



Watlington Parish Council

**Watlington**  
Neighbourhood  
Development Plan



**NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN ADVISORY BOARD**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN ADVISORY BOARD  
HELD ON  
MONDAY 20<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2021 AT 8.00p.m. VIA VIDEO CALL.**

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**Present:** Gill Bindoff (GB), Terry Jackson (TJ), Keith Jackson (KJ), Tony Powell (TP), David Robins (DR), Steve Bolingbroke (SB), Tim Horton (TH), Fiona Danks (FD)

**Officer:** Rachel Gill

1. Welcome and apologies for absence  
Andrew McAuley sent his apologies.

2. Declarations of interest  
There were none

3. NPAB membership  
David Robins is going back to Scotland and so will step down. He was thanked for his contributions to the Board. There was some discussion on how to recruit new members, there are currently 2 vacancies. It was felt a mixture of facebook and Watlington Times would be appropriate.

**Resolved : GB to draft some words and circulate. RG to post on social media.**

4. Minutes of the meeting of 19<sup>th</sup> July 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:

(i) Proposed new bus stops on Cuxham Road and ancillary works – WPC response to OCC consultation

IH has written a response to the OCC consultation. There will not be lay-bys for bus stops on the Edge Road but suitable provision will be made for bus stops. It was also noted that the Environment Agency has withdrawn initial objections to the proposed bus stops in relation to the impact on the chalk stream (Chalgrove Brook)

(ii) Publicity about the SODC Housing Register

GB has sent an article for publication in the Watlington Times. Some affordable housing is likely to come through on Red Kite View soon.

5. Review of the WNDP:

(i) Review of WNDP policies

GB apologised for a lack of progress on this. A reviewed plan will need to go through another referendum – as per Henley on Thames – and this will take some time.

(ii) Financial support from Locality

RG gave an update on this. The High Street regeneration application is ongoing and keeps getting delayed. An application for further technical support has been completed. This is a follow up to the technical support review of policies which recommended that a Housing Needs Assessment be carried out to make evidence supporting the policies more robust.

(iii) Draft Conservation Area appraisal and survey – update

GB, TJ and TH met with Kathy Davies to review the draft report. Suggestions have been made to designate some further properties not previously identified. These would be classified as “non-designated heritage assets” (previously grade 3 listed and ‘buildings of note’). These properties do not have the same restrictions as listed buildings but are still flagged up as buildings to consider on a planning application as they contribute to the character of the area.

There were some questions and comments about the report.

- It was suggested that the layout of the report be amended to make the list of recommendations more obvious particularly those recommended for inclusion in the Management Plan.
- Is the description of Watlington as ‘Chilterns’ accurate as it is not in the AONB ?
- P11 settings and views in relation to CA – the importance of maintaining views from the hill and retaining a rural setting.
- There was some discussion on expansion of the Conservation Area
- There are 2 reports – firstly historical background and issues and secondly detailed descriptions of areas within the CA highlighting features.
- Overall the board were supportive of the report and would submit comments to be added

(iv) Trees Survey – update

There was a meeting on the 27<sup>th</sup> July to review the scope of work to be covered by the Locality grant of £2000 – attended by GB, FD and Martin Gammie. The Tree preservation orders and trees in Watlington not on parish council land will be reviewed. Trees in poor condition should have succession plans in place. MG will submit a revised fee proposal.

(v) Sports Strategy – report of survey outcomes

SB gave an update on sports survey. There were 250 responses which is a good response rate. His analysis and report have been circulated to the Board. It gives a good grasp of the key issues and the priorities fit well with the WPC major projects list.

Football has the biggest response and a lot of people were walking and cycling.

SB to circulate the results to the Major Projects group, post a copy to facebook and also write an article for the Watlington Times.

(vi) Transport Survey – launch.

The transport survey will be included in the next edition of the Watlington Times and will also be posted on social media.

(vii) Walking/Cycling strategy – meeting 09.09.21

DR gave an update on this meeting. Paul McKnight and Pam Mundy will take on this group going forward. A representative from OCC will come to Watlington to give advice on the type of schemes WPC could consider to improve walking and cycling in the town.

(viii) Joint SODC/Vale Local Plan Call for Sites

As part of a joint local plan SODC has invited landowners to put forward sites for development. This can also include land for community uses too. Could WPC submit something on this? GB will contact SODC for further information.

6. Major projects: internal WPC consultation outcome

SB gave an update on this. All of the recreation area projects are on the list. The next stage will be that Project Steering Boards (led by the project sponsors) will prepare business cases for each scheme. There is a meeting with the agent for Beechwood this week to discuss the sports field issues.

7. Update on development:

(i) Sites B, C and PYR2

There is no update on sites. There is no decision on PYR2 or sites B and C.

(ii) Update on the delivery of the Edge Road

See below

8. OCC Cabinet meeting on 21.09.21

The Cabinet will consider a report from officers on proceeding to Stage 2 which will develop a planning application for the edge road. Approval is also sought for compulsory purchase powers to be used if, in the last resort, they are required to secure the land for delivery of the road. It is likely that there will be support for the recommendation to proceed. GB will attend the meeting and make representations on behalf of the NPAB. A copy of the representations had been circulated for comment.

9. OCC appointment of new officer to include management of the delivery of the edge road in the role. This has now been confirmed. It is hoped that an early meeting with the new officer can be arranged.

10. Oxfordshire Plan 2050: consultation response

A response is required by the 8<sup>th</sup> October. Any specific comments to be sent to GB and she will consolidate and submit a response.

11. Other matters

There were no other other matters

12. Date of the next meeting

Next meeting will be 18<sup>th</sup> October

**THERE BEING NO OTHER INFORMATION THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.53 PM**