



## Minutes of the 'Remote' Meeting of the Operations Committee Held on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2020 at 6.30pm

**Present:**

**Councillors:**

Ian Hill (IH)  
Roger Beattie (RB)  
Terry Jackson (TJ)  
Tim Horton (TH)  
Alex Basden (AB)  
Keith Woolfson (KW)  
Nicky Smallbone (NS) – For Allotment issue

**Co-opted Member:**

Jenny Wilkinson (JW)

**Officer:**

Kristina Tynan (KT)

**Members of the Public:**

Gerald Short (Allotment Issue), Owen Lewis for Pavilion Signs

60/20 Apologies for Absence  
There were none.

61/20 Minutes of the Meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> April 2020 which were accepted by Council on the 10/3/2020 to be agreed as a correct record  
There was one change agreed, Minute 34/20 Item 3 Performance Space in the Paddock, to add the following words 'TH would wish to be joined with others in the Council and members of the community' in the last sentence.  
**Resolved:** That with the addition of the words above, these minutes were a correct record of this meeting and that they be signed by the Chairman when it is possible to do so.

62/20 Declarations of Interest  
There were none notified

63/20 Matters arising  
There were none.

64/20 Priority Decisions  
**Two-hour bays in car park including decision on additional 2-hour bays** – IH and KW had produced a plan of 3 possible options (Plans available from the office) which were sent to members. There was much discussion on this. TH stated that there is a covenant on the hedge which states that a substantial green coverage needs to be sustained. There was mention of the grass/tree area adjacent to the telephone exchange. It was thought that the Telephone Exchange should be contacted to see if they would make their car parking area available. It was noted that they previously would not but it would be useful to contact them. IH will do this. The issue of having residents

parking permits was also raised.

IH

**Resolved:** That we do not change the layout in the car park as it would be a substantial cost for very little gain.

TJ stated that we should be providing for cycling parking. She will write a paper on this for the next meeting.

a) **Car park signage to clarify it is a short- term car park** - To obtain some quotes for the next meeting.

b) **Street naming -to confirm FC delegation and working group membership**

The group will be IH, TH, TJ and KW. It was noted that the developer has also asked for suggestions for a name for the whole site for marketing purposes and this group have been delegated to do this also. TH will lead on this group and will arrange a time to 'meet'.

c) **Footpath 13**

Chris Collins has given us a work for the revised works, including digging some ditches and putting a membrane on top of the current surface and adding a further layer of aggregate. It was noted that the additional cost would be to the Council after deduction of the ToE grant would be £2150 made up of £1370 for the membrane and extra aggregate, £180 for drainage channels, £60 for reseeding the verges and £540 as the excess of the original work over the ToE grant.

**Resolved:** That we accept this quote and get this project finished subject to Operations having some money left in the 2019/2020 budget. However, it was thought we must finish the project to the best standard.

We will need to speak to the Footpath Officer about possibly having to close the footpath for a limited time as it would not be possible to social distance while the work was in progress and we would also need the owner of the fields permission to access it.

d) **Footpath 36** – IH gave out the notes that were originally written by Tom Bindoff on the history of this footpath.

6. Other tasks we could progress under social distancing

a) **Footpath repairs in paddock** – We have received a quote for this work which has previously been agreed. However, the Clerk has put this work on hold due to COVID 19, that people are avoiding using Davenport Place and using this access instead.

b) **Half pipe repairs** – Quotes are being obtained.

TH/RB

c) **Recreation Ground / Pavilion signage proposals**- KW and OL have come up with the following draft signs and location suggestions.

KW stated that the main problem is that there is no signage at the Pavilion which lets people know what they can and cannot do and this is a problem when maintenance of the sports field needs to be done. WCC and WTFC have therefore designed this together (see sign overleaf).

Councillors gave their views which included, too large and too many, consider one large and a few smaller ones in different locations with a lots less information on; the map was a useful addition; the wording is crucial and there was concern about the wording on dogs but it was noted that this is only the first draft. However, the wording must conform with the WPC policy. At present this committee has not yet reviewed 'the dogs on leads' policy and therefore currently dogs do not have to be on a lead. We need to have an update from the Dog Group first. WCC and WTFC to provide us with more information for a future meeting.

Owen Lewis said that his personal view was that they would not be asking for any funding from WPC and said that the signs would be useful for the recreation ground also. He stated that he thought that the sports field should have restricted use but people should observe a respectful use. Some people do not realise that it is a cricket ground. He also said that the sticks that are left to

show where dog fouling is often break the blades which cost £90 each time to replace and which is a health and safety issue. JW will contact the Dog Group regarding this as she was unaware of this issue.



