



Watlington Parish Council

Parish Clerk: Kristina Tynan

Minutes of the Meeting of the Strategy Committee held in the Community Office at 8pm on Tuesday 26th February 2019

Present:

Councillors:

Stephanie Van de Pette (Chair) (SVP)
Andrew McAuley (AM) – Vice-Chair
Matt Reid (MR)
Terry Jackson (TJ)
Fergus Lapage (FL)

Co-opted Members:

Gill Bindoff, Keith Jackson

Officer:

Kristina Tynan (KT)

13/19 Apologies for absence

Ian Hill, Tony Williamson, Rob Smith

14/19 Minutes

One change was agreed to Minute 03/19, Item 4 'PY2' should read 'PYR2)

Resolved: To approve the minutes of the Strategy Meeting held on 29th January 2019 which were received by Council on the 12th February 2019 and to be signed by the Chair as a correct record.

15/19 Matters Arising

Car Park Valuation (05/19 refers) – GB asked if there was an update on this. AM stated that he has put in a query to the Valuation Agency seeking a review of charges and we are waiting for them to get back to us. It does say that if we have not heard anything in 6 months we can put in a challenge on the charges.

Election 2nd May 2019 (Minute 07/19 refers) – The Clerk has designed a poster which will be put up around the town and on website/Facebook etc. There will be a stand on the 16th and 23rd March 10-12 outside the Town Hall to help persuade residents to stand for Council. This will be manned by Councillors. KT will email out this information to all Councillors.

16/19 Declaration of Interests

There were no declarations of interest notified.

17/19 Chair's Report

SvP said that she has updated the agenda format and made motions more formalised with proposer, seconder and a description of the issue as required in standing orders. A group met

to review the standing orders after the last meeting. The Community Resilience review will be led by Rob Smith and will come to the Strategy Meeting in April. Councillors are busy but all members need to be engaged with issues, so meetings have meaning and focus. SvP is also keeping the Strategic Plan updated. There was also a special Strategy Meeting held on the 7th May and the recommendations for this meeting will be discussed at Full Council in March. Staff appraisals will take place on 4th March. There was a meeting with our PCSO and one of his colleagues last night to discuss various issues including their views on the car park. They were in favour of installing CCTV which the Strategy Committee voted against in the January meeting. They also said that all incidents should be reported via 101 or via their website so they have data they can use. The Clerk will send out a short note on this meeting. The Communications Group will meet on 1st March. SvP said that as Tony Williamson has sadly passed away the flag will be flown at half-mast on the 1st March when his funeral will be held.

18/19 Standing Orders

The Council is required to review annually its Standing Orders. This Committee appointed a working group (SvP, BW, MR, AM) to make recommendations to Council for revision. Comprehensive comments were received from GB on the updated version the day before the meeting, which were not able to be incorporated for the Committee to review.

Resolved: That SvP and the Clerk incorporate GB's comments, and this will come back to the next meeting for approval. The wording of the rules of debate will be looked at to see if it can be made clearer.

19/19 Community Resilience Plan

The Council has an Emergency Plan. The plan was reviewed by Operations Committee and passed to this committee for comment in January. This committee decided that the plan required expansion to be of greater use to the community. Cllr Smith volunteered to redraft the plan utilising the Community Resilience Plan template from the Government.

Resolved: That this be deferred to the April Strategy Meeting agenda.

20/19 Motion by Cllr Jackson - Declaration of a Climate Emergency

The full motion which was attached to the agenda was discussed.

SvP said that she has been given permission to give out the names of some Icknield Community College students who went to the Youth Strike 4 Climate Change rallies in London. These were Amber Chainey, Rhiannon Amery and Anya Carr.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL: That Council to agree to:

a) Join Councils, such as Bristol, Brighton and Oxford, in declaring a Climate Emergency; Call on Oxfordshire County Council, South Oxfordshire District Council and Westminster to provide the powers and resources to make local action on climate change easier;

b) Work with other local authority organisations such as OALC (Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils) and appropriate government departments (both within the UK and internationally) to determine and implement best practice methods to limit global warming to less than 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels.

c) Recommend to Full Council within six months with the actions the Council could take to address this emergency.

