



## MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT 7PM ON TUESDAY 10<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2023 ON ZOOM

**Present:**

**Councillors:**

Matt Reid (MR) – Chairman  
Andrew McAuley (AM)  
Ian Hill (IH)  
Brenda Bradford (BB)  
Roger Beattie (RB)  
Rob Smith (RS)  
Alex Basden (AB)

**Officer:**

Kristina Tynan (KT)

**County Councillor:**

Freddie van Mierlo

**In Attendance:**

Gill Bindoff – NPAB

01/23 Apologies for Absence

Tim Horton, Rob Smith, Margaret Noon.

02/23 To receive Declarations of Interest

There were none notified.

03/23 Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2022 to be agreed and signed as a correct record

**Resolved:** That these minutes are a correct record of this meeting, and these were signed by the Chairman.

04/23 Matters arising from the Minutes

**Football Pitch Lights-** MR said that he has been in discussions with WTF, and that cowling will be installed. Keith Woolfson will be speaking directly to SODC.

05/23 Chairman's Remarks– Matt Reid

MR wished everyone present a Happy New Year. He stated that we need to start recruitment drive for parish councillors with the upcoming elections in May 2023. MR will put some posts on Facebook. MN said that she has nearly finished the Councillors Members Handbook it just needs a foreword from MR.

06/23 Public Questions

There were none notified.

07/23 County Councillors Report - Cllr Freddie Van Mierlo

**Reduced bus fares:** For 3 months (Jan-Mar), bus passengers can enjoy a £2 cap on bus fares. Paid for by a government scheme, fares with participating bus firms will cost a maximum of £2 per adult single fare (includes Oxford Bus Company and Thames Travel). Concessions are unaffected and school services are excluded.

**11 Bus to Oxford** – OCC have secured 106 money for this service for the time being.

**Anti-sewage motion passes and water summit:** A Lib Dem motion at Full Council in December condemning the practice of dumping sewage into waterways passed with 2 near unanimity (one conservative opposed). Over the Christmas period, Thames Water released raw sewage 6 times into Oxfordshire rivers. A water summit in December also looked at challenges facing water supply and demand in Oxfordshire. There is now information on Thames Water website which gives information about dumping sewerage so at least it can be tracked. [EDM Map | Storm discharge data | River health | Thames Water](#)

**Three in four streetlamps now LED:** Over 75% of the 60,000+ street lighting assets in OCC control are now run with energy saving LED lights. Streetlighting is the largest source of carbon emissions in OCC's operations and is a growing cost due to rising energy prices. Since 2019/20 OCC has reduced carbon emissions by 21%, in large part thanks to the LED scheme. The milestone represents a significant improvement in the pace of rollout and will save the council £77m over 20 years.

GB stated that the colour spectrum is really important for wildlife and that they need an orange/yellow light rather than blue for Watlington. FvM said he would look into this. MR asked if they are able to be dimmed. FvM said he thinks this is possible and the timings can also be adjusted. The OCC new Street Lighting policy will reduce hours where possible. FvM will share this policy and send to WPC. GB asked if the streetlights at Red Kite View could be dimmed and turned off for some of the night time as they seem to be on all night.

**Successful bid for children's homes:** OCC has successfully bid for a £5.2m grant to part fund four new residential children's homes. The homes would provide accommodation and support for children requiring solo provision or who can only share with one other child, children with autism, and children who have had adverse childhood experiences. These new homes would add to OCC's portfolio of three homes, along with the new 4-bedroom home being constructed in Aston. The matched funding by OCC is still to be finalised.

**Health consultation:** A draft strategy developed by local healthcare leaders from across the health and care system in the Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire, Berkshire (BOB) area is being consulted on.

**Chilterns AONB boundaries:** Natural England are overseeing a review process of the boundaries of the Chilterns AONB. Natural England are appointing consultants who will carry out a technical assessment of natural beauty before consulting with stakeholders in spring and early summer of 2023. Contact email for enquiries: [ChilternsAONBBoundaryReview@NaturalEngland.org.uk](mailto:ChilternsAONBBoundaryReview@NaturalEngland.org.uk)

**Edge Road** – There will be a public consultation on 9<sup>th</sup> February in Watlington Club. It was noted that the residents of Britwell Road will have the opportunity to make their comments on this scheme.

**OCC Budget 23/24-** There will be a meeting in February to vote on this. Adult Social Care and Social Services budget is likely to increase. He said everyone complains about potholed but vulnerable children should take precedence. A question was asked about how much do OCC pay out in insurance claims for damage to cars from potholes. FvM said he would check on this.

