



**Watlington Parish
Council**

Watlington
Neighbourhood
Development Plan



Notes of the meeting with Barbara Chillman, OCC, on 31st January 2019 at County Hall

Present:

OCC: Barbara Chillman

NPAB: Gill Bindoff, Terry Jackson

The meeting was to share information about the WNDP and OCC plans for educational provision in Watlington. In summary:

1. The WNDP has been made and adopted by SODC so now carries full weight.
2. Watlington Primary School: there are no plans for expansion in the immediate future. The school is expected to have the capacity to accommodate children from new development in Watlington within its existing provision in the short term.
3. Icknield Community College (ICC):
 - (i) Uncertainty regarding future provision for secondary education in the area is having an adverse impact on the College's short term needs for improved premises/facilities.
 - (ii) The development of Chalgrove airfield as a strategic site for new housing is in the draft SODC Local Plan which is currently being consulted on. If the site remains in the Local Plan and is developed, ICC will move to new premises on the site. The situation remains very uncertain.
 - (iii) If ICC remains in Watlington, land for expansion will be required. This could be provided by land on the site known as PYR 2. The developer of PYR 2, Providence Land, is expecting to be required to reserve the land. A decision on the outline planning application on the site has not been made yet by SODC.
 - (iv) ICC currently has students from Chalgrove, Chinnor, Benson and Stokenchurch (in Bucks). All secondary schools in the area are under pressure from increasing numbers. Apart from future increase in student numbers from Watlington, there is significant growth in housing in Chalgrove village as well as along the B4009 corridor. A review of the schools' catchment areas will be needed.
 - (v) Watlington Edge Road: the OCC Education Property Team has been made aware of the probable need to use part of the ICC land at the top north corner of the playing field for the new road. ICC, as an Academy independent of the Local Authority, will be consulted on this proposal when more details are available.
 - (vi) Provision of a new access for school buses from the Edge Road: ICC has indicated that this is not a suitable access point for students arriving at/leaving the College. This will be reviewed as the future location for the College becomes clear.

4. Provision for early years education:

- (i) The Nursery at Watlington Primary School has the capacity to expand and should be able to accommodate an increase in numbers in the short term.
- (ii) Rainbow Nursery – a community nursery on the ICC site – is not run by the local authority and the capacity for expansion is not known.
- (iii) OCC is not expecting to provide additional spaces for early years children except at the Nursery at the Primary School. However, OCC required provision for early years education to be made in the WNDP.
- (iv) Additional spaces in Watlington will be by private providers.
- (v) OCC will consider proposals from a private provided if they come forward on Site A using the area set aside for office/employment use.