



Minutes of the 'Remote' Meeting of Full Council held on Tuesday 13th October 2020 at 7PM via Zoom

Present:

Councillors:

Matt Reid (MR) – Chairman
Ian Hill (IH) – Vice Chairman
Nicky Smallbone (NS)
Andrew McAuley
Tim Horton (TH)
Roger Beattie (RB)
Rob Smith (RS)
Terry Jackson (TJ)
Alex Basden (AB)
Keith Woolfson (KW)
Richard Dorney-Savage (RDS)
Steve Bolingbroke (SB) – joined the meeting after being co-opted onto the Parish Council.

Officer:

Kristina Tynan (KT)

County Councillor:

Steve Harrod (SH)

In Attendance:

Gill Bindoff (GB)

Press:

David White – Henley Standard

Members of the Public:

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143/20 Apologies for absence
There were none.

144/20 Chairman's Remarks
There were none.

145/20 To receive Declarations of Interest
There were none notified.

146/20 Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 8th September 2020 to be agreed and signed as a correct record
Resolved: That the minutes are a correct record of this meeting and will be signed by the Chairman when this is possible.

147/20 Matters arising from the Minutes
17 parishes and the Chalgrove application and issues on the B481 (Minute 128/20 refers) - It was agreed that as we have the same views on specific issues it would be better for the parishes to act as a 'collective' and keep the local voice alive. MR said that our letter to John Howell will also focus on issues from our Watlington perspective. TH said he had concerns about the comment '*With a 40% target for affordable housing, and the lack of transport infrastructure, CNT will become an area of*

deprivation as was the last misguided development in the region – Berinsfield.’ He said that he thought this was a dangerous line to press and Watlington should not sign up to this comment or the one which states ‘If the Chalgrove Airfield development goes ahead, we believe that you will find that the development will be political dynamite for the Conservative party in the heart of rural southern Oxfordshire’ as Watlington has always been a non-political parish council.

MR then asked for a vote on whether the original letter be sent, Vote 8 in favour, 2 against (1 being Tim Horton) and 2 abstentions. **CARRIED**

148/20 Co- option onto the Parish Council (there are 3 vacancies)

One application had been received from Stephen Bolingbroke.

Resolved Unanimously: That Stephen Bolingbroke be co-opted onto the Parish Council.

149/20 Update on COVID 19 and Watlington – Matt Reid

MR said that he suspects that a circuit break may be announced in a few weeks’ time and perhaps the school half term will be increased to two weeks.

150/20 Public Questions

Chris Bidgood asked that thanks be given to all who have supported the letter to be sent to John Howell. There will be zoom meeting with him on the 23rd October and parishes will be asking for his help and support in ensuring that the Chalgrove Airfield application is not approved.

151/20 County Councillors Report - Cllr Stephen Harrod

Bus Gates in Oxford – This was refused in Cabinet this afternoon. At consultation there was a 50/50 outcome. Businesses, organisations and schools were strongly against doing this as the thought is that OCC should be supporting the economy rather than helping climate change at this moment in time.

COVID 19 Cases in Oxford – These are increasing especially in the student areas. There are increases in other parts of Oxfordshire. OCC had pledged to be carbon neutral by 2030. He said that issues have not been put away just shelved temporarily whilst Covid 19 is dealt with.

SH said that he sends updates to Clerks on a regular basis on OCC issues.

IH said that we are still waiting for Officer responses on a number of Watlington issues one of which is the traffic calming measures for Pyrton Lane which now that work has started on Red Kite View and construction vehicles are now coming to Watlington, it is imperative that this road is not used as it is totally inappropriate for construction traffic and asked that SH chased up the Officers. It was noted that we are still hoping for a meeting with Louise Wilks on the 4th November and SH said that he would get this confirmed.

GB reported that a meeting with AECOM is also needed as Providence Land had an opportunity to speak to them and we would like to be part of this ‘loop’. She said that both routes have stirred up things locally again and things may turn sour if they put route B on the table.

KW asked why the consultants have not finished their investigations on route B. SH said that they need to be seen to have considered all options and the process has to be followed.

152/20 District Councillors Report - Cllr Anna Badcock

AB had sent her apologies as she already had a meeting. MR said she has offered to have a meeting with the Parish Council and the Clerk to follow this up. There had been no report received.

[Post Minute Note: Remote Meeting Wednesday 28th October at 7pm]

153/20 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).* The list included a half a year’s payment to Beechwood Estates of £2500, WPC wrote to the Board and Carter and Jonas asking for a discount on the years rent in May due to Covid 19 and the Clubs not being able to use the field. Despite several follow up emails to both, we still have not had any response. It was also noted that our Solicitor and WPC have still not received a response to letters sent on the Rent Review. SB offered to look into this issue and the Clerk will send a copy of the lease for the field to him. It was noted that we need to get the rent review sorted so that some of the sport ambitions of the NPAB can be moved on as until this is agreed

Carter Jonas will not agree to a meeting to discuss these.

Payment be made to be made to Beechwood Estates: Vote 10 in favour, 1 against, 1 abstention.

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 when it is possible to do so.

154/20 Committees:

A: FINANCE – 24/9/2020 – Nicky Smallbone

Resolved: That Council accept these Minutes

a) **Bank account review**

Resolved: That we open an additional High Street account with another Bank and put £80,000 into it. This is to ensure that our money is not all in one place. This is subject to clarification over the protection we currently have. The Clerk will contact OALC on this.

b) **Staff Holiday Entitlement Due** – Due to Covid 19 it was noted that the Clerk and the Caretaker have only taken one weeks holiday this year.