MR asked if the Edge Road money is safe. FvM said he has not heard anything to the contrary and thinks that OCC are in receipt of the final growth fund grant.

08/23 District Councillors Report - Cllr Anna Badcock  
There was no report.

09/23 To receive the Balance of Accounts, Receipts received and approve the list of Payments to be settled.  
MR read out the Balance of Accounts and proposed that the list of payments be settled as per the prescribed process.

**Resolved:** That the Balances of Accounts and the List of Payments be settled and that they be signed by Matt Reid, Chair and Ian Hill, Members of the Finance Committee.  
*These are shown at the end of these minutes.*

10/23 Committees:

**A: FINANCE** - There has been no meeting.

**1. Precept and Budget for 2023/24**

**Resolved:** That an extraordinary Full Council meeting be held on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2023 in the Parish Office at 7pm.

The Finance Committee will have a meeting prior to the 17th and a paper will be sent out before this meeting.

**2. MUGA Charging Proposal** – There will be a recommendation on this for the meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup> January. A meeting will be held on Friday with AM, RB, MR and IH to prepare the proposal. It is hoped that the MUGA will be available for use by the end of January.

**3. Staff Pensions** – MR and all staff have a meeting with Logic on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> January so that pensions can be explained as this is part of the duty of care to staff. There will be a recommendation for the meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup> January.

**4. Grant Application Recommendations**

**4.1. Watlington Bowls Club** – Application for £1000 toward renovation works to the pitch.

**Resolved:** That we reallocate the money from Carbon Reduction Grant to General Grants and award a grant of £1000.

**4.2 Wild Oxfordshire** – Application for £800 toward a 2-day hedge laying training event.

**Resolved:** That we award a grant of £800 from the Environmental Grant Budget

**4.3 CAB** – Application for grant. They helped 54 people in Watlington during 21/22

**Resolved:** That we award a grant of £200 (which has been budgeted for)

**B: PLANNING 3/1/2023** – Andrew McAuley

**Resolved:** That Council accept these minutes

AM reported that there was a lot of discussion on the discharges of conditions on the two Redrow applications on Site B and C. A comprehensive report was sent to Emma Bowerman.

**C. OPERATIONS-** There has been no meeting.

**D. PAVILION AND SPORTS FIELD –12/12/2022**

MR said discussion took place on issues about handing over the Pavilion to the Clubs. The independent condition report, commissioned by the WPC was also looked at. There will also need to be a valuation of the building as it is unclear what the value would be as it could only be used for sports. The Local Energy Grant was mentioned and whether it could be used to do something at the Pavilion. It was agreed that a small webcam will be purchased by WPC (@£30) so that we can look at the status of the boiler in the loft using a mobile phone.

There were no minutes issued.

**E. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN ADVISORY BOARD – 19/12/2022**

**Resolved:** That Council accept these minutes

GB reported that this was a wind -up meeting for the end of the year.

**Edge Road** – GB reported that OCC have now gone back to the original drawing which is a slight curved road but are not using the sweep that WPC had proposed.

It was noted that there is no further requirement for Watlington to provide any additional housing. There is no extra housing in this iteration of the NP. We are waiting for the District Council report on suitable housing sites. The NPAB will then assess them in the same way that was done in the original NP.

AM stated that this is still a very tight turn and we wanted a gentle curve AM said that there are notes available at OCC as a survey of this did take place and Harbi should have access to this information. . FvM said he would follow this up with Harbi.

MR stated that if WTFC get into the Hellenic League they would need to have a stadium and there would be major problems in achieving this. However, we do not know the actual requirements at this stage.

**F. ALLOTMENTS** – There has been no meeting.

**G. INTERFACE COMMITTEE** – There has been no meeting.

**H. CHARLOTTE COXE SHADOW BODY** – MR/IH/GB

MR reported that they are waiting for documents from OCC. There is a meeting next week. MR has spoken to Stephanie O'Bryen who would be happy to answer any questions we have on a pro bono basis.

GB said we have not yet received the financial information requested.

11/23 Kings Coronation Celebration – 6<sup>th</sup> May 2023 – Initial discussion.

MR said he has had a meeting with the WBA, and they do not want to be involved in organising an event as Art Weeks is on at the same time. We could approach the PTA who organised the Queens Jubilee event. It was noted that the paddock is a great self-contained venue. RB suggested giving children mugs. MN organised wildflower seeds for children for the QPJ and she will have a think about a suitable item.

