

Watermead Annual Parish Council Meeting

Thursday 16 May 2019 at 7.40pm
The Village Hall, Watermead

Attendees: Cllr Severn (Chair), Cllr A Schwab, Cllr I Schwab, Cllr Singleton, Cllr Toler, Cllr Rose, Cllr Gent Noreen Shardlow (Clerk), Michelle Jackson (Assistant Parish Clerk), AVDC Cllr Ashley Bond plus 4 members of the public

Cllr Schwab took the Chair.

19.11 Election of Chairman & Acceptance of Office

Cllr Severn was nominated Chairman. The nomination was seconded, all were in favour. There were no further nominations. Cllr Severn was duly elected Chairman. The relevant Acceptance of Office documents were signed.

Cllr Severn took the Chair.

19.12 Election of Vice-Chairman & Acceptance of Office

Cllr A Schwab was nominated Vice-Chairman. The nomination was seconded, 5 were in favour and 1 abstention. There were no further nominations. Cllr A Schwab was duly elected Vice Chairman. The relevant Acceptance of Office documents were signed.

19.13 Apologies

None

19.14 Declarations of Interest

To declare any personal or prejudicial interests regarding the agenda – none.

19.15 To Receive Police Report re Protection of Persons & Property

To discuss any Neighbourhood Watch matters – TVP - No police report received.

19.16 Open Forum for Parishioners at 7.50 pm – 8.20 pm followed by the Council Meeting

A parishioner queried whether the possibility of having 20mph speed limits on the roads around Watermead had been investigated. It was thought that 20mph speed limits were restricted to areas where there had been a fatality or close to a school. Cllr Singleton had previously tried to get 30 repeater signs along the spine road. Cllr Severn to investigate “20 is plenty” signs with an expert traffic officer. The Clerk to speak to the local authority. Community speedwatch area signs to be considered for both ends of the spine road.

Cllr Severn
The Clerk

A parishioner was concerned about the increase in noise with aircraft regularly turning over Watermead at a low altitude. It was noted that Luton Airport would be undertaking a new consultation next September and information would be added to the website once available.

The Chairman thanked the visitors for their attendance.

Council Meeting

19.17 To agree the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 18 April 2019

The Minutes were agreed and signed as a true record of the meeting.

19.18 Planning Matters

1. To update on any Planning Applications submitted – no response had been received on **19/01281/APP – 5 Curlew** – Proposed two-storey side/rear extension – It was agreed that there was not sufficient information regarding

ownership of the garage and whether a significant loss of parking would result. It was also agreed that the boundary lines were unclear and it was therefore proposed and agreed to ask planning to investigate and advise the PC. No response had been received and it was requested that Cllr Bond take up on WPC's behalf.

Cllr Bond

- 17/00071/APP – Watermead Village Car Park Erection of 21 flats with associated parking - As circulated via email Buckinghamshire County Council has withdrawn their previous objections to this planning application. At time of report we are awaiting a committee date.

19.19 Finance

- To agree the payment schedule for May 2019 - The Clerk had previously circulated the payment schedule for May 2019, which was approved.

Payment Schedule		May-19				Payment Method (if Chq provide Number)
Company	Invoice No	Allocation	Net Amount	VAT	Gross Amour	
Mobile Mini	7001217367	R&M Land	£48.00	£9.60	£57.60	BACS
David Lucas	7/15th May 2019	Allotments, Land & Litter	£275.00	£0.00	£275.00	BACS
Castle Water	TW0052007468	Allotments Water	£6.86	£1.37	£8.23	BACS
	WATER004 -					
ROSPA Play Safety	41751	ROSPA Inspection	£518.50	£103.70	£622.20	BACS
British Gas	600026660	Village Hall Gas Supply	£77.70	£3.88	£81.58	BACS
Ian Whittome	May-19	R&M Grass	£45.00	£0.00	£45.00	BACS
Michelle Jackson	May-19	Assistant Clerk	£230.52	£0.00	£230.52	BACS
Noreen Shardlow	May-19	Clerk & Office/Expenses	£1,604.55	£0.00	£1,604.55	BACS
HMRC	May-19	PAYE & NI	£511.11	£0.00	£511.11	BACS
G. M. Hall & Co	May-19	PAYE	£20.00	£0.00	£20.00	BACS
Celebration Management Service	May-19	Hall Management	£600.00	£0.00	£600.00	BACS
		Litter, R&M, Allot &				
CLC Grounds Maintenance	2248-2251	Grass	£1,752.00	£0.00	£1,752.00	BACS
E.ON Electricity	0107 5098 3470	Electricity - Village Hall	£202.85	£10.14	£212.99	BACS
	2017-2019					
Aviva Pensions - M. Jackson	Pension	M. Jackson Pension	£584.24	£0.00	£584.24	BACS
Orchard Consulting	319	Internal Audit Year End	£250.00	£0.00	£250.00	BACS
			£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
			£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
			£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
Routine Payments Total			£6,726.33	£128.69	£6,855.02	
Non Routine Payment						
Total			£6,726.33	£128.69	£6,855.02	
Approval for Electronic Payments - To be signed by two Cllr. Signatories at meeting of the Parish		Cllr Signature: _____ Date Approved: _____				

- To agree the accounts to end April 2019 - The Clerk had previously circulated the Accounts to end April 2019, which were approved.

