



MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING OF WATLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT 7PM ON TUESDAY 11th JANUARY 2022 VIA ZOOM

Present:

Councillors:

Matt Reid (MR) – Chairman
Ian Hill (IH) – Vice Chairman
Tim Horton (TH)
Margaret Noon (MN)
Steve Bolingbroke (SB)
Andrew McAuley (AM)
Roger Beattie (RB)
Alex Basden (AB)
Terry Jackson (TJ)
Rob Smith (RS)

Officer:

Kristina Tynan (KT)

County Councillor:

Freddie Van Mierlo (FvM)

In attendance:

Gill Bindoff (GB)- NPAB

Member of the Public:

Mr Irons – Agenda item 10, I

01/22 Apologies for Absence

There were none.

02/22 To receive Declarations of Interest

There were none notified.

03/22 Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 14th December 2021 to be agreed and signed as a correct record

One change was agreed, Minute 159/21, D 20 mph, to change 'looked at' to 'be sent in'

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

04/22 Matters arising from the Minutes

20mph (Minute 159/21, D refers) – IH said that he will be sending in an application for 20mph in Christmas Common and Greenfield before the end of the week.

Providence Land and the bridleway at the edge of Pyrton Lane (Minute 159/21, G refers) – MR said he needs to discuss this issue with the Allotment Committee and will do this.

05/22 Chairman's Report/Update on COVID 19 and Watlington – Matt Reid

MR reported that Richard Dorney-Savage had sent in his resignation but will still contribute to youth issues in the town. MR said that KT had circulated an email regarding lobbying the Government to allow zoom meetings and suggested that Councillors may wish to sign up to this. MR said that he hopes by the Spring Covid cases will have decreased and that it is hoped to have a face-to-face meeting in March for Full Council.

06/22 Public Questions

There had been no questions notified.

07/22 County Councillors Report - Cllr Freddie Van Mierlo- His monthly update has been emailed to all Councillors.

OCC Consultation on Freight Route – This is for a county wide solution for HGV's and OCC could move existing restrictions. FvM said that we should watch this carefully. Watlington needs to have its weight restriction and it may be worth WPC responding early on this. FvM will also be making his own response.

New Bridge and Roundabout for Edge Road and sweep on Britwell Road – MR said he had sent a letter to Harbi on this but has not had a response. FvM will nudge him to reply.

Edge Road – OCC are looking for design consultants and should be appointing one in the third week of January. Geoff Arnold has said that there should be a planning design by December 2022. MR said he was not happy with some of the wording and will be discussing this at the Interface meeting. FvM said he was unsure if the wording could be changed but maybe there could be a statement.

Pyrton Lane – This is moving ahead and with regards to the public consultation there was only one person who objected.

20mph – GB reported that with regards to the survey on this. There were 500 responses and there was over 80% support for this. Christmas Common had 100% agreement. Rachel Gill will send the results out. FvM stated that OCC are determining their budget and there will be funds available for 20mph schemes in the County.

08/22 District Councillors Report - Cllr Anna Badcock

No report had been received.

SB reported that he had met with AB to discuss the Sports Survey. She has said that she will attend the February Full Council meeting and it was agreed to keep discussion to the items she has come to discuss.

09/22 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.

10/22 Committees:

A: FINANCE–20/12/21 -Tim Horton

Resolved: That Council accept these minutes

Financial Reserves Policy – This has now been revised

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL: To adopt the revised Financial Reserves Policy – This was referred back to Finance Committee

Budget and Precept 2022/2023

Resolved:

1. That we decrease the precept by 2.36% which would give a precept of £134,865.00 for 2022/23 (compared with £138,018.00 for 2021/22). This gives a Band D Council Tax Payment of £114.50 (£117.19 in 2021/22)

2.. That the draft budget for 2022/23 (titled Budget Recommendation for Full Council on 14th January 2023) which is shown as an attachment to these minutes) giving a total budget for £134,865 for 2022/23.

3. That the Reserves shown at the end of the Budget Paper be accepted.

New Play Equipment for Recreation Ground

Resolved: That Council agree to spend an extra £1536.78 on the play equipment scheme which would give a total cost of £18,536.78.

Statement of the Internal Audit Review

Resolved: To agree the following statement:

'The main role of the Internal Auditor is to check all the financial and accountable records that the Clerk must keep. This is done soon after the end of the financial year and involves all the financial transactions and both the legal authority and procedural authority for such transactions - eg the signed minutes of all meetings. Once the Internal Auditor is satisfied with the accounts and records, the Clerk prepares the relatively brief submission to the External Auditor. During the year, the Clerk occasionally seeks her advice – eg in transferring the Receipt and Payment accounts, operated through the year, into Accrual accounts needed for audit. Were the Clerk to leave or become temporarily unavailable, the Internal Auditor would assist a new or acting clerk.'