**Watlington  
Cricket Ground**

# Welcome to Watlington Sports Ground



**Watlington Town  
Football Ground**

Watlington Cricket Club and Watlington Town Football Club welcome respectful and responsible visitors

- Please respect our playing facilities and equipment
- No unauthorised camping, fires, golf, horses or motor vehicles on any part of the Sports Ground
- Please keep bicycles or other wheeled transport to the perimeter of the Sports Ground
- Please keep dogs on leads and use the perimeter of the Sports Ground
- Please do not throw balls or sticks for dogs anywhere on Cricket Ground or Football Ground
- Do not allow dogs anywhere near the Cricket Square
- Use of the Sports Ground is at your own risk, we accept no responsibility for any loss, damage or injury

Watlington Sports Ground is privately owned land. It is rented and maintained by the Cricket Club and Football Club for their activities.

Please use the public Recreation Ground on the other side of the Sports Pavilion for any other activities.



**CCTV IN OPERATION**  
Any dog fouling, vandalism or littering  
will be reported



## Welcome to Watlington Sports Pavilion Centre for sport in the community and home to



**Watlington Town  
Football Club**



**Watlington  
Cricket Club**

**Please contact:**  
Keith Woolfson  
kwoolfson@hotmail.com  
07540 091650

**Please contact:**  
Owen Lewis  
owen@watlingtoncc.co.uk  
07887 693024

**Watlington Sports Club Licensed Bar**  
Please see noticeboard for information about hiring this building

- d) **Discussion on changes to streets to address Covid-19 as suggested by Nick Thomas.** -It was noted that we should make use of some financial support from social distancing funds that have been made available to improve pedestrian facilities on the High Street. It was agreed to seek OCC comments on:

1. To close a short length (about 15m) of the High Street between the Town Hall and the northern side for High Street to reduce shop queuing from obstructing the footpath in that area.

2. To widen the south side footpath to provide a better route for those with child buggies or motorised mobility vehicles.

3. A temporary 20mph limit for the High Street

It was agreed to seek WBA's views on these suggestions once we have heard OCC comments on the above. IH to send a letter to OCC. **IH**

- e) **Apron around the Town Hall** – TH said that there are some gaps etc in the slabs. The land does belong to OCC, but we could use our delegated powers to attend to this. TH will obtain some quotes for the work.

It was also noted that the weeds are a constant problem. It was suggested that we purchase a flame weeder. RB will investigate and price these. **RB**

6. **Progress Report on other issues**

TH gave the following progress reports on issues he is dealing with.

**Performance Space** The firms involved have been put on hold as funds are gathered. Exchange with Band is rolling. They are meeting shortly. Other applications for funds in preparation.

**Pyrtton Lane** (scheme to reduce speed etc) We await response from Mr Lee Turner. IH will chase this up

**I-Play (Playdale)** Playdale have invited virtual meeting to involve its regional manager. I am preparing a draft note for this meeting, incorporating vital points of both Ian and Kristina

**Half-Pipe** Quotes for this basic work are coming in. But we need better ones....

**State of Roads** My surveying has picked up with release from total lockdown. Expect report in next few weeks

**Barrier at Church Street** Want to link this work in with repair to Town Hall mortar work. We have no serious bids for THAT work and I am pursuing this with Kristina.

**May Operations updated spreadsheet was attached to the Agenda**

65/20 Sub-Committees

1. **Allotments**

**Discussion on Allotment Agreement for 2020/2021** –This had been sent to the Allotment Committee for comments and only two members came back with comments.

**Resolved:** That IH and NS have a look at the comments and see if some points need to be changed to give more clarification. If changes are suggested these will be sent to the Allotment Committee for further comments.

**Stand Alone Pipes Applications at the Allotment**

**Resolved:** That any request for these should stipulate that a separate meter needs to be put in before a request can be agreed.

**Upgrade of Water System**

We have two quotes for these works, and this will be looked at by the Finance Committee. This is not in the budget for 2020/2021 and once the budget has been looked at it will make its recommendation to Council.

**2. PSFC**

**To agree that a new boiler be installed**

**Resolved:** That we get a new boiler installed. This should include the capability to reset the boiler without someone going into the loft area.

66/20 Correspondence

1. **OPFA** – COVID 19 Guidance of Public space use - Noted

2. **G Bindoff – requesting a speed survey by OCC for Brook Street** – She is happy to pay a contribution for this. It was noted that to obtain a 20mph the speeds on the street need to be 25mph or below. It was noted that speeds currently are higher than normal as there is less traffic on the road so doing a survey at this time may be counterproductive as the average speed may be increased thereby making it impossible to get a 20mph. KT will speak to GB. **KT**

67/20 Any Other Business

**THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 7.50PM**