3. **To confirm the Council have agreed the Annual Governance Statement** – It was confirmed that the Council have agreed the Annual Governance Statement which was signed by the Clerk followed by the Chairman.
4. **To confirm the Council have agreed the Accounting Statements** - It was confirmed that the Council have agreed the Accounting Statements.
5. **To report Annual Internal Auditor Report** - The council's internal auditor report had been received and confirmed accounts have been carried out in accordance with compliance and relevant procedures expected.

19.20 Councillors' Reports and Recommendations

1 Quotation from Dave Lucas for Walkway

Dave Lucas has now been in contact with the manufacture of the proposed brackets for the Watermead Walkway and has advised as follows:

"I have looked into the possibility of phasing this work but in my view it would be prohibitively expensive as the retooling is £125 per batch for manufacture. I do appropriate this is a fairly large investment and whilst I would be willing to purchase the brackets in bulk I would prefer not to as I simply would be hard pushed to do so. I have revisited my pricing as if it would be several visits. I have spent a reasonable amount of time with both fabricators in order to get the prototype produced this I have not and will not charge for."

Dave confirmed the prices are as follows. Dave also advised that he believes to install all 50 at once will take more than a day but is willing to only charge one days labour. Original quotation of £935.00 includes fixings – This would need to be added to all of the above.

Quantity	Fabricator Cost	Cost of Brackets	D Lucas Charge	Total
10	£125	£125 (@£12.50)	£150.00	£400
25	£125	£275.00 (@£11.00)	£300.00	£700
50	£125	£475.00 (@£9.50)	£300.00	£900

It was proposed and unanimously agreed to replace all brackets.

Hanging Baskets Quotation

Windows Flowers quotation has been received. An increase of £1.25 per basket applies. It was unanimously agreed to proceed.

Mink on the Small Lake

Cllr Rose advised over the weekend that there is a discussion on the "All About Watermead" Facebook page and the Clerk had received contact from three residents.

The Clerk had spoken with Marcus Militello of Buckinghamshire, Berkshire and Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust (BBWOT) and he advised the following:

I've been in touch with our mammal project officer and she's sent through a few bits and pieces (see attachment) which you may find useful. We recommend using mink rafts. You can find the equipment here: www.filcris.co.uk/product/vison-edged-mink-raft-115m-x-06m-x-26cm-minkraftve for animal welfare issues we use a device called a remoti to monitor the trap <http://www.remotisystems.com/> which we would recommend.

It may be the case that you would need to find a pest controller to carry out the work, however if you were interested in getting someone local trained to carry this out

voluntarily I would recommend approaching Paul Gambling who carries out training for us (he's not part of the trust and is based in a another county)wildlife@paulgambling.com

If you could let me know what you decide that would be good. We'd also be interested to hear where the trap gets put as we're building up a picture of where traps are throughout the county which shapes our own trapping objectives.

It was agreed to monitor and take advise from the Bio-Diversity Officer for review at the June meeting.

The Clerk

Composter on PC Land

Cllr Rose reported at the April 2019 meeting that a composting bin had been placed on strip of land owned by the PC. It was agreed for a letter to be sent by the Clerk to the neighbouring residents, requesting removal. Letters sent and the bin is now removed. The Clerk to check the composter had been removed as Cllr Rose reported that it had not.

Ducks Signs

Locations have been determined, installation w/c 13th May 2019.

It was agreed to get quotes for permanent duck crossing signs.

Outdoor Gym Project

Update May 2019 – February 2019 the Parish Council agreed for the Clerk to investigate grant funding to replace/enhance the existing equipment at the outdoor gym. Full applications sent to Sport England and Wren.

Replacement Dog Waste Bin

The Clerk had made contact with Marcus Young regarding the replacement dog bin. Marcus no longer works in the area but he would arrange for the bin to be sent to the Parish Council for their contractor to install.

River Thame Trust Update

Update report received February 2019: Before moving forward with suggestions for improvement works on the river at Watermead I think it is key that we first establish the water depth at low flows. If the water is shallow we could think about running a work party to add in some woody material to the channel to increase the habitat and flow diversity. However if water is going to be above thigh high we wouldn't be able to do this safely with volunteers. I'll plan to visit later in the year to establish the depth and then we can move forward from there.