There was much discussion on this and it was agreed that as this request is made due to a staff member having to have extra time for self-isolation etc and that it was critical the office was manned to manage the 104 volunteers and emergency switchboard. This is a one-time request due to the pandemic and it was noted that staff members must take their full holiday allocation in future.

Resolved: That the Clerk be paid for two weeks holiday and that she takes two weeks holiday before the New Year. That the Caretaker can carry over two weeks holiday to next year and that he takes two weeks holiday before the New Year.

c) **CIL** – NS reported that we received a letter yesterday from SODC asking if we wish to take the £82,000.00 CIL money due and that we need to let them know by the 16th October. SODC pay CIL allocations in April and October every year. It was noted that we have no costed-up schemes at present and this is being looked at within the CIL subgroup. After discussion it was:

Resolved: That we do not accept the CIL monies at this time and this can be reconsidered for April 2021.

B: PLANNING –6/10/2020 – Andrew McAuley

Resolved: That Council accept these Minutes

AM said that applications for Site B and C had put in amended applications. They had to include the alternative route at the bequest of SODC on this outline application and which we do not agree with.

C: STRATEGY- There has been no meeting.

D. OPERATIONS – 17/9/2020 – Ian Hill

Resolved: That Council accept these Minutes

a) **SIDs**

Resolved: That we order the two SIDs, one for Watlington and one to be shared with Swyncombe and Cuxham Parish Council. The cost of the Watlington project to be covered by our CIL fund. [Swyncombe and Cuxham will pay their share when the order is placed]

E. PAVILION AND SPORTS FIELD – 29/9/2020 – Nicky Smallbone

Resolved: That Council accept these Minutes

NS reported that the Football Club are using the Sports Fields, public toilets and changing rooms and showers. The main hall, kitchen and bar are not being used. TH said that the new dug outs are a great improvement to the facilities.

F. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN ADVISORY BOARD – 14/9/2020

Green Spaces in new development sites

Resolved: That WPC writes to Bloor Homes on this matter and move it forward.

G. ALLOTMENTS – There has been no meeting

NS reported that the work to the trees/hedges on the path leading to the allotments at the bottom of Love Lane have been done and Owain Devey did a really good job. It was noted that the pumpkin grown by Gerald Short and his son weighed over 1500lbs.

155/20 Consultations

Planning Policy SODC –Emerging SO Local Plan - Consultation on Proposed Main Modifications – Deadline 2/11/2020.

Resolved: That MR, AM and IH draft a response which will be circulated to all Councillors prior to being sent.

156/20 Issues raised by Councillors, Co-opted Members of Committees

a) **Countrywide Campaign starting up to get 20mph limits for all towns and villages in Oxfordshire.**

Watlington has requested this already from OCC but has had no response to date. It was noted that this is being spearheaded by a former Senior Highway Engineer.

Vote: 10 in favour, 2 abstentions.

Resolved: That Watlington joins this Oxfordshire campaign.

b) **Remembrance Day 8/11/2020** – A paper had been sent to Members by TH.

Discussion took place on this issue and the main points raised were:

- The key observance would be to ensure that no large grouping should arise in the centre of Town and it was proposed that appointed marshals should discourage gathering in the High Street at any time.
- All the usual groups, associations and organisations will be encouraged to purchase wreaths in the normal fashion and these will be given to a single representative of each group from tables set up at the Library entrance into the Paddock and then place the wreaths at the Cross.
- The service will be reduced to the reading of names, prayer, the call for silence and the 'Last Post'. This will involve principally the Chairman of the Council, the President of the RBL, a local priest and the bugler.
- There would be no road closure or need for barriers.
- Residents will be asked to stand on their doorsteps at 11am for the 2-minute silence to avoid people gathering at the War Memorial area.

TH will organise a leaflet drop to let our residents know about Remembrance Day when all details have been finalised. MR/TH have been liaising with the RBL on all issues.

c) **Footpath to Prospect Place and Footpath up to Church Street** – Ian Hill

Resolved That this council take urgent action to resolve a conflict between motorists and pedestrians/cyclists on the Prospect Place lane and on the footpath up the Church Street. A draft letter to residents of these two lanes / footpaths has been done and Council resolves to send this letter out as early as possible.

Further in view of the lack of support from OCC on this issue, that we install unofficial 20mph (or 10mph) signs on the lane near the church lych gate. That the Operations Committee be delegated to agree the location for the signs and any other details needed.

157/20 Correspondence for Information

List was attached to the Agenda

Letter 315 - M Young - In 1920 Mr Cross (master cabinet maker) who had his workshop on the very land the Parish Office now stands paid to have the Cross erected to honour the fallen of WW1 at Butlers Cross which the area it now stands on was known then .As we have just had Black Horse Alley recently given an official name maybe this area at the bottom of the High Street could be given its name back BUTLERS CROSS . **This request was noted.**

158/20 Reports from Organisations and Representation on other bodies

There were no reports received.

THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.10PM



Watlington Parish Council

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Barclays Bank PLC

Please provide balance on Parish Accounts as at close of business
On 12/10/2020

Barclays Premium A/C	£	136,536.31 CR
Barclays Current A/C	£	1,791.14 CR
Barclays High Interest Bus A/C	£	80,006.52 CR (CIL: £19,205.67)
Barclays Pavilion Account	£	7,895.17 CR
TOTALS	£	<u>226,229.14 CR</u>
Account held by WPC for the Young People Fund	£	26,517.49

Signature of Chairman:

Date: 13th October 2020

