



Minutes of The Meeting of Full Council held in the Community Office at 8.00pm on Tuesday 10th March 2020

Present:

Councillors:

Matt Reid (MR) – Chairman
Ian Hill (IH) – Vice Chairman
Nicky Smallbone (NS)
Andrew McAuley (AM)
Keith Woolfson (KW)
Tim Horton (TH)
Terry Jackson (TJ)
Alex Basden (AB)
Rob Smith (RS)
Roger Beattie (RB)
Nick Hancock (NH)

Officer:

Kristina Tynan (KT)

County Councillor:

Steve Harrod

Members of the Public:

GB

29/20 Apologies for absence

There were no apologies for absence.

30/20 Chairman's Remarks

There were no remarks

31/20 To receive Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest notified.

32/20 Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 11th February 2020 to be signed as a correct record

There was one change agreed. Minute 20/20-page 2 date should be 30th not 29th.

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

33/20 Matters arising from the Minutes

Social Initiative (Minute 19/20 refers) – MR said that following Diana Ludlow's comments at the last meeting that anti-social behaviour could be a case for CCTV and asked that the Traffic Group look into this.

SODC Meeting on Air Quality (Minute 18/20 refers) – There was a meeting held with Emma Bowerman and Paula Fox on the 25/2/2020 to discuss this issue. It was attended by Gill Bindoff and Andrew McAuley.

SID for Britwell Salome (Minute 23/20 refers) – MR said that there was some question about the legality of the site they had identified for the SID.

34/20 Public Questions

There were none.

35/20 County Councillors Report - Cllr Stephen Harrod

SH's monthly report was emailed to all Councillors.

Flooding – This has been an issue this winter with many areas being flooded.

South Oxfordshire Local Plan – SODC have now accepted the Local Plan as tabled last year. SH said that this is a step forward for the edge road. SH has not had any information from Highways regarding the edge road or appointment of a consultant. SH said he will push forward to get some certainty and finality on the edge road. It was stated that this is the most important issue for this area.

AM said that now Appeal 1 has been allowed the developers have permission for this application, which is for one route, the edge road. It is still unknown whether the developer will go ahead with Application 3 as why would they as the appeal decision is in (There is a six-week period to wait from the appeal decision). This may have implications for the alternative route.

NH reported that Sue Cooper said that there may be a legal challenge on the appeal decision made by the Inspector during this six-week period. However, OCC are working on the premise that the Inspector's decision will not be challenged. It is now likely that it will not have an impact on the Growth Deal funding. The Government will be looking at SODC's work on the Local Plan on a monthly basis.

It was noted that our WNDP is stronger at the present than the SODC Local Plan as the polices have been accepted and they carry weight in planning decisions.

TH asked if there was any information with regard to OCC position on the schools with regard to the Local Plan. SH said he did not have any update on this.

Fibre to the Premises – SODC will be using Airband. SH was asked if there was any news from Better Broadband and he said he would get an update from Craig who oversees this project.

Budget Day – This will take place tomorrow. SH said that he hopes that now we are at the end of the financial year OCC will have a better idea about budgets for the next financial year. This was delayed due to elections etc.

Edge Road – TH stated that since December 2019 OCC have slipped about a year regarding this year. He asked that SH express his personal view on the route that OCC could take. SH said that Highways endorsed the WNDP which has the edge road. SH said that he agreed that traffic must be steered away from the town centre. AM stated that WPC are very much in favour of this original route and the alternative route is not an option for Watlington and residents in Marlbrook feel betrayed by this option being considered by OCC.

20mph for Watlington – TH said that WPC are seeking a 20mph for the town, but the difficulty will be funding and asked if OCC would put in money towards this. SH said it would be difficult but potentially doable depending on the total cost.

Extension of bus routes in Oxfordshire – OCC will be receiving £570,000 to extend the bus routes in Oxfordshire.

TH said that WPC will be writing to Steve Harrod regarding this issue. SH stated that this money will not be enough to do anything meaningful for small towns and villages.

36/20 District Councillors Report

Cllr Anna Badcock was not present and no report had been received

37/20 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 Chair of Finance.

38/20 Committees:

A: FINANCE – 5/3/2020 – Nicky Smallbone

Resolved: That Council accept these minutes

Sports Field Rent Review – A letter will be sent to Jonas Carter

Grants – A grant of £381.00 was allocated to Watlington Art Weeks, the amount they requested.

CIL and Purchase of Speed Indicators

Resolved: That Watlington take the lead on this project and partner up with our neighbouring parishes to purchase the three SID devices and solar panels for the parishes involved and for all parishes involved to send WPC a legally binding letter which confirms their intention to pay their share of the cost of the equipment.

Staff Reviews – These are scheduled to take place on the 19th March.

B: PLANNING –3/3/2020 – Andrew McAuley

Resolved: That Council accept these minutes

AM said that there were no recommendations for discussion.

