



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 March 2019

Present:

Councillors:

Stephanie Van de Pette (Chair) (SVP)
Matt Reid (MR)
Terry Jackson (TJ)
Ian Hill (IH)

Co-opted Members:

Gill Bindoff, Keith Jackson

Officer:

Kristina Tynan (KT)

29/19 To receive any apologies for absence.

Andrew McAuley

30/19 Minutes

There were 2 changes agreed –Chairs Report page 9 (Minute 17/19 refers) to change the 7th May to the 7th February. Oxfordshire Plan page 11, sentence 3 (Minute 26/19 refers) to take out the word 'Local'

Resolved: That with the above changes, it was agreed to approve the minutes of the Strategy Meeting held on 26th February 2019 which were received by Council on the 12th March 2019 and were signed by the Chair as a correct record.

31/19 Matters Arising

Committee Membership - It was noted that since the last meeting, we have received the resignation of Fergus Lapage and the committee thanked him for all his work when he was on this committee.

Cuxham Field – March Full Council agreed to give the current tenant a new 5-year lease. They also agreed to start investigating social housing on this site.

Potential Recreation Sites – March Full Council agreed that the Clerk approach any eligible recreation space owner to ask whether they would be interested in opening up a dialogue about selling their land.

Oxfordshire Plan 2050 and Oxfordshire Plan 2050 Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report – March Full Council agreed that the responses be sent which has been done.

Meeting held with the PCSO – KT will send out a note from this meeting.

Induction Packs for New Council – SvP has gone through the current pack and said it is quite comprehensive. She has put together list of what should be included which can be discussed at the April Meeting.

32/19 Declaration of Interests

There were none notified.

33/19 Chairs' report

The following updates on items not on the agenda were noted.

Declaration of a Climate Emergency – Full Council agreed the motion as proposed by this committee. We now need to produce a report within 6 months of the date of Full Council to set out the actions Council can take to address the climate emergency.

Opposing Oxford-Cambridge Expressway – Full Council agreed the motion as proposed by this committee. Clerk to contact Expressway Action Group to register WPC as a supporter member. Clerk to draft letter to 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.

Promoting upcoming elections – Two events to promote the upcoming elections and opportunities to become a Councillor have been held at the Town Hall. It was noted that these went well, and it was thought that Councillors doing regular events at this location would be worthwhile. The issue of purchasing a pop-up banner for the Parish Council was discussed and prices will be looked at. It was stated it would need to be fairly robust.

Great British Spring Clean (23 March) – It was noted that this was successful with litter picker groups in Watlington and Christmas Common. There were 30 bags of rubbish collected.

34/19 Annual Parish Meeting

Discussion took place on the theme and agenda for the Annual Parish Meeting on 23 May. It was agreed that Climate Change and Air Quality be the main items. Amber Chainey who took part in the youth marches on Climate Change is happy to come and speak on this. We will also look into getting some other young people involved so we get the youth perspective on this issue. It was also thought that having some round table workshops would be a good idea. The Clerk has booked the Watlington Club.

35/19 Community & Voluntary Fair & Awards

Finance Committee has recommended to Full Council that we donate £200 to the Watlington Community & Voluntary Fair & Awards to support the event. This will be discussed at April Full Council.

Resolved: That we donate £200 to the Community and Voluntary Fair Awards.

36/19 Clean Air Fortnight

The theme for 2019's World Environment Day is 'Air Pollution' (5 June) and Clean Air Day is on the 20 June. It is proposed we promote a 'Clean Air Fortnight'. Discussion of activities that could be promoted / undertaken by WPC.

World Environment Day: <http://worldenvironmentday.global/learn-more>

Clean Air Day: <https://www.cleanairday.org.uk/>

Some suggestions were the primary school could do a walking bus, to ask Rainbow Nursery to do something. To get the Icknield Community College students involved etc. GB said she would

contact Henley Town Council to see what they will be doing.
After some discussion it was:

Resolved: That a small group get together and come up with a draft programme of event, which can then go as a Recommendation to Council SvP, TJ and IH will be part of this group.

The events agreed to be promoted at the Annual Parish Meeting on the 23 May.

37/19 Upcoming Events

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| 23 March | Great British Spring Clean |
| 23 April | Easter Sunday |
| 23 April | St George's Day |
| 11 May – 19 May | Watlington Art Week – The organisation for this seems to be going very well and it should attract a large number of visitors to the town. |
| 23 May | Annual Parish Meeting |
| 5 June | World Environment Day – theme Air Pollution |
| 8 June | Watlington Community & Voluntary Fair & Awards |
| 20 June | Clean Air Day |

TJ said that Watlington in Bloom are hoping to have their Open Garden Event, but a date has not been agreed yet. The Clerk stated that the Allotment Committee would like the Allotments to be part of this event if it goes ahead.

38/19 Consultations

There were no consultations that needed discussion.

39/19 Correspondence

Historic Town Forum – asking us to fill in a survey on how to support organisations on the importance of the visitor economy in supporting historic high streets large and small sustaining local heritage assets and growing the local economy. This is sponsored by TrailTale.

<http://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/HTVFVisitorEconomy>

SvP said she has personally done this and said it would be good for other people to take part. It is more for peoples views than organisations they are looking for.

40/19 Any Other Business

End of 4 year term of Council – GB asked if there will be an evaluation of what the Council has achieved in the last 4 years with a focus on strategic planning and how the NP has been taken forward. It was noted that the Chairman's Annual reports will be reporting on the last years progress. SvP said she would look into putting something together on this.

THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.05PM

Items for April Agenda

Standing Orders update
Community Resilience Plan
Induction pack for new councillors
Authoring motions guidance