21/19 Motion by Cllr Jackson – Opposing Oxford-Cambridge Expressway

The full motion which was attached to the agenda was discussed in detail.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL: That Council to agree to:

- a) Oppose the Expressway as it is currently proposed
- b) Become a supporter member of the Expressway Action Group (EAG) joining 42 other local parishes and villages in opposition of the Oxford – Cambridge Expressway
- c) Write to the Secretary of State for Transport, Chris Grayling MP requesting a full Parliamentary Select Committee Inquiry into the proposals and a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) that looks at the impacts of both the proposed housing and transport development in a holistic manner.

22/19 Motion by Cllr Reid – Authoring motions for Full Council/Committees

The full motion was attached to the agenda and was discussed in detail.

The motion is for creating a glossary of terms of a motion which can be used as a guidance document and referred to Standing Order 9 which relates to the procedure of motions. GB stated that this could put off Councillors, especially new ones. AM said that paperwork would be for internal guidance and will make people prepare for meetings. It could be in a form similar to the material/non-material guidance used for planning and would mean motions have more credibility. It was noted that the OALC Roles and Responsibilities training course is very useful for councillors to attend. Guidance notes can be invaluable.

Resolved: That the guidance document for authoring motions to Council/Committees be written in a table format.

23/19 Upcoming Events

22 Mar – 23 Apr **Great British Spring Clean**

21 Apr **Easter Sunday**

23 Apr **St George’s Day – St George’s Flag to be flown.**

23 May **Annual Parish Meeting**

There was discussion on the format of this meeting, and it was thought that we should have a speaker and a good topic would be on Climate Emergency. SvP has some speakers in mind and will liaise on this with the Clerk.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL: That the Annual Parish Meeting have a speaker on Climate Emergencies and to also ask the young people who attended the rally in London if they would like to come and speak at the meeting on this issue.

June (Date TBC) Outreach meeting, Christmas Common

24/19 Consultations

OXTOG Community-Led Highways Consultation (Deadline 1 Mar)

Oxfordshire County Council are looking to refresh and broaden their approach to community-led highway services through the Oxfordshire Together (OXTOG) initiative.

It was noted that these questions are factual.

Resolved: That the Clerk respond to this consultation on behalf of WPC

25/19 **Oxfordshire Plan 2050 (Deadline 25 Mar)**

In 2018, the Oxfordshire authorities signed the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal with the government, securing guaranteed funding for affordable housing, infrastructure and economic growth in Oxfordshire. As part of this deal, the Oxfordshire authorities have agreed to produce a plan for the whole of the county, which will guide development in the area up to the year 2050 (previously referred to at the joint statutory spatial plan (JSSP)).

GB said that she went to the exhibition in Abingdon on this, which was a very small event and only two tables. The topic paper, Energy and Climate change is hugely important. After discussion the following was agreed:

Resolved: That TJ prepare a response which can then be put as a recommendation to Full Council in March.

26/19 **Oxfordshire Plan 2050 Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report (Deadline 25 Mar)**

The Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report has been prepared to identify the scope and level of detail to be included in the Sustainability Appraisal (SA). The SA is a legal requirement in the production of the Local Plan and promotes sustainable development by assessing the extent to which the Plan's policy options will help to achieve relevant environmental, economic and social objectives.

Resolved: That TJ prepare a response which can then be put as a recommendation to Full Council in March.

27/19 Correspondence

13.1 Consultation of the Proposed Main Modifications to the Wycombe Local Plan –**This was noted.**

13.2 An additional Bucks Mineral and Waste Local Plan Modification Consultation- **This was noted.**

28/19 Any Other Business

Induction Packs for Councillors – GB asked about these. There is pack which is given out to new Councillors and SvP and KT will review the information that should be included. It was also noted that the buddy system we had in place in 2014 did not really work and we need to think how we can give more direct support to new councillors. SvP said she will be doing a series of blogs with current councillors of their experience of being on a parish council.

THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.40PM