

Watermead Parish Council Meeting

Thursday 16 November 2017 at 7.30pm
The Village Hall, Watermead

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

17.66 Apologies

None.

17.67 Declarations of Interest

To declare any personal or prejudicial interests regarding the agenda – Cllr A Schwab & Cllr I Schwab – All items relating to Crematorium and Legal.

17.68 To Receive Police Report re Protection of Persons & Property

The Clerk advised that an email request had been received via the office regarding advice on setting up a Neighbourhood Watch Group (NWG) for Watermead. Some years ago Watermead did have a Neighbourhood Action Group (NAG) but the numbers really dropped and in fact the last series meetings held at the Village Hall had only two people in attendance. With the recent issues Watermead has been facing and reported Police responses received, people are now looking to do all they can to help and a lot of Watermead residents wish to start a NWG. This would need to be driven by residents of the community but members of local organisations such as the Parish Council can be part of the group.

Therefore the Clerk has put two residents who are really keen to start this group in contact with the leader of Buckingham Park Neighbourhood Watch Group, who will be able to assist and put them in contact with the relevant NWG Officer for the area.

A Watermead group had also been set up on "WhatsApp" which would be promoted at the Christmas Fair.

17.69 Open Forum for Parishioners at 7.40 pm – 8.10 pm followed by the Council Meeting

There had been reports of cars being broken into or keyed around Watermead. An email had been received from a Lark Vale parishioner regarding the distress caused to her with cars going through the bus route since the bollards have been broken. The Clerk to forward to Cllr Glover.

The Clerk

The Chairman thanked the visitors for their attendance.

Council Meeting

17.70 To agree the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 19 October 2017

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

17.71 Planning & Licensing Matters

(1) 17/03162/APP – 3 Peregrine Garage Conversion – **REFUSED Reason for Refusal**

The proposal would lead to the loss of an off street car parking space to serve the dwelling, which would result in the pressure for additional parking on the adjacent and surrounding highways to the detriment of the safety and convenience of nearby properties and highway users, as such contrary to Policy GP24 of the Aylesbury Vale District Local Plan and NPPF.

(2) 17/04081/APP – 28 Kestrel Way, remove conservatory and erect a single storey extension –no objections.

(3) 17/04063/APP – 2 Osprey Walk, Garden Renovations – On Tuesday 31st October 2017 the Clerk received a consultation response form, titled garden renovations. The Clerk contacted Aylesbury Vale District Council planning department to ask why the Parish Council were being consulted on an application to replace broken paving, landscaping and possible installation of a 6 inch border fence (description as per consultation form). No response was received.

The Clerk made further communications with Carole Paternoster of Aylesbury Vale District Council who confirmed that she had taken this up with AVDC Enforcement Team who advised, “that on viewing the development, they considered it to be an engineering operation requiring planning permission. There are further similar developments that have been carried out along the lakeside adjacent to Osprey Walk however on viewing the history of the site this appears to have been the case along Osprey Walk for a significant number of years rendering the other lakeside development e.g the patio areas with retaining walls at the lake side likely to be immune from planning control through lapse of time.

The current applicant was in the process of carrying out this work when we were informed. If the land were to be developed in this way they would require planning permission, which we conveyed to the current applicant. The Clerk has viewed the application and will speak to the case officer as the reason for informing that permission was required was not because a 6 inch fence had been erected but because there was a significant engineering operation to facilitate a retaining wall to accompany a patio area and it was this work which constituted development requiring permission”.

Cllr Bond to take up with the planning department. The PC supported the application.

(4) 17/00071/APP – Watermead Village Car Park Erection of 21 flats with associated parking to be discussed. At time of report we are awaiting Committee meeting – nothing further to report.

(5) 14/01575/APP – Proposed Crematorium, The Riviera – all the documentation had been delivered to AVDC. A vote of thanks was given to The Chair and the Clerk for their time in putting the documents together. Thanks were also given to Cllr Rose for providing the photographs.

17.72 Finance & Administration

- 1. To agree the payment schedule for November 2017** – the Clerk had previously circulated the payment schedule, which was approved. One further payment of £575 to Caroline Longman was agreed.
- 2. To agree the accounts to end of October 2017** - The Clerk had previously circulated the Accounts to end October 2017, which were approved.
- 3. Budget & Precept Meeting Arrangements** – The Clerk to forward accounts with a budget column for the Cllrs to consider for the December budget meeting on 21st December 2017.

17.73 Councillors' Reports and Recommendations

1 Update on Routine Land Work

Access to Parish Council land

At the September 2017 Parish Council meeting it was agreed for the Clerk to obtain quotations to install