



Watlington Parish Council

Parish Clerk: Kristina Tynan
Watlington Parish Council
1 Old School Place
Watlington
OXON OX49 5QH

Tel: 01491 613867 Email: WPC@watlington-oxon-pc.gov.uk

Minutes of the 'Remote' meeting via Zoom of the Strategy 'B' Committee held at 7pm on Tuesday 25th January 2022

Present:

Strategy Members:

Andrew McAuley (AM) - Chairman
Matt Reid (MR) – Vice-Chair
Ian Hill (IH)
Terry Jackson (TJ)
Roger Beattie (RB)
Steve Bolingbroke (SB)
Tim Horton (TH)

Officer:

Kristina Tynan (KT)

01/22 Apologies for Absence

Margaret Noon.

02/22 Minutes

Resolved: That the minutes of the Strategy Meeting held on 16th December 2021 which were received by Council on the 11th January 2022 to be signed as a correct record.

03/22 Matters Arising

Zero Carbon Britain Climate and Nature Action (Minute 52/21 refers) Terry Jackson said that she had proposed that WPC join the and has now found out more information. This is about creating a list of councils and organisations so that information can be shared easily. She will bring a motion to the March meeting of how joining would benefit WPC.

Reviewed Strategic Plan (Minute 51/21 refers)– GB said that this will be on the agenda for discussion at the next NPAB meeting. AM said it would be useful to get their input.

04/22 Declaration of Interests

There were none notified.

05/22 Terms of Reference (AM) – These were attached to the agenda.

There was a number of minor changes which were agreed, meetings will be monthly, and it was noted that Financial due diligence rests with the Finance Committee.

Resolved: That the reviewed Terms of Reference be agreed.

06/22 CIL funding review (SB) – Attached to the agenda: Major Projects Dashboard 11th January 2022

SB went through this document via screenshare. He stated that SODC had transferred £1.5M to OCC which will be spent on Education and Transport and Community Health Care. He said that the CIL breakdown is 5% on Admin and the remaining amount is split 25% WPC, 20% SODC and 70% to OCC. It was noted that we could try and lever some sums from Watlington development from OCC and SODC, but that CIL money must be spent in the geographical location but is not attributable specifically to Watlington. TH asked if this could be an item for the

next meeting and therefore can find out more information. We should involve FvM in this and how we could bid into this money.

Regarding the page on Budget by Financial Year that SB has put the sums due by development it was agreed we need to keep an eye on this and should review this every six months. AM said that regarding PYR 2 there is a chance that the CIL funding could be split between two parishes as most pressure would be on Watlington regarding services and facilities and Emma Bowerman has said that we would have a call on a percentage of these monies, and we should test this out at some point. It was noted that Pyrton will need money for their green space.

AM thanked SB for this very detailed paper and said it was very helpful in the sequencing of the projects.

07/22 Major Project Status

a. **A1 – Performance Space** (TH)

TH had sent out a number of paper prior to the meeting: project case, constraints of useage; email from Emma Bowerman; typical summer programme; opinions from the public at the town hall 21/9/2019. He then explained the history behind this project. He said that this would give a stimulus to the town centre and asked for a re-commitment to this project. It was noted that the Strategy Committee did a Red Team Review. TH was asked to provide evidence that people have shown an interest in providing events. It is also important to look at the constraints regarding live music. TH had provided running costs and revenue estimates, and these would need to be shown within the business case. It also needs to be made clear the suggestions for the funding of the project within the business case. RB asked for a single page financial summary SB said that it would also need to show that alternative venues do not already exist. The storage issue also needs to be put in the business case. He said that it is relatively inexpensive to hire staging etc and a temporary structure could be tested out before @£50K is spent on this. RB said that the thought a test case was a good idea. MR was in agreement of a trial event in the summer months which could incorporate potentially the Queens Platinum Jubilee. We may need to extend the planning permission which ends in June due to Covid restrictions.

TH will bring back a business case and it will be discussed at the next meeting.

b. **C3 – EV charging** (IH)

IH reported that there is a meeting tomorrow night which will pull together the work that different people have been doing. SB said he has made good progress and a business case will be put together soon. There is a grant from the Government for 75% of the costs and WPC would need to put in £20K. It would have to be run on break even as it is now allowed to make a profit on it.

It is hoped a business case will be done for the February meeting.

c. **S1 – Sports Ground** (SB)

SB reported that there has been little progress and we are awaiting a response from Richard Drew. Beechwood have expressed an interest in one of the suggestions given to them. He will also be engaging with other local landowners.

d. **Y1 – MUGA** (RB)

RB is working on a draft business case. AM reported that an application has gone into SODC asking for a grant of £75K. Storage facilities would also be needed. It was suggested that the Watlington Club charging policy is worth looking at. It was noted that this would be for community use and needs to have a flexible useage.

It is hoped a business case can be done for the February meeting

e. **Y2 – Youth Facility** (RB)

A meeting has been held with the Youth Club and some notes have been written up. MN has joined this group and has some ideas. It was noted that there is no scouts or cubs in Watlington

at the present time. Youth Club has a maximum of 20 children attending. Other users would need to be identified.

SB stated that the drainage survey at the pavilion has been done and we have asked the surveyors to give us an outline cost of pumped options to Shirburn Street or Love Lane. If this is possible this would free up space where the sewerage system is currently. We are waiting for the Youth Club to come back to us with longer term options.

f. Y4 – Pump Track (MR)

MR reported that there is a very enthusiastic pro-active group working on this, but they are not quite ready to put together a business case however they do have the scope. They are currently looking at a £400K scheme but this may be too ambitious as we were originally looking at a £100K scheme. Nicky Smallbone is also working on this project. It was noted that skateboarding is now an Olympic sport.

TH said that this facility would be near to PYR2 which shows a footpath on this curve, and this should be taken into consideration with the design team and could be a benefit in breaking into our property.

AM said that our connectivity is very important.

08/21 Consideration of changes to shortlist

There was no discussion on this item.

09/21 Finalising Sports Strategy (SB)

SB stated that we need to agree on which options we wish to follow on some items.

Gym/Health Club/Exercise Classes/Dance/Martial Arts

X	Work with interested commercial operators and landlords to identify a site for a commercial gym, support applications through the planning process and consider requests to support the establishment of a facility alongside SODC
Y	Reconsider priorities and WPC and start a project to provide a gym
Z	Say not viable and that other local provision is the right answer

After discussion it was agreed to look at the X option.

It was noted that the land not for housing on Site A would be a good site to look at. We would need to check Land Registry to see who owns it.

Swimming Pool

It was noted that there are 10 pools within ½ hours drive from Watlington, the two options were discussed.

X	Identify space within in the area for a hotel/gym/pool/spa operation within the Neighbourhood Plan and identify operator to develop it.
Y	Persuade SODC to locate the new swimming pool for north sub area in Watlington
Z	Say that a Swimming Pool is not viable, and that other local provision is the right answer

After discussion it was agreed to look at the Y option followed by the X option.

Rugby

X	Approach ICC and Henley, Wallingford and Chinnor Rugby clubs about opening an outreach club in Watlington to play on existing Football pitches
Y	No action

After discussion it was agreed that option X be looked at.

TH will follow this up.

Vote: 6 in favour, 1 abstention

RECOMMENDATION TO FULL COUNCIL: That Council adopt the Sports and Recreation Strategy.

10/21 Any Other Business

Decarbonisation of the Parish Council – TJ will draft a plan

Connections to new sites – GB said that Council have not put forward a connections plan, TJ asked if this was not covered in the NP Walking Strategy. AM said he would put a motion onto the Full Council February agenda.

THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9PM