



Watlington Parish Council

Parish Clerk: Kristina Tynan

Minutes of the Special meeting of the Strategy Committee held in the Community Office at 8pm on Thursday 7th February 2019

Present:

Councillors:

Stephanie Van de Pette (Chair) (SVP)
Matt Reid (MR)
Terry Jackson (TJ)
Fergus Lapage (FL)
Rob Smith (RS)
Andrew McAuley (AM)

Co-opted Members:

Keith Jackson (KW)

Officer:

Kristina Tynan (KT)

15/19 Apologies for absence

Ian Hill, Tony Williamson, Gill Bindoff (Co-opted Member).

16/19 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest notified.

17/19 Confidential Item: EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC for Items 4 and 5.

Resolved: *That in view that this item may lead to future contracts with the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the public be temporarily excluded, and they are instructed to withdraw for the next item.*

Under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 as defined in Paragraphs 7,8 and 9 of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Act.

The Committee discussed whether these items should be confidential and agreed not. They then went into public session.

18/19 Cuxham Field

1. Request to purchase the WPC land at Cuxham

This land had been left to the people of Watlington and was managed by SODC. In 2007 SODC resolved to transfer this piece of land to Watlington Parish Council to manage. The Transfer Document specifies that WPC cannot sell the land for 21 years (from 2010).

Therefore, this piece of land cannot be sold until 2031.

2. Renewal of current Lease of Cuxham Field

Discussion took place on this issue. It was noted that currently it does not include any break clauses. FL proposed that a 3-year lease, with a break clause and a rent review take place. RS then proposed a 5- year lease, with no break clauses and the current annual rent to remain the same.

A vote was then taken, 3 in favour, 3 against. The Chair then used her casting vote and voted in favour.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL: That the current leaseholder be offered a 5-year lease, with no break clause and the annual rent to remain the same.

19/19 Land Issues arising from the Neighbourhood Plan

1. Looking at potential sites for Social Housing

Discussion took place. One specific site was suggested. However, the Committee agreed that this was not the appropriate time to be doing this. It was also noted that any site to be considered in the future would have to be sustainable in terms of facilities etc.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL: That the specific site suggested for Social Housing is not investigated at the present time.

2. Purchasing Recreation Sites

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL: That the Clerk approach any eligible recreation space owner to ask whether they would be interested opening up a dialogue about selling their land.

20/19 Any Other Business

Items to be notified to the Clerk in advance of the meeting.

THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.50PM