B: PLANNING 4/1/2022- Andrew McAuley

Resolved: That Council accept these minutes

AM said that there were no issues to raise.

C: STRATEGY – 16/12/21 - Andrew McAuley

Recommendation: That Council accept these minutes

Major projects/CIL working group - AM reported that this group will now be incorporate into the Strategy Committee which will now meet monthly There will be quarterly A meetings which will be full Strategy meeting and B meetings which will work only on the major projects, and which will give greater oversight to the projects. AM stated that there will be a need to change the Terms of Reference.

WPC Sports and Recreation Strategy

Resolved: That the WPC Sports and Recreation Strategy be accepted as a draft strategy which can be consulted on by the next Strategy meeting and agreed and then will be reviewed again in one year.

D. OPERATIONS – Ian Hill – There has been no meeting.

Mansle Gardens – Work has been done on the hedge and fence issues.

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

F. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN ADVISORY BOARD – 13/12/2021

Resolved: That Council accept these minutes.

GB said that she and IH have been reviewing the Locality Application for 33 High Street and there is a meeting on this with the officer tomorrow. She asked if this should be continued in the light of other discussions on this site. WPC agreed that the Locality Application should be progressed at the present time as long as none of the application requirements in any way fix the potential future use of the building as this is a matter for trustees .

G. ALLOTMENTS - Roger Beattie – There has been no meeting.

RB said that the Josh and Kirsty are arranging a clear up day in February, and they are making good relations with plot holders.

H. INTERFACE COMMITTEE –Matt Reid

There is a meeting scheduled for tomorrow night.

I. CHARLOTTE COXE SHADOW BODY – Matt Reid

MR stated that he had a meeting with Jeremy Irons (JI) on the 30th of December who had a proposal to use 33 High Street to house an Afghan family of four for one year family. MR had sent out details of the proposal to all Councillors. He said that JI would raise funds to bring the building into a basic level of habitation, enough for emergency housing. As it would not be 'rented' as JI would underwrite this project, and it would not have to be up to rental standards. OCC have a sponsorship process and we would need to look into this to sponsor a family. There is also a scheme run by the Home Office. It is hoped that there will also be local goodwill in doing it up. The insurance would also need to be indemnified. MR said we are awaiting feedback from the OCC meeting on the 7/1/2022 and it is hoped we get an update soon. FOWL have also been made aware of this proposal. WPC are the voice of the community and if we can get support for this it could be a model for other communities. TH said it would be important to have a transition process ready for the end of term and it was agreed that some talks with the SODC housing officer would be needed.

Vote: 9 in favour, 1 abstention

CARRIED

Resolved: That WPC approach the current OCC CCT trustees to explore a proposal for an emergency housing project in order to bring 33 High Street back to a state of habitation. This would be a community project of one year in duration that is complimentary to the previously stated aims of bringing control of the CCT to Watlington for the wider benefit of the community. To also have a discussion with the SODC Housing Officer.

MR will write to Anita Bradley at OCC with this proposal and ask them to have a meeting to discuss it.

11/22 Climate Action Plan

Motion from Terry Jackson:

1. I would like to propose that in line with the adoption of the Climate Action plan taken in December that the WPC should commit to protecting the environment and natural world of the parish, recognising that there is also an environmental emergency and continue to assist local green groups as part of the effort to try to turn around this emergency.

SB said he did not understand the value of doing this as it is pointless unless we can do something about it. He asked what this Environment Emergency was and had it been evaluated and how many Emergency Issues do WPC want to be involved with.

Vote: 4 in favour, 3 against, 3 abstentions.

CARRIED

2. I would like to propose that WPC send a letter of support for my proposal of WCAG for Climate Action Heroes award by the High Sheriff of Oxfordshire.

Vote: 7 in favour, 3 abstentions.

CARRIED

3. As part of the Climate action plan adopted in Dec 2021, I would like to propose we accept and act on suggestion of Margaret Noon that we promote this at the library and schools.

Vote: 9 in favour, 1 abstention

CARRIED

4 That WPC join the Zero Carbon Britain Climate and Nature Action Directory. Link:

https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=Og_Hiln7OESaXUPwLwun_FRmOdSEhVVMhkUTO0e5ALRUMzBVWjhHME9CUDU5VFROVjZSQ0FGNEhQSSQIQCN0PWcu

It was agreed that we need more information. **This motion was withdrawn**

12/22 Consultations

1. SODC Community Governance during 2022 – MR said the next review would not be until 2027 and the most appropriate time to change boundaries would be when the large developments are completed, and this would keep good relations with our neighbouring parishes. TH said that the reviews are every 10 years, and we should also look at the Lys Mill area. He asked that this be discussed

at the Interface meeting tomorrow night. MR said that any thoughts of redrawing boundaries should be left until the edge road has been completed. MR read out a proposed inclusion to our PYR2 response for SODC, but after discussion with the chairman of Pyrton Parish Council it was agreed that it was too early to introduce such a statement, but he will mention it in future correspondence with SODC, so that they know the conversation has taken place. MR said that he would bring the discussion of putting together a MOU on this matter with Pyrton to the next Interface meeting.