Application for ticket Machine in the National Trust Car Park at the top of Hill Road - The committee had no material planning objections to this. However, concern was raised that this will lead to parking on the road and it was asked that the Operations committee discuss this issue.

Archstone Application 3 – This Application is due to be discussed by SODC in the next few months. The Environment Agency has been asked to provide a flood risk for this site. However, we have heard that Archstone may now withdraw Application 3.

C: STRATEGY- 25/2/2020 – Nick Hancock

Resolved: That Council accept these minutes

WPC Strategic Plan

Resolved: That Council adopt the attached Strategic Plan which will be reviewed every six months where items can be added or subtracted at any interval.

NH will put together a consolidated list of issues which with our limited resources will focus on issues of immediate concern.

D. OPERATIONS – 20/2/2020 – Ian Hill

Resolved: That Council accept these minutes

Footpath between Couching Street and Watcombe Road

Resolved: That the Parish Council take on responsibility for the footpath from Brook Street to West Meadow and the footpath between Watcombe Road and Couching Street (Pilgrims Path).
KT will let our insurers know and will write to the residents affected.

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

F. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN ADVISORY BOARD – 17/2/2020

Resolved: That Council accept these minutes

Conservation Area Review.

Resolved– To carry out a Conservation Area Review this year and to get 3 quotes for this work.

G. ALLOTMENTS – Nicky Smallbone – 17/2/2020

Resolved: That Council accept these minutes

NS reported that all is going well at the allotments.

39/20 Confidential Item: EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC for Agenda Item 12

Resolved: *That Agenda Item 12 be taken in Confidential session as Agenda Item 13 is part of a transfer process and that leases and confidential financial figures will be discussed in the business about to be transacted and for Item 12 it is classified as 'officially sensitive', it is advisable in the public interest that the public be temporarily excluded, and they are instructed to withdraw for the next item (12)*

Under Section 100(A) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 as defined in Paragraphs 7, 8 and 9 of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Act.

40/20. Protocol for a death of a Senior National Figure

Resolved: To accept the protocol but tributes should not be floral.

41/20 To accept the Confidential Note from 11th February 2020 on the Charlotte Coxe Charity

Resolved: That the confidential note be accepted.

It was agreed that the CCT issue be discussed at next month's Full Council meeting after a meeting of the CCT Interim Group.

42/20 Motions from Councillors

Proposed by: Terry Jackson

That Full Council support the Local Electricity Bill.

The Country is not meeting the climate change targets – the UK is way off track to meet the fourth and fifth carbon budgets of the Climate Change Act, and we have a national epidemic of fuel poverty. Community renewable energy has huge potential to help solve both these problems at once, but it is blocked from doing so. There is no obligation from the WPC if we support this Bill and in fact, we could stand to benefit from it in future should it succeed.

The Bill is currently supported by a cross-party group of 115 MPs which is promising progress, given that the campaign started in the autumn of 2018. Power for People are building a grass-roots movement across the country in support of the Bill and they will mobilise people to call on their MPs and the government to enact the Bill.

After discussion on this a vote was taken:

Vote: 8 in favour, 1 against, 2 abstentions – **CARRIED**

The Clerk will send a letter to Steve Shaw on this.

43/20 Correspondence for Information

The list was attached to the agenda. There were no items discussed.

44/20 Reports from Organisations and Representation on other bodies

Town Hall Charity – TH reported that the old gas boiler (25+ years) has now broken and it was not worth repairing and a new electric boiler will be installed.

VE/VJ Day Celebrations – The British Legion TH reported that in view of the uncertainty at the moment the VE day celebrations will be postponed until VJ Day and not on the 8th May.

Watlington Town Football Club- TH said that he has noticed that WTFC was in the final of the Charity Cup which is one of the best results for the club in recent years. The Reserves won their cup. KW said the Final will take place on 18th April. WPC wish them well and congratulate them on a great achievement.

45/20 Other Matters for Discussion at the discretion of Chair

COVID 19 - MR said that he will update the Emergency Plan to take into account of the need for some people to self-isolate and what they will need. He will work on a volunteer base etc with KT and RG.

Footpath 13 – IH had sent a note on this issue. Mitigation works need to be done. It was agreed that there is no point in now putting down a membrane, but the depth of materials need to be increased to 150mm. It was thought that more aggregate would be preferable to road planning. However, it was:

Resolved: To delegate to the Operations Committee to agree on the schedule of works.

THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 10PM



Watlington Parish Council

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Barclays Bank PLC

Please provide balance on Parish Accounts as at close of business
On 9/03/2020

Barclays Premium A/C	£	105,489.56 CR
Barclays Current A/C	£	2,762.20 CR
Barclays High Interest Bus A/C	£	24,690.60CR (CIL: £19,205.67)
Barclays Pavilion Account	£	2,913.65 CR
TOTALS	£	<u>135,856.01 CR</u>

Account held by WPC for the Young People Fund	£	26,517.49
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Signature of Chairman:



Date: 10th March 2020

