitigate it
- An emergency is a situation that poses an immediate risk to [health](#), [life](#), [property](#), or [environment](#) (UK Government definition) and implies that urgent intervention is required to prevent a worsening of the situation or mitigate its effects.
- That no actions or policies were proposed as a result of the declaration.
- That an Environmental Emergency is defined by the UN as “*sudden-onset disaster or accident resulting from natural, technological or human-induced factors, or a combination of these, that causes or threatens to cause severe environmental damage as well as loss of human lives and property.*”
- That at its meeting on 11th February 2021 SODC declared an Ecological Emergency linked to issues such as biodiversity and habitat degradation.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL:

1. To ask the proposer of the motion to define what is meant by an Environmental Emergency and its principal characteristics in the context of Watlington
2. To identify the broad actions and policies that Watlington Parish Council might take to address the Environmental Emergency
3. To agree how actions to address the Environmental Emergency fit within WPC’s priorities. Specifically, whether these actions should take priority over; actions to address the Climate Emergency, provision of facilities and services to the community, provision of housing and economic development.
4. To take no action and pass no policy which is justified on the basis of there being an Environmental Emergency until actions 1 to 3 have been completed.

After discussion the following was resolved:

That Council resolved:

1. To identify the broad actions and policies that Watlington Parish Council might take to address the Environmental and Ecological Emergency.
2. To agree how actions to address the Environmental Emergency fit within WPC's priorities. Specifically, whether these actions should take priority over; actions to address the Climate Emergency, provision of facilities and services to the community, provision of housing and economic development.
3. To take no action and pass no policy which is justified on the basis of there being an Environmental Emergency until actions 1 to 3 have been completed.

2. Motion to join the CAT directory – Proposer Terry Jackson

Whilst discussing climate change with other groups and parishes there has been a wish expressed that we should be able to share our process and actions with each other. To this end The Centre for Alternative Technology has created this opportunity. I propose that we should add ourselves to this community of sharing information. This would be an opportunity that works in two directions – we could share our excellent Climate Action Plan created by Steve Bolingbroke with insights of where he got his information but conversely, we would be enabled to look at how other councils and groups are working and adopt their methods where we think they help.

The Centre for Alternative Technology hosts this directory through its Zero Carbon Britain Hub and Innovation Lab (www.cat.org.uk/zcb) and takes no responsibility whatsoever for any information or advice shared between people contactable via this directory. Our privacy notice is here: <https://cat.org.uk/privacy-notice/>
https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=Og_Hiln7OESaXUPwLwun_FRmOdSEhHVMhkUTO0e5ALRUMzBVWjhHME9CUDU5VFROVjZSQ0FGNEhQSSQIQCN0PWcu

This was deferred and TJ will find out more information and send to members.

3. Motion to Support the Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill – Terry Jackson asks that this issue be discussed again. [Note: This was discussed in May 2021 and this motion was NOT CARRIED]

That Council notes that:

1. This council has already declared a climate emergency.
2. There is a Bill before Parliament—the Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill (published as the “Climate and Ecology Bill”)—according to which the Government must develop an emergency strategy that:
 - a. requires that the UK plays its fair and proper role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions consistent with limiting global temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial temperatures;
 - b. ensures that all the UK's consumption emissions are accounted for;
 - c. includes emissions from aviation and shipping;
 - d. protects and restores biodiverse habitats along overseas supply chains;
 - e. restores and regenerates the UK's depleted soils, wildlife habitats and species populations to healthy and robust states, maximising their capacity to absorb CO₂ and their resistance to climate heating;
 - f. sets up an independent Citizens' Assembly, representative of the UK's population, to engage with Parliament and Government and help develop the emergency strategy.

Council therefore resolves to:

- a) **Support** the Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill;
- b) **Inform the local media** of this decision;
- c) **Write an open letter to John Howell MP** (shared with our residents through local media) urging him to sign up to support the Bill; and
- d) **Write to the CEE Bill Alliance** (campaign@ceebill.uk) and the CEE Bill Alliance Oxfordshire (ceebillalliance.oxford@gmail.com), the organisers of the campaign for the Bill, expressing its support.

**Vote: 4 against, 1 in favour, 1 abstention
NOT CARRIED**

4. CCT Motion from Matt Reid

That Council agree the adoption of a license from OCC to conduct works on 33 High Street.
This Motion was deferred.

56/22 Consultations

There were none.

57/22 Correspondence for Information – List Attached

Letter 186 – NALC – Asking what issues of relevance WPC would like the to address and the services that we would like NALC to provide

TH suggested that we ask advice on how WPC should be conducting ourselves on best value technically and how this is determined.

58/22 Reports from Organisations and Representation on other bodies

Watlington in Bloom – TJ reported that this will be relaunched to attract new members.

