



Minutes of the 'Remote' Meeting of Full Council held on Tuesday 8th September 2020 at 7PM via Zoom

Present:

Councillors:

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

Officer:

Kristina Tynan (KT)

In Attendance:

Gill Bindoff (GB)

Members of the Public:

Nicola Schafer (Climate Action Group Agenda Item)

127/20 Apologies for absence

Andrew McAuley, Keith Woolfson.

128/20 Chairman's Remarks

MR said that he had attended a zoom meeting last night with 16 parishes and there was discussion about the Chalgrove application and issues on the B481 including the 3rd bridge proposal for Reading. Ian Goldsmith facilitated this meeting and 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. There has been a FOI request, and the response will be sent out shortly to parishes.

129/20 To receive Declarations of Interest

Terry Jackson and Rob Smith declared an interest in Agenda Item 12A, as they are both members of the Watlington Climate Action Group and therefore did not vote on this recommendation.

130/20 Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 25th August 2020 to be agreed and signed as a correct record

One change was agreed page 36, Neighbourhood Plan Review to remove the resolution at the end of the paragraph.

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

131/20 Matters arising from the Minutes

B481 and Reading 3rd Bridge (Minute 124/20) – MR had drafted a letter on this, and it was agreed that this be sent to the 16 Parishes.

Chalgrove Airfield – MR will write a briefing note on this.

132/20 Co- option onto the Parish Council (here are 4 vacancies)

Two applications had been received but Mr Brian Steer had written to say that he wished to withdraw his application. After discussion it was;

Resolved; That Mr Richard Dorney-Savage be co-opted onto the Parish Council.
The Clerk will send him out the relevant paperwork.

133/20 Update on COVID 19 and Watlington

MR stated that looking at the statistics things are not boding well, and Oxford City is on the brink of a possible lockdown. We are lucky that we are in a rural location, but everyone needs to stay alert. There are people not adhering to the rules, but the rules must be followed to protect everyone. People need to stay positive. The Support Fund is not in demand at the moment.

134/20 Public Questions

There were none notified

135/20 County Councillors Report - Cllr Stephen Harrod

Steve Harrod has sent his apologies.

Road through Site A - TH said that he would have had a question about the road on Site A and Site B and he was going to arrange a meeting with Louise Wilkes and Parish Councillor representatives. KT to send him an email on this issue. GB stated that we have an indicative route for the safeguarded land and that there will be uncertainty for a while. The original route is the one that Watlington wants. IH said he has already sent a message on various traffic issues.

Road Closure between Cuxham and Chalgrove - IH reported that the buses are being escorted through the road closure.

136/20 District Councillors Report - Cllr Anna Badcock

Anna Badcock had sent her apologies.

TH stated that there must be concern that the District Councillor has not attended any of our Full Council meetings or given us any reports or views on issues in Watlington. He asked that the Clerk ask if she has any intention of attending any meetings or if not, could a report be sent, or a separate meeting be held with her and some representatives of WPC. He said that the presence of the County Councillor at most meetings has been very useful.

As regards the Local Plan if any Councillor has specific questions on this for the District Councillor please send these to the Clerk who will request answers.

137/20 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 when it is possible to do so.

138/20 Committees:

A: FINANCE – There has been no meeting.

Watlington Climate Action Group

A request has been made from WCAG to use part of the allocation WPC has for Climate Action Change. The proposal is to make a Hedgerow Film to engage the community in the Green Plan project to support the objective of tackling the Climate Emergency through local action. (The proposal was attached to the agenda)

Nicola Shafer said this film is to engage the community with the Green Plan project and to support the objective of tackling the Climate Emergency through local action. The film will remain in her ownership, but she would be happy for the film to be put on the Parish Council website She will contribute 50% of the total price pro bono.

After discussion it was:

Resolved: That we allocate £480.30 to this project.

B: PLANNING –1/9/2020 -Rob Smith
Council to accept these Minutes

P20/S2268/FUL Heathfield Cottage, 26 Britwell Road, Watlington

Change of use to create off road parking in the rear garden, with access via a dropped kerb on to Hurdlers Green. Move front entrance door to rear with alterations to doors and windows.

The Planning Committee agreed to send in a holding objection prior to a site visit taking place. An amendment will be received for the next Planning meeting.

C: STRATEGY- There has been no meeting.

Resolved: That Richard Downey-Savage be a member of the Strategy Committee.

Watlington Parish Council Climate Action Strategy and Climate Action Plan. – TJ reported that it was agreed that the best way forward would be to have a working group with 2 Parish Councillors and 2 others potentially from the WCAG. TJ will lead on this and the group will report back to the Strategy December meeting.

D. OPERATIONS – There has been no meeting.

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

NS said that an informal meeting had taken place with Owen, Keith, KT and herself to discuss issues and COVID 19 measures. A note was sent out about this meeting. A formal PSFC meeting will be held in the next few weeks.

F. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN ADVISORY BOARD – There has been no meeting

The next meeting will be Monday 14th September.

G. ALLOTMENTS – There has been no meeting

NS reported that there will be some tree pruning done in October.

139/20 Consultations

There were none for discussion.

140/20 Correspondence for Information -List was attached to the Agenda

Letter 313 – James Fotherby - As part of the Watlington Nature Festival he is planning on designing a watercourses discovery trail (for mid-October). The aim of the trail is to connect people with the watercourses and increase awareness of their history and importance. The trail will start at the Town Hall and loop around four different locations (the Cuxham Roundabout, the Goggs, the Willow Ponds and the Horse Ponds). He would like to print off some high-quality infographics and attaching them to nearby railings/fences at these locations for people to read and asks for permission from the WPC to put signs up in Parish owned locations. The Horse Ponds and the Willow Ponds are privately owned, and he will seek permission for these too. He is hoping to use the trail to raise money for permanent signs which could be erected at these sites for people to read for many years.

The above was discussed and it was noted that Watlington has some rare ecology ie chalk streams are very rare.

Resolved: That we give permission for signs to be put up on WPC land subject to agreement on exact locations.

It was thought that having QR codes which can give more information would be a useful thing to put on the signs. IH will contact J Fotherby and the Clerk will also liaise with him.

141/20 Reports from Organisations and Representation on other bodies

Watlington Task Force – The force was out last Sunday doing clearing works around the town.

142/20 Other Matters for Discussion at the discretion of Chair

Clean Air Day 8th October – IH said it would be good to do something for this day given the air pollution

problems in Watlington. He suggested the online quiz, and this was agreed. This will be put on the website and Facebook pages.

Videos – NS said that there would be mileage in doing some short YouTube videos of various things in Watlington. She will speak to the Clerk in the first instance

THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.20PM