



## THERE WILL BE A MEETING OF THE WATLINGTON PAVILION AND SPORTS FIELD COMMITTEE HELD ON AT 7.30PM TUESDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> JULY IN THE WEST ROOM 2023

### Present

**Parish Council members:** Steve Bolingbroke, Nicky Smallbone, Leo Pesci  
**Football Club representatives:** Keith Woolfson,  
**Sports Club representatives:** Hannah Smith  
**Cricket Club representatives:** Chris Allen

**Officer:** Kristina Tynan

**Members of the public:** Brenda Bradford (WPC), Caelia Pereira (Gardening Club)

### 01/23 Election of Chair (WPC members to agree)

Steve Bolingbroke nominated Nicky Smallbone, and this was seconded by Chris Allen. There were no other nominations.

**Resolved:** That Nicky Smallbone be elected as Chair.

### 02/23 Apologies

James Herridge-Leng, Pippa Tolfts.

### 03/23 Minutes of the last meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2022 which were received by Council on 8/11/2022.

**Resolved:** That these minutes be agreed and signed by the Chair.

### 04/23 Declaration of Interests

There were none notified.

### 05/23 Review of actions from December meeting (no minutes taken) See below.

a) Kristina to provide an itemised bill for the alarm control panel – a file and email had been sent out prior to the meeting. There had been information sent by Exec Alarms to Rachel Gill and this will be forwarded to WCC. This has been forwarded already but will be sent again to Chris Allen and the treasurer, Paddy.

b) Toilet seat still broken – This has been fixed.

c) Apology/correction to be published in Henley Standard re inaccurate reporting-re cricket not paying the rent – *Not sure who was actioned to do this*. This was a long time ago so no other action to be taken at this stage.

d) Kitchen shutter is still a problem-this was supposed to have been looked at – A quote from Ambassador has been requested and they have visited the site but quote not yet received. KW will send KT a contact of another shutter company to see another quote.

e) Possible covenants re transfer of ownership-have these in writing to review – *Unclear who was to do this*. It was agreed that the clubs were no longer interested in transfer of ownership but would prefer a lease arrangement. No further action needed.

f) Lights for access to pavilion from Love Lane – *This work has been done*

## 06/23 Financial Issues

### 6.1 **End of year management accounts for 2022/23** (SB)

SB had sent these out prior to the meeting. He said that at the end of the last financial year there was a shortfall of £10,206 but this should hopefully be reduced when the outstanding bills are paid.

### 6.2 **Outstanding invoices / payments from 2022/23** (SB)

A list of outstanding bills had been sent out. For 2021/2022 WCC owe £1193.49 and for 2022/23 they owe £1082.49, a total of £3016.48. WTFC have one outstanding bill of £624.99. SB stated that it is unacceptable that there is so much outstanding. CA said that he will go back and cross reference the bills with Paddy, their treasurer and arrange for these to be paid before the next meeting. CA to send KT Paddy's email so in future invoices can be sent to him also.

### 6.3 **Agreed budget for 2023/24** (SB)

Council had agreed that for this financial year the WPC subsidy would be reduced to £5K and the budget has been constructed based on this. He said that the clubs will need to raise the funds needed or reduce costs to cover the shortfall in the budget. It was noted that at the present time WPC only have a booking for 2 hours per week (daytime) and the clubs use the pavilion most nights so the costs should be met by them. This could be done by increasing the rent payment or increasing the proportion of the bills.

KW said that it would have been fairer to have tapered this reduction by £2,500 for two years rather than £5K but this decision had been made in October 2021, so the clubs had a lot of notice of this happening and there had been a lot of discussion about this since then. KW said that this could put the clubs into jeopardy. SB stated that he had offered to help put together a business plan with the clubs, but they did not take up the offer and have not produced one.

The Parish Council will not sanction any expenditure that is over the amounts in the budget unless there is commitment from the clubs to pay the additional costs.

It was agreed by all that it would be fair for the clubs to pay 90% of all utility bills and WPC 10%. SB to draw up alternative budget to show impact of this.

## 07/23 Update on alternative management arrangement and business plan (Clubs)

The Clubs agreed that the way to go forward would be on a long-term lease with a peppercorn rent. SB will look into this. They would like all the major work that needed to be done prior to this.