59/22 Other Matters for Discussion at the discretion of Chair

Queens Jubilee Group – This group has been set up to organise an event on Sunday 5th June. More information will follow. MN reported that the WPC have purchased packets of wildflower seed to be given to all local children under 11 and books on Climate Change have been bought. NM and TJ will have a meeting on this.

33 High Street – MR said that there has been a lot of media interest in this, and he has suggested that there is a ‘Media Day’ at the appropriate time.

THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9PM



Watlington Parish Council

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Barclays Bank PLC

Please provide balance on Parish Accounts as at close of business
On 11/4/2022

Barclays Premium A/C	£	167,437.40 CR
Barclays Current A/C	£	3,000.00 CR
Barclays High Interest Bus A/C	£	80,018.56 CR (CIL: £23,513.01)
Barclays Pavilion Account	£	6,668.64 CR
TOTALS	£	<u>£257,124.60 CR</u>

Account held by WPC for the
Young People Fund

£ **26,540.88**

Signature of Chairman:

Date: 12th April 2022

Accounts for Payment to be authorised by Watlington Parish Council Full Council Meeting 12th April 2022															Paid	
Date	TO WHOM	DETAILS	Number	Allotment	Pub Conv	Special Projects	TH Grant	Operations	Central	Wages	Car Park	INCL VAT	VAT	EXCL VAT	Power	
21/03/2022	SSE	GAS	BACS						79.83			79.83	3.80	76.03	LGAS111	
23/03/2022	BSS	Allotment Materials Water Upgrade	BACS	1358.98								1358.98	226.50	1132.48	TCPA ss23,2	
23/03/2022	BSS	Allotment Materials Water Upgrade	BACS	1712.65								1712.65	285.44	1427.21	TCPA ss23,2	
23/03/2022	MKM	Allotment Materials Water Upgrade	BACS	105.02								105.02	17.50	87.52	TCPA ss23,2	
23/03/2022	Tappin	Plant Hire	BACS	1083.20								1083.20		1083.20	TCPA ss23,2	
24/03/2022	Briants of Risborough	Allotment Materials Water Upgrade	BACS	37.80								37.80	6.30	31.50	TCPA ss23,2	
24/03/2022	CWT	Tree Work for NP(from Local Grant)	BACS			3600.00						3600.00	600.00	3000.00	TCPA s61f	
24/03/2022	Tappin	Part Labour some retention	BACS	1200.00								1200.00		1200.00	TCPA ss23,2	
28/03/2022	Kathryn Davies	Conservation Area (from Local Grant)	BACS			1195.00						1195.00		1195.00	TCPA s61f	
28/03/2022	Glanvilles	Pyrton Lane Project (OCC to refund)	BACS			1440.00						1440.00	240.00	1200.00	HA s274A	
28/03/2022	OCC	Comet Bus	BACS						188.00			188.00		188.00	s137	
28/03/2022	HMRC	Tax and NI	BACS						1898.32			1898.32		1898.32	LGAS112	
01/04/2022	Staff	Wages/Salaries	BACS							3603.26		3603.26		3603.26	LGAS112	
01/04/2022	BSS	Allotment Materials Water Upgrade	BACS	323.52								323.52	53.92	269.60	TCPA ss23,2	
05/04/2022	Env Grant 2021/22	Seeds Queen Jubilee	BACS						485.20			485.20		485.20	s137	
05/04/2022	Env Grant 2021/22	Climate Change Books	BACS						193.20			193.20		193.20	s137	
12/04/2022	Loop	Pat Testing 3 properties	BACS						144.00			144.00	24.00	120.00	s111	
12/04/2022	SSE	Gas	BACS						83.18			83.18	3.96	79.22	s111	
12/04/2022	Grundon	Car Park Bin	BACS								134.05	134.05	22.34	111.71	s111	
12/04/2022	LGP Solicitors	Work on 33 High Street CCT	BACS						1080.00			1080.00	180.00	900.00	s111	
12/04/2022	OALC	Annual Membership	BACS						550.55			550.55	458.79	91.76	s111	
12/04/2022	Viking	Goods	BACS		42.80				41.66			101.35	16.89	84.46	s111	
12/04/2022	Wiserve	Work on Computer	BACS						116.40			116.40	19.40	97.00	s111	
12/04/2022	O Brake	SID	BACS					110.00				110.00		110.00	s111	
12/04/2022	Grundon	Car Park Bin	BACS								101.41	101.41	16.90	84.51	s111	
12/04/2022	Wiserve	Remote Back up x 2	BACS					48.00				48.00	8.00	40.00	s111	
	Totals			5821.17	42.80	6235.00	0.00	158.00	4860.34	3603.26	235.46	20972.92	2183.74	18789.18		
		Receipts 8th March to 12th April 2022														
		Pavilion				Parish Council										
		Pavilion Hire	£294.00			Loyalty Rewards	£0.30									
						SODC 1/2 Precept	£67,432.50									
						Groundwork Grant	£11,335.00									
		Total	£ 294.00	Total		£ 78,767.80										

