



Watlington Parish Council

Watlington
Neighbourhood
Development Plan



NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN ADVISORY BOARD

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN ADVISORY BOARD
HELD ON
MONDAY 18th OCTOBER 2021 AT 8.00p.m. VIA VIDEO CALL.**

Present: Gill Bindoff (GB), Terry Jackson (TJ), Keith Jackson (KJ), Steve Bolingbroke (SB), Tim Horton (TH), Fiona Danks (FD)

Officer: Rachel Gill

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

Andrew McAuley, Tony Powell sent apologies. TJ joined the meeting from 8:30.

2. Declarations of interest

There were none

3. NPAB membership

GB has written some words to go in the next edition of the Watlington Times. The draft had been circulated for comments.

4. Minutes of the meeting of 20th September 2021 and matters arising

The minutes were agreed to be an accurate record of the meeting and will be signed by the Chair.

Matters arising:

The response to consultation on the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 has been written and submitted.

5. Review of the WNDP:

(i) Review of WNDP policies – no update on this.

(ii) Financial support from Locality.

The application for further technical support to carry out a Housing Needs Assessment has been approved. A meeting is being arranged with Paul Avery of Locality to discuss the process.

(iii) Draft Conservation Area appraisal and survey – update

Three documents have been submitted to SODC. There has been no response yet, but it could take some months. **GB to circulate the final reports to the group.**

(iv) Trees Survey – update

No update. RG to chase up Martin Gammie. The revised fee proposal is needed to be able to submit to WPC Finance Committee and Full Council for approval of expenditure of allocated NDP funds.

(v) Sports Strategy –

SB gave an update on sports strategy. There was a good response to the survey. The results will inform the sports strategy and Steve will submit a report to the strategy committee. Once completed the report will feed in to the WNDP. In addition to the meetings with the football and cricket clubs there have been meetings with the bowls and tennis clubs and there are plans to meet with netball and squash.

(vi) Transport Survey –

The transport survey has been included in the Watlington Times and been posted on social media. The response so far is low. **RG to repost on social media to try and get a better response.**

(vii) Walking/Cycling strategy – meeting 6/10/21

A zoom meeting was held on the 6/10/21 with OCC cycling and walking representatives, Freddie Van Mierlo, Andrew Gant, OCC, GB, RG and Paul McKnight. Paul and Pam McKnight are now leading this group. The meeting notes have been circulated. One of the main actions is to review legal agreements with developers to ensure that there are good arrangements for cycling and walking paths around the new developments. GB has sent a detailed email to FVM on this matter. The main requirements are:

- Improved path to provide a cycleway along the boundary of Icknield Community College from Pyrton Lane to the school, recreation area and B4009.
- Bridleway from Willow Close through site C to link with Pyrton Lane
- Closing off Pyrton Lane to through traffic

TH is working with OCC on a Watlington-Lewknor cycle path and has had a recent meeting with FVM and the OCC cycling Champion, Andrew Gant.

6. There was discussion on the update of the sections of the WNDP on enhancing Watlington as a service centre and on employment. It was agreed that aspects of economic development including local businesses and retail are essential to the sustainability of the town. SB is gathering evidence on the number/type of local businesses and is in contact with the Watlington Business Association. Evidence of the needs of local businesses will feed into the revised policies and evidence base of the WNDP.

7. Update on development:

(i) Sites B, C and PYR2

There is no update on sites B and C. There is no decision on PYR2, but FVM is in contact with Geoff Arnold about the OCC Highways response to the planning application.

(ii) Update on the delivery of the Edge Road

- Meeting of the Parish Interface Group 29/9/21. The officer taking over from Andy Higginson has been appointed. Harbi Ali Ahmed was able to attend the meeting. He has responsibility for the next stage of delivery of the edge road and one other highways scheme. Following the OCC Cabinet decision to proceed to the next stage, he will be drawing up a specification for the technical survey work and preparation of the planning application. A consultant will be appointed later this year.

8. Consultation: SODC statement of community involvement:

It was agreed that the main points would cover the need for much better collaboration between SODC, OCC and parish councils on S106 obligations and PC involvement in pre-application discussions. GB will send the response on behalf of NPAB.

9. Other matters:

KJ reported that Airband is completing the fibre trunk through Watlington and that local residents who have expressed an interest and live within a short distance of the trunk are being approached to sign up for a fibre broadband connection (FTTP fibre to the premises). It is hoped that this opportunity will have a good take up and benefit local businesses.

10. Date of the next meeting

Next meeting will be 15th November 2021

THERE BEING NO OTHER INFORMATION THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.15 PM