The Sports Club has the bar open most evenings and this is proving to be successful but need to have more footfall. It was noted that this is a great step in getting additional income for the clubs.

It was noted that there are no signed agreements in place at present.

It was agreed that a business plan is needed to go forward. Karyn Buck, a WPC Councillor, has offered to help with this and she has been in touch with Cath Dale (SODC Leisure) who has also offered to help. SB said that the clubs could approach the WPC for a grant if there was a shortfall in the business plan.

Following discussion it was:

**Resolved:** That WPC give the clubs 6 months to develop a business plan for the pavilion with Karyn Buck and Leo Pesci assisting them. This does not remove the requirement to deliver a financial outcome for the year in line with the WPC budget (£5k overspend).

LP will lead on this issue and will organise a meeting with Karyn Buck, Cath Dale and the clubs to move this forward.

### **Bookings**

**Resolved:** That bookings made through WPC take priority over un-booked WTFC, WCC and WSC events. The clubs have a standing priority booking for Friday night and all day Saturday and Sunday. Where there is a clash, this will be resolved through the Clerk.

08/23 Update on football pitch coaching areas (KW)

**Dug Outs** – KW said that he is hoping for these works to be done in August. They have approval to do this from Beechwood Estates (Beechwood letter sent to WPC). He was asked if planning permission was needed. He will check with Neil Boddington regarding this.

WPC members stated that WTFc must ensure that they have all the necessary licenses in place before starting work on the dugouts as required in the Beechwood lease.

#### **Cricket Containers**

CA stated that they are looking into moving these.

WPC members stated that WCC must obtain permission (through the WPC) for any changes to the position or size of their storage container on Beechwood land.

09/23 Feedback / update on MUGA

It was noted that there has been some anti-social behaviour at the MUGA. HS said that she had spoken to the teenagers involved. The Clerk informed the police and asked that they patrol this area, but they are not in Watlington very often.

10/23 Reports from Sports Clubs

1. **Football** – KW said that they now have 11 junior teams, 2 mens and 2 over 35's men's team (Veterans). WTFc had their AGM last night and now has 7 committee members. KW said that their grant application for a new kitchen has been approved.

2. **Cricket** – CA reported that membership is growing year on year. They have two Men's teams and will have another team in place during the next 12 months. Dan is taking over the youth team training. They also have a girls/ladies team who play softball and who had their first competition recently and they placed second. They have a comedy evening booked for 14<sup>th</sup> October to raise funds. They are looking to expand activities, still have Darts and hoping to re-start Aunt Sally. They would also like to make the room more homely.

3. **Sports Club** – HS said that she just got this up and running last month. They are looking into improving the bar area and a cold room would be needed, this would be a container about 10ft x 10ft. It was noted that there needs to be an AGM as soon as is possible. NS said that she would be happy to chair this if required. SODC have sent an email to Michael Hall the WSC treasurer, and a response will be sent back from WSC to them.

11/23 Any Other Issues for discussion

**Septic Tank - This** was cleaned out last week, however it was noted that there is still a smell in this area. KT reported that it took a while to clear due to the amount of loo rolls that had been stuffed down the loos. HS said that she is rationing the number of rolls available to stop this happening. SB said that as part of the Master Rec Plan moving the septic tank was one of the options considered. This would cost in the region of £30K.

**Semi-Permanent Toilets in the Rec** – There is an ongoing survey on this which is on the Parish Website and has been put on the town Facebook page. KT will send this to Keith, Chris and Hannah.

**Resurfacing of the Rec car park** – Operations have been discussing this and there have been some quotes.

**EV Charging Points** – This has been mooted but it was thought it would not work on this site.

**Smurfit – Has asked to place 3 storage containers on the tarmac area by the MUGA** - SB asked for views on this from the Clubs. KW said that this would not be an appropriate area. SB asked if they could share the container, KW said that this would not be possible for insurance reasons.

**Storage Containers** – A suggestion was made that the containers in the car park be moved to another place to give more room for the car park. KW and CA will investigate this.

**Security Sensor** – KW reported that one is not working. KT to ask Dan to check as it may need a new battery. It is not too much of an issue at the moment as it is light at night.

12/23 Correspondence  
There was none for discussion.

13/23 Any Other Business

**THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.20PM**