2. Oxfordshire County Council's Local Transport and Connectivity Plan (LTCP) and supporting strategies for freight, innovation and active travel, are now out to public consultation. We would welcome your feedback on the documents. The consultation runs from **5th January 2022** until the **16th of March 2022**. All documents and the online survey can be found here: <https://letstalk.oxfordshire.gov.uk/ltcp>

Resolved: That the Transport Group be delegated to put in a response on this.

13/22 Correspondence for Information – List Attached

14/22 Reports from Organisations and Representation on other bodies

15/22 Other Matters for Discussion at the discretion of Chair

Climate Change for Young Children – MN said that she looked in the library and there were no books on this for younger children. She said she has sourced some and asked if WPC could buy some for the Library. It was noted that she would need to put in a proposal to the Finance Committee.

Countryfile – The last programme had a piece on Christmas Common and Watlington which was excellent. It was asked that MR discuss rejuvenation with the WBA and see if this could be promoted.

Promotion of Walks in the National Papers – A walk in Christmas Common was one of the 10 best walks in the UK. However, at the weekend it meant that lots of people came to the area and there were large amounts of cars parked on Hill Road. The pub at Christmas Common was also rammed over the weekend. MR will speak to Lyndsey about the possibility of offering any off-road parking. On the plus side it does encourage tourism in the area.

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 11/01/2022

Barclays Premium A/C	£	123,482.19 CR
Barclays Current A/C	£	2,983.46 CR
Barclays High Interest Bus A/C	£	80,016.47 CR (CIL: £23,513.01)
Barclays Pavilion Account	£	6,752.55 CR

TOTALS	£	<u>213,234.67 CR</u>
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Account held by WPC for the Young People Fund	£	26,540.88
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Signature of Chairman:

Date: 11th January 2022

Accounts for Payment to be authorised by Watlington Parish Council Full Council Meeting 11th January 2022														
Date	TO WHOM	DETAILS	Number	Pub Conv	Special Proje	TH Grant	Operations	Central	Wages	Car Park	INCL VAT	VAT	Paid EXCL VAT	Power
03/01/2022	All Staff	Wage/Salaries	BACS						3596.97		3596.97	0.00	3596.97	LGAS112
11/01/2022	Briants of Risborough	Items for Mansle Gardens	BACS				472.86				472.86	78.81	394.05	LGAS111
11/01/2022	Devey Tree Care	Works to Mansle Gardens	BACS				1620.00				1620.00	270.00	1350.00	LGAS111
11/01/2022	Azure Hygiene	Washroom items	BACS	67.34							67.34	11.22	56.12	PHAS87
11/01/2022	OCC	Comet Bus	BACS					235.00			235.00	0.00	235.00	S137
11/01/2022	O Brake	SID moving	BACS				160.00				160.00	0.00	160.00	LGAS111
11/01/2022	Shield Maintenance	Dog Bin Emptying	BACS				103.99				103.99	0.00	103.99	LGAS111
11/01/2022	Bongo IT	O365 outlook - 9134 December	BACS					22.56			22.56	3.76	18.80	LGAS111
11/01/2022	Wiserve	Remote Back up	BACS					48.00			48.00	8.00	40.00	LGAS111
11/01/2022	JRB	Dog Bags	BACS				166.50				166.50	27.75	138.75	LGAS111
11/01/2022	SSE	Office Gas	BACS					76.36			76.36	3.64	72.72	LGAS111
11/01/2022	Adam Clissold	Works to Mansle Gardens	BACS				226.20				226.20	0.00	226.20	LGAS111
11/01/2022	Adam Clissold	Works to Rec Fence	BACS				200.00				200.00	0.00	200.00	LGAS111
11/01/2022	Grundon	Car Park Bin	BACS							97.52	97.52	16.25	81.27	LGAS111
11/01/2022	Petty Cash	Cash for office	CHQ					100			100.00	0.00	100.00	LGAS111
	CAB	Grant	BACS								200.00	0.00	200.00	S137
	Youth Club	Grant	BACS								650.00	0.00	650.00	S137
	Totals			67.34	0.00	0.00	2949.55	481.92	3596.97	97.52	8043.30	419.43	7623.87	
		Receipts 14 December- 11th January 2022												
		Pavilion		Parish Council										
		Loyalty Reward	£ 0.91	Loyalty Reward	1.96									
		WTFC	£92.08	Allotment Rents	71.00									
				Car Park Trader	100.00									
				Cuxham Field Qtr	200.00									
		Total	£ 92.99	Total	£ 372.96									