12/23 Consultations

There were no consultations that needed to be discussed.

13/23 Correspondence for Information – List was attached to the agenda

There was none that needed discussion.

14/23 Reports from Organisations and Representation on other bodies

**Watlington Welcome** – This group is putting together the Housing Project at 33 High Street. The property is looking good and cosy and a kitchen is going in this week. The building structure is safe in the short term but is being monitored for the long term. There is concert being held on the 10<sup>th</sup> February to raise funds and Jeremy Irons will be hosting this.

15/23 Other Matters for Discussion at the discretion of Chair

**Green Spaces** – GB said it would be very helpful to discuss the parish council's policy on green spaces in the new developments. With regard to Site B, we asked the developers to donate the green space to the PC to create a community orchard or allotments. If the spaces are going to be managed by a management company then wider community use may not be welcome. GB said that Community First are willing to come and have a talk with the PC on this. AM said we would need to be aware of the cost and effort of managing the land. GB said it would be good to have some costs. It seems that Redrow

will own and manage all the land on their sites. However, it was agreed that there would be no harm in having a meeting with Community First. GB will get some dates and circulate to Full Council and NPAB members.

**THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.30PM**



## Watlington Parish Council

Parish Clerk: Kristina Tynan  
Watlington Parish Council  
1 Old School Place  
Watlington  
OXON OX49 5QH

Tel: 01491 613867 Email: [wpc@watlington-oxon-pc.gov.uk](mailto:wpc@watlington-oxon-pc.gov.uk)

### Summary of WPC Bank Balances for Full Council

Balance on Parish Accounts at 12.20pm on 10/01/2023

Barclays Premium A/C	£	170,430.73
Barclays Current A/C	£	2,448.31
Barclays High Interest Bus A/C	£	80,093.00
Barclays Pavilion a/C	£	3,479.53
Unity Trust **	£	125,630.44
<b>Totals</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>382,082.01</b>
Held by WPC for Young People Fund	£	26,543.54

Signature of Chairman:



Date: 10<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Payment to be authorised by Watlington Parish Council Full Council Meeting 10th January 2023														Paid	
TO WHOM	DETAILS	Payment	Allotment	Pub Conv	Special Proj/CIL	TH Grant	Operations	Central	Wages	Grants	INCL VAT	VAT	EXCL VAT	Power	
Staff	Salaries /Wages November	BACS							3883.83		3883.83		3883.83	LGAS112	
SSE	Gas Parish Office	BACS						52.26			52.26	2.48	49.78	LGAS111	
OCC	Comet Bus October	BACS						188.00			188.00		188.00	S137	
Com Transport Assoc	Annual Membership	BACS						120.00			120.00		120.00	LGAS111	
Shield	Dog Bin Emptying #6177	BACS					103.99				103.99	17.33	86.66	LGAS111	
Wiseserve	Remote Back Up x 2	BACS						48.00			48.00	8.00	40.00	LGAS111	
Ricoh	Quarterly Bill Photocopier	BACS						381.36			381.36	63.56	317.80	LGAS111	
OCC	Comet Bus November	BACS						235.00			235.00		235.00	S137	
Grundon	Car Park Bin Emptying	BACS					130.74				130.74	21.79	108.95	LGAS111	
Helen Jones	Gardening Paddock/Rec/Mansle Oct/Dec	BACS					901.25				901.25		901.25	LGAS111	
TLGO	Grasscutting Sept	BACS					1564.90				1564.90	260.82	1304.08	LGAS111	
TLGO	Church Grasscutting Sept	BACS						300.00			300.00	50.00	250.00	S137	
idsign	Refurb of 3 noticeboards in the Rec	BACS					365.00				365.00		365.00	LGAS111	
SSE	Old School Place Gas	BACS						82.65			82.65	3.93	78.72	LGAS111	
O Brake	SID 3 devices data and moving	BACS					100.00				100.00		100.00	LGAS111	
FOWL	Ian Donaldson Bequest not used	BACS						2000.00			2000.00		2000.00	LGAS111	
			0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3165.88	3407.27	3883.83	0.00	10456.98	427.91	10029.07		
<b>Receipts 13th December 2022 - 9th January 2023</b>															
Pavilion															
Rental of Pavilion	£	121.00													
WCC		£1,249.98													
WTFC		£624.99													
Total	£	1,995.97	Total		£	498.00									