



Watlington Parish Council

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Minutes of the meeting of the Strategy Committee held at 7pm on Tuesday 31st May 2022 on Zoom This is a 'B' Meeting

Present:

Strategy Members:

Andrew McAuley (AM) - Chairman
Matt Reid (MR) – Vice-Chair (left meeting at 8.15pm)
Terry Jackson (TJ)
Steve Bolingbroke (SB)
Margaret Noon (MN)

Co-opted

Gill Bindoff (GB)

Officer:

Kristina Tynan (KT)

33/22 Election of Chair

Steve Bolingbroke nominated Andrew McAuley and Matt Reid seconded. There were no other nominations.

Resolved: That Andrew McAuley be appointed as Chairman.

34/22 Apologies for Absence

There were none received.

35/22 Election of Vice-Chair

Andrew McAuley nominated Steve Bolingbroke and Terry Jackson seconded. There were no other nominations.

Resolved: That be Steve Bolingbroke appointed as Chairman.

36/22 Minutes

There was one correction, Minute 26/22 to replace the word 'pressure' with 'prefer'.

Resolved: That with the amendment shown above, the minutes of the Strategy Meeting held on 22nd March 2022 which were received by Council on the 12th April 2022 were agreed to be signed as a correct record.

37/22 Matters Arising

There were none other than agenda items.

38/22 Declaration of Interests

39/22 Red Team Review

Y1 – MUGA (AM) – documents were sent out with the agenda.

It was noted that there would be no available SODC CIL for 22/23 but some may be available for 23/24, SB has spoken with the SODC Cabinet Member, and he has sent a detailed plan. AM reported we have received £75K from SODC Capital Grant but that the Lottery would not give a grant for this, and we were not eligible for the Queen's Jubilee Fund. AM will continue to look at

seeking funding and will continue to look for suitable funding streams. The paper is asking WPC to commit £100K of our CIL and to be prepared to underwrite the remaining amount (83K)

SB stated that the Red Team review is to agree that the business case has all the information needed to go to Full Council. The information sent through by Keith Woolfson was noted and found useful.

SB referred to the CIL Dashboard spreadsheet where all 6 projects and financial information is held. Current projects agreed are the EV Charging Points and the Flow Track.

SB will prepare a paper on WPC CIL fund for Full Council in June.
The MUGA business case will now go to Full Council.

The MUGA proposal is ready to go forward with a procurement proposal and tenders however procurement of a consultant has been done without a record of appointment in 2017/18 and this needs to be addressed by Full Council with a positive decision and confirmation that procurement cannot be done in this way in the future. However, three quotes had been submitted from contractors in 2017/18.

Following a vote on this: 4 in favour, the following was agreed:

RECOMMENDATION TO FULL COUNCIL: That Neil Boddington be appointed as the Consultant and Fieldform as the contractor for the MUGA if Full Council agrees the MUGA Proposal.

40/22 WPC Strategies

1. **Review of Sports Strategy Action Plan**– This has been sent to SODC officers and was discussed at the NPAB Meeting. All projects are being progressed

2. **Review of Climate Action Plan Actions**- This is progressing

Both Action Plans were sent out with the agenda.

41/22 Major Project Status – if any update to report

a. **A1 – Performance Space (TH)** – There has been no business case submitted by Tim Horton and no one present wished to take this project on.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL: That the Performance Space is removed from the Projects Shortlist.

b. **S1 – Sports Ground (SB)**

Acquiring the existing sports ground has been mooted and AM and SB had a useful meeting with Richard Drew who represents Beechwood Estates, but we have not had a response to questions raised but they have said a response will be sent. Beechwood Estates are unlikely to want to sell this, but it was thought it should be kept on the project shortlist at this time.

c. **Y2 – Youth Club (MN)**

SB stated that he and MN discussed this today. The original proposal for a standalone building has been dropped in favour of an extension to the existing pavilion and is being looked at as part of the Master Plan for the Rec. This would cost significantly less than the original £400K forecasted. There is a concern about the management and leadership of the Youth Club now that Steph van de Pette, and Gill Cottell have left the area. MN has a meeting scheduled with the people who are now running the Youth Club. A survey was done via Monkey Survey and was promoted at the schools and Facebook and there were only 9 responses which does not indicate much interest in this. MN will update on this after the meeting. It was noted that we have a spreadsheet of all available venues in Watlington, and it was asked if they are fully utilised.

It was noted that Sports Pavilion has gone for 25 years without any major refurbishment and this maybe on the projects that comes on the CIL Projects Short List.

42/22 Traffic 2030 options

SB reported that after some comments this has been restructured and has been sent to OCC and SODC for their comments. OCC has offered to spend a morning in Watlington looking at the options in June and Freddie van Mierlo will also attend. He will invite the councillors who have been involved

in this to attend. SB has also spoken to MODE who previously did traffic work for the NP, and he has asked them for a quote to revise the traffic plan to now include the Edge Road. He has also had a quote from an Independent Traffic Consultant. A former Highways Engineer has also visited Watlington and given his comments at no cost to WPC. He did not think shared spaces worked very well and said that Ashford had done this, and we could have a site visit there. Talks with take place with WBA and residents in Sept/October. An outreach meeting will hopefully also take place.

43/22 Terms of Reference

AM said that with only 10 Councillors there should be a serious look at revamping how the Council does its work, and we need to look at streamlining our procedures and looking where committees overlap. The Strategy committee could cease, and other committees take on specific issues.

It would be good to have a more modern approach and to energise the Council. Councillors also need to be visible in the community.

MR/SB and AM to work up a proposal for Full Council.

The TORs were discussed.

RECOMMENDATION: That the attached Terms of Reference for the Strategy Committee be agreed.

44/22 Any Other Business

THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.45PM