Lake Clearance/Islands

To be rescheduled. D. Lucas & CLC Grounds Maintenance.

The Clerk

2 Larks by the Lake 2019

Everything was in place for the event on Sunday 26 May with a record number of stalls & food traders booked.

3 To update of Allotments

The MacIntyre School

Sheena Hudson, Warden of the Watermead Allotments has read/seen that local schools are being encouraged to allotments. Sheena has asked the PC as we have four vacant ones if it is possible for a local school to be provided a plot to encourage the children to know where their food was coming from and to get the parents involved too. Subsequent to this request the Emma Collings, Employment Co-ordinator of the MacIntyre School near Aylesbury has approached me.

The MacIntyre School offers a number of education and care support options for children and young people with learning difficulties. They are based in Wingrave near Aylesbury and offers full-time, day and flexible residential education and care for children from 10-19 years.

The Clerk had spoken with Peter Smith, Chairman of the Watermead Allotments and he agreed he would support this idea.

It was proposed and unanimously agreed to provide an allotment.

4 To report on Village View

Cllr Singleton reported that the Summer issue would be delivered to Dot Toler by the weekend for distribution prior to the Larks by the Lake event.

5 To update on Village Hall

Watermead Cygnets Closure – Watermead Parish Council had met with Buckinghamshire County Council who have agreed to assist the PC with the application process with a new pre-school. Cygnets were willing to assist with the application process.

The Clerk advised that a grant application would be made imminently for replacing the village hall floor and men's toilets.

6 To update on Transport & MVAS

Change of Bus Stop Location

Update May 2019 – Paul Goodwin of Buckinghamshire County Council has confirmed (by phone and email) that he would be happy for the Parish Council to arrange a hard-standing area for the new bus stop position on the Spine Road. Unfortunately he has no budget for this provision. He would also meet with our chosen contractor to confirm size, locations etc. With regard to the existing shelter and bus stop column along Watermead, they will not be removed. Watermeadow to Lark Vale will continue to remain hail and stop (if safe for the bus to pull in).

It was agreed to proceed with Dave Lucas to install the hardstanding by the new bus stop location at a cost of £400.

Village Gates

New village gates would be installed next week.

Proposed Toucan Crossing and Cycle Path

**** AWAITING UPDATE **** As reported at the January 2018 Parish Council a meeting was arranged with Paul Ahluwalia, Traffic Signal Engineer of Buckinghamshire County Council, Cllr Severn, Cllr Rose and the Clerk. The meeting was arranged for Buckinghamshire County Council to provide an outline of what the above-mentioned scheme entails.

Paul advised that at present the remit is to provide a costing to install a Toucan crossing at the point where the Pegasus (horse crossing) crossing was initially proposed on the A413. This was part of the original planning agreement for the Buckingham Park development opposite Watermead. To accompany the crossing, a formal cycle-path is proposed to provide an adequate and usable amenity for those wishing to use the crossing. This element will require extensive (7m) cutting back of the verge-line to allow construction of a cycle-path. Only when a costing has been provided and funding addressed (believe the whole project will be over budget), will a final decision be made on whether to proceed with construction.

The Parish Council provided Paul with the necessary maps and advised that they believe the Parish Council owns the land in question.

The next steps are for Paul to commission a topographical survey and make Land Registry enquiries to determine land ownership. Upon results of this Paul will make contact with us.

MVAS would be operational over the next week and volunteers were needed to operate the sentinel.

7

To update on Highways

Update information received from Mark Averill, Head of Highways Buckinghamshire County Council, following the ongoing failure of the newly installed system (previously advised via email)

The Clerk

Thank you for your email, which was passed to me this week for my response. I am sorry that the bollards have been down; this was due to a faulty cable. Our supply chain partner has programmed the works for 8th May to change the cable and get the bollard operational once again. I am conscious that this installation has been at the centre of attention for some time now, I am confident that once the new cable has been fitted that the issues and problems here will be eradicated.

Regarding the additional re-set button Cllr Netta Glover has advised BCC have had a quote back but we have to wait until the remedial works are completed before trying to install the additional re-set button.

The Clerk was chasing BCC on a regular basis to ascertain whether WPC were on the list for weed spraying along the roadsides.

8

Photography Exhibition/Competition

Cllr Rose to organise prizes, funds already approved at PC budget meeting. Exhibition boards to display the photos were being organised.

19.21

Date of meetings

20 June, 18 July, 15 August, 19 September, 17 October, 21 November, 19 December.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 20.33pm and thanked people for their attendance.