

Watlington Parish Council

Parish Clerk: Kristina Tynan

Minutes of the Meeting of Full Council held in the Community Office at 8.00pm on Tuesday 9th January 2018

Present:

Councillors: Matt Reid – Vice-Chairman (MR)

Nicky Smallbone (NS)

Bob West (BW)
Tom Bindoff (TB)
Tony Williamson (TW)

Rob Smith (RS) Fiona Butler (FB)

Tony Williamson (TW) - until 8.15pm

Officer: Kristina Tynan (KT)

Press: David White- Henley Standard

01/18 Apologies for Absence

Ian Hill, Fergus Lapage, Terry Jackson, Jeremy Bell, Roger Beattie.

02/18 Chairman's Remarks

MR said that Rachel Huckvale has resigned due to increased work commitments. MR stated that she will leave a big hole in Council and she has started a lot of new initiatives. Council gave thanks to Rachel Huckvale for all her work whilst on the Council especially for the new paddock play equipment project. The Chairman will write a formal letter of thanks.

03/18 To receive Declarations of Interest

To receive any declarations on interest from Councillors relating to items to be considered at the meeting, in accordance with the provisions of the Councils Local Code of Conduct.

Agenda Item 12 – Bob West declared a prejudicial interest in 33 High Street and the Charlotte Coxe Trust as he is the owner of the flat above the Library. He signed the 'Declaration of Interest' book and left the room for this item.

04/18 Minutes of the Full Council Meetings held on 12th December 2017 to be signed as a correct Record

MR said that with regard to Due Diligence and 33 High Street, this is a very nebulous term but in essence this seeks to prove that the benefits outweigh the negatives of taking the Charity over. There is no set process but Council must be sure that it has considered all aspects.

TW said that with regard to these minutes on the Charlotte Coxe Charity – Minute 174/17 refers, that he considers these inaccurate as they do not refer to the paper that he circulated and which was discussed at this meeting. However he said he would not formally oppose the minutes.

Resolved: That these minutes are a correct record of this meeting and that they be signed by the Chairman.

05/18 Matters arising from the Minutes

Charlotte Coxe Charity - Minute 174/17 refers.

TW stated that there will be a meeting set up with MR, IH, KT and himself to address this issue of due diligence and a paper will then be circulated to February Full Council.

However he stated that he is very upset the Shadow Body has been accused of not operating due diligence and said that this is not the case. All the minutes had been circulated to Councillor and TW has reported to most Strategy and Full Council meetings on this issue and has been open and honest on all issues reported. He also wrote to the Clerk and MR on this due diligence issue on the 13/12/17 and will send this to all Councillors.

BW stated that he did not think that any Councillor was attacking TW for lack of attention to detail but he has withdrawn for this issue at meetings. However he said that two roof tiles have fallen off recently and how much money will it take to maintain the building in the future.

MR said that he was considering the wider philosophy, it was not a personal thing but a process issue. He said he can only apologise to TW if he has upset him but is only concerned that Council do the right thing and that this can be shown in future years.

[TW then left the meeting at 8.15pm]

06/18 Public Questions

There were no public questions notified.

07/18 County Councillors Report

Cllr Stephen Harrod had sent his apologies for this meeting. His latest monthly report was emailed to Councillors.

08/18 District Councillors Report

Cllr Anna Badcock had sent her apologies for this meeting.

09/18 To receive the Balance of Accounts and approve the list of Payments

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 the Chairman and the Chairman of Finance.

10/18 Committees:

A: FINANCE -There has been no meeting.

B: PLANNING – 2/1/2018- Bob West

Resolved: That Council to accept these Minutes.

BW reported that this was a brief meeting and that there were no contentious applications

C: STRATEGY- There has been no meeting.

MR said that the Strategic Plan has been accepted by Council and that we now need to assign Councillors to specific tasks and hopefully this can be done at the next meeting.

D. OPERATIONS – There has been no meeting.

E. ALLOTMENTS – Nicky Smallbone

NS said that she has spoken to the Clerk about encroachment from a garden onto the Allotments. The boundary needs to be put back to where it should be. KT will write to the

residents explaining this. It is due to the garden being overgrown.

There is one allotment available for rent.

The hedge at the Icknield side needs to be looked at following an email from Mr Rogers.

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

NS stated that the next meeting will be held on 29/1/2018.MR said that NS had brought back a copy of the Bar Accounts from the last AGM and there should be a copy in the office.

G. NEIGHOURHOOD PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE

Meeting held on 8/1/2018, these minutes will come to the February Full Council meeting to be accepted. There will be a Roadshow on the 3/2/3018 prior to the Referendum.

11/18 **Proposed Oxford –Cambridge Expressway**-. WPC response to be agreed. MR has emailed out a draft paper on this

This was discussed and it was:

Resolved: to send out a WPC response stating that we agree with the response sent by CPRE, which is to re-establish a rail infrastructure between the two cities, rather than an express way.

12/18 Charlotte Coxe Trust and 33 High Street,

Resolved Unanimously: That the Parish Council agree to:

- 1. To ask our solicitor to do the following searches on:
- a) Local Authority: £254.80
- b) Water and Drainage: £143.33
- c) Environmental: £156
- b) Chancel Insurance: £56 (to cover the property to a value of £500,000).
- 2. To order copies of all the leases (there are 10 in total and the Land Registry charges £3 per lease) so that our Solicitor can review them

It was noted that WPC has copies of the existing lease of the flat above the library and the lease of the Library. As the lessees of all the garages and parking spaces have a contractual agreement with Charlotte Coxe for the maintenance of communal areas it is hoped that the County Council will provide copies of all the leases. It will also be necessary to clarify responsibility for the maintenance of the tarmac, which the County Council will continue to own. That we also ask our Solicitor to pursue these issues.

All costs to be reclaimed from the Charlotte Coxe Trust.

13/18 Correspondence for Information - List Attached to Agenda

Letter No 1 - SODC re Tree Preservation Order on Little Orchard.

Resolved: That we support the Tree Preservation Order and that this should be made permanent.

The Order is to allow for clearance works for health and safety reasons.

It was also agreed to put this on the Facebook page.

It was noted that the NP Forum will also be putting in a letter of support for this.

Letter No 2- Cratus - Asking if we wish to meet with them to discuss proposals for South Oxford Science Village.

Resolved: That we arrange to meet with them and ask representatives from the NP Forum if they also wish to attend.

14/18 Reports from Organisations and Representation on other bodies

There were no reports.

15/18 Other Matters for Discussion at the discretion of Chair

Cuxham Field –It was noted that that the Self Build Group have asked if the WPC would consider this a site for self-build. KT stated that this is leased at present to a resident. This issue would be for the Strategy Committee to consider.

THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.45PM