



Minutes of the Meeting of Full Council held in the Community Office At 8.00pm on Tuesday 15th January 2019

Present:

Councillors:

Matt Reid (MR) - Chairman
Nicky Smallbone (NS)
Terry Jackson (TJ)
Roger Beattie (RB)
Tony Williamson (TW)
Stephanie Van de Pette (SvP)
Andrew McAuley (AM)
Tom Bindoff (TB)
Fiona Butler (FB)
Jeremy Bell (JB)

Officer:

Kristina Tynan (KT)

Press:

David White – Henley Standard

Members of the Public:

2

01/19 Apologies for absence

Ian Hill, Bob West, Fergus Lapage, Rob Smith.

02/19 Chairman's Remarks

MR wished everyone a Happy New Year. He also said that it has been an extraordinary day regarding Parliament. There is also to be a vote of no confidence in the Prime Minister taking place tomorrow in the Houses of Parliament.

03/19 To receive Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest notified.

04/19 Minutes of the Full Council Meetings held on 11th December 2018 to be signed as a correct record

The following changes were agreed:

Minute 172/18 CIL Funding, paragraph one, line six should read 'Howe' not 'Hill'.

Minute 173/18, County Councillors Report, paragraph four, line one – 'Aaron' to be changed to 'Aron' to add the words 'as he is working on the Edge Road' after the words 'very good'.

Minute 178/18 to add the words 'and set up a Trustee Body for CCT' after the word 'MOU'.

Resolved: That with the above changes the minutes are a correct record of this meeting and to be signed by the Chairman.

05/19 Matters arising from the Minutes

Little Orchard (Minute 171/18 refers) – TB said that he disagreed with Ian Hill's comment on 'an option was discussed but not sold' as he said that when he last checked there is an option and it is on the register. This will need to be checked. TJ asked if the letter to the Masons has been sent. MR said he needed to make some changes and then will send out to Councillors for comment before it goes to the Masons. TJ asked if the letter mentions valuation of the land.

Swan Way part of The Ridgeway (Minute 172/18 refers) – TW stated that in the light of the information that was given at the OCC meeting last Friday, the information given really adds to the value of

progressing access to Lys Mill via Britwell Road and the one-way street issue.

CCT (Minute 176/18) – TW said that he is very concerned about this. IH has been in touch with our Solicitor as they have not been able to get information from OCC because OCC have concerns with the original figures for the service agreements and communal areas in particular as regards the Library. TW said he has written to Steve Harrod to see if he can get some Officer time put into sorting this out as we cannot progress until this is done.

Children's Centre – TW asked that after the three years are up is the Chalgrove and Watlington Children Centre supposed to be self-supporting. SvP said she is not involved with the Committee, but this is the case and believes they have started putting in applications for funding. It was agreed that we write to them stating that we have recently looked at a grant policy and that the criteria we will be using for assessing applications.

Traffic Management – TW said do we need to be reviewing this, so we are in a position to weigh up the information we have been given on the Edge Road. TB said that the Edge Road should be built before development takes place. AM said that Archstone have traffic mitigation measures, many of which OCC do not agree with. We also have mitigation measures in our NP. If the road goes ahead mitigation measures would not be required as regards noise, pollution etc. He suggested that we review the measures and see what mitigation would be needed. The Town Centre should be enhanced rather than mitigated. The money Archstone has put in for mitigation measures could be put towards things that enhance the Town and OCC thought this would be a good idea. TW said it seems that any traffic management issues take a long time. It is hoped that with the Growth Board Deal things will be done quicker. TJ said that this issue should be looked at by the NPAB. TB stated that when we first made the NP, we had no idea when the Edge Road would be built or how it would progress. He also said that the Edge Road does not address the speeding issue at Howe Hill or the crossing issue at The Goggs.

06/19 Public Questions

There were none notified.

07/19 County Councillors Report - Cllr Stephen Harrod

Steve Harrod had sent his apologies for this meeting. His monthly newsletter has been circulated to Councillors.

08/19 District Councillors Report - Cllr Anna Badcock

There was no report received. MR stated that there were a number of questions for the District Councillor and that a meeting would be requested at a convenient time.

09/19 To receive the Balance of Accounts, Receipts received and approve the list of Payments to be settled.

NS 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.

(This information is attached as an addendum to these minutes).

Resolved: That the Balances of Accounts and the List of Payments be settled and that they be signed by the Chairman and the Chairman of Finance.

10/19 Committees:

A: FINANCE – 17/12/2018 – Nicky Smallbone

Resolved: That Council accept these Minutes.

NS apologised for a couple of omissions on the minutes, which have now been corrected and all Councillors have been sent these.

TB asked why the Finance Committee is using RPI as he thinks they should be using CPI (Consumer Price Index). TW said that we have always used RPI which gives continuity. TW stated that at the meeting he argued for a 4% increase which was not agreed by the Finance Committee. TB said that if you use an inflation figure, the committee should use one which can be defended and should not use RPI. This will be a difficult year for Finance and as a Parish Council we should be more efficient. We will be getting funds from developers so there will be new money coming.

NS said that we should use the RPI figure this year and the committee can then have a discussion for next year on what measure to use.

JB said that this Council does a very good job with its money. AM stated that a lot of services are moving down a level and we as a Parish Council have had to take on more responsibilities, our residents would be more upset to lose services. He agreed with NS's comment to keep this year at RPI and then re consider for next year. It was noted that with a 3.3% increase this relates to an increase of 36p per month for 10 months and using a lower CPI figure would not make much difference to the amount.

A vote was then taken on each individual recommendation.

Budget and Precept 2019/2020

Resolved:

i) To increase the annual payment of Council Tax Band D from £109.58 to £113.20 and other bands proportionately.

[Vote: 9 in favour, 1 against CARRIED]

ii) To establish a precept (being the Band D figure multiplied by the Tax base of 1171.6) of £132,626.41 (An increase of 3.3% which is the RPI figure for September and October.)

This equates to an increase of £0.36 for each month (Band D) for the 10 months payable.

[Vote: 9 in favour, 1 against CARRIED]

iii) To approve the Committee Budgets figures (titled Budget Recommendation for Full Council on 15th January 2019) which is attached to these minutes.

TB said that the Co-op income for the car park is worrying. A meeting has been held with the Co-op, but they have not responded to any of the Clerks emails. She will continue to try to speak to someone in the Head Office regarding this. TB said also the issue of transferring the Car Park to a Charity does not seem to have progressed. SvP said there is a Car Park group which is looking into all issues. This is an item on the next Strategy Committee agenda. TB said that the retail environment is different than it was a few years ago.

[Unanimous in Favour]

Staff Salary Increases for 1st April 2019

It was noted that the Finance Committee have followed the NALC advice and guidelines on this. TW said that the Parish Council do not have to follow national guidelines, but it is much better to do so.

Resolved: That we increase the Clerks salary by 2% and Assistant Clerk salary by 2.79%. That the Admin Assistant hourly rate be increase from £10.11 to £10.34. That we increase the Caretaker salary by 6.94%. That workers that cover the Caretakers work be paid at the same rate as the Caretaker.

[Vote: 8 in favour, 2 against CARRIED]

Debit Card for Current Account

Following advice from OALC they state that a Debit Card would be the best way for the Parish Council to be able to pay for items on-line, rather than officers using their personal cards. NALC are in the process of looking at Parish Council having PayPal account, but this is not something that can be done at present.

Resolved: That a Debit Card is ordered for the Watlington Parish Council Current Account.

Appointment of an Internal Auditor

Following the resignation of Roger Symes and discussions with Nicky Smallbone and the Clerk:

Resolved: That we appoint Denise Allnut as our internal auditor for the 2018/2019 accounts.

[Unanimous in favour]

B: PLANNING – 8/01/2019 – Andrew McAuley

Resolved: That Council accept these Minutes

AM said that there were no recommendations from this meeting to discuss.

SODC Local Plan Consultation – AM said that the main document is 285 pages and there is a

number of appendices and supporting documents. AM said that any comments in the first instance to be sent to GB as the NPAB will look at this and then recommend a response to the Planning Committee. The response to be on the February Full Council Agenda for approval. The deadline for the response is the 18/2/2019. The density of housing has changed from 25 to 45 per hectare. TB said our NP has been adopted by SODC so should still stand as it is. Site A is a full application but there is a risk that there will be a subsequent application to increase density. However, the fundamentals of our NP was based on 25 per hectare. TB said that the John Howell Bill may go though. NP's cannot be taken to appeal so if the Bill is accepted this would be very good for Watlington. On the SODC summary briefing, we are allocated a zero which means there will be no extra housing allocation to Watlington. TW said that we are not under the same amount of pressure as Chinnor and Benson.

There is a summary document and the Clerk will send to all Councillors. It was noted that Councillors can join any petitions and send their own responses as individuals.

40 Brook Street – AM reported that there has been a significant number of emails on this. WPC objected to the building of 4 houses on this site on several issues eg Access, the Conservation Area, damage of trees and our own NP. At the moment we are still waiting for the Officers report. A meeting with OCC Highways has been requested to discuss the OCC response to the application and to review the technical aspects of the access plan.

SODC has said that it is not guaranteed to go to the SODC Planning Committee, but the officer will recommend a Planning Committee site visit. He also said that he did not believe that the application challenged policies in the NP. It was noted that Anna Badcock has been kept informed. TJ said that the applicant has started cutting down the trees.

MR thanked AM for all his work on this application and other issues. The role of the Chairman of the Planning Committee is a hard one and he is doing a fantastic job.

C: STRATEGY- There has been no meeting.

D. OPERATIONS – There has been no meeting.

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

F. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN ADVISORY BOARD – There has been no meeting.

G. ALLOTMENTS – 10/1/2019 – Nicky Smallbone

NS reported that the new Committee have had their first meeting and the minutes will come to the February Full Council. George Bruce was elected as Chairman and Robert Rogers as the Vice-Chairman. It was a very positive meeting. One action to come out of it is that there will be a monthly article in the Watlington Times.

11/19 General Issues

There were none.

12/19 Correspondence for Information

Letter No 3 - Daran Golding requesting info and advice on Metal Detecting – This has been passed to Operations.

13/19 Reports from Organisations and Representation on other bodies

1. Minutes of the Watlington Youth Club 3/12/2018 -Attached for information – **These were noted.**

14/19 Other Matters for Discussion at the discretion of Chair

MUGA – RB reported that the will be re-submitting the application.

Outside Tennis Tables – These have been purchased and will be installed in March

THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.30PM



Watlington Parish Council

Parish Clerk: Kristina Tynan

Barclays Bank PLC

Please provide balance on Parish Accounts as at close of business
On 14/01/2019

Barclays Premium A/C	£	98,234.52 CR
Barclays Current A/C	£	1,228.76 CR
Barclays High Interest Bus A/C	£	9,779.69 CR
Barclays Pavilion Account	£	1,140.77 CR
Barclays Pav Development Fund (WTFC/WCC/WPC Fundraising)	£	40.62 CR
TOTALS	£	<u>110,424.36 CR</u>

N. Smallface

Signature of Chairman:

Date: 15th January 2019

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Watlington Parish Council

Accounts for Payment to be authorised at Full Council 15 January 2019

Date	TO WHOM	DETAILS	Number	MPC	PT/Club Conv	Operations Central	Wages	Pavilion	INC. VAT	VAT	EXCL VAT	Power
02/01/2019	Wages	Staff Wages - 5 employees	BACS				3663.00		3663.00			LGAS112
15/01/2019	Grounds	Waste Mgt	BACS			48.07			48.07		8.01	40.06 LGAS11
15/01/2019	OCC	Nov Comet Trips	BACS				188.00		188.00			188.00 S137
15/01/2019	Wiseerve Ltd	Computer Assistance	BACS				48.00		48.00		8.00	40.00 LGAS11
15/01/2019	Bongo	February Licence	BACS				22.56		22.56		3.76	18.80 LGAS11
15/01/2019	T Bilcliffe	Paddock Gardening	BACS			300.00			300.00			300.00 LGAS11
15/01/2019	OCC	Dec Comet Trips	BACS				141.00		141.00			141.00 S137
15/01/2019	K Brody	Youth Worker (VC Grant)	104243				150.00		150.00			150.00 LGAS11
15/01/2019	Petty Cash	Cash for Office	104244				45.00		45.00			45.00 LGAS11
15/01/2019	Wiking	Copy Paper	BACS				33.48		33.48		5.58	27.90 LGAS11
15/01/2019	Grounds	Waste Mgt	BACS			65.72			65.72		10.95	54.77 LGAS11
		Total		0.00	0.00	413.79	478.04	0.00	4704.83	0.00	36.30	4668.53
Receipts 10th December 2018 - 14th January 2019												
		Pavilion										
		Lettings	£				346.50					
		WTFC	£				208.33					
		BT Refund	£				363.83					
			£				918.66					
		Parish Council										
		Hire of West Room	£				10.00					
		Car park rent	£				100.00					
		Cusham Field Rent (quarter)	£				200.00					
		Contribution for grants for War Memorial (half)	£				180.00					
		Allotment	£				15.00					
		Bus Tickets	£				207.00					
		Gross Cutting from PCC	£				775.00					
			£				1,487.00					

N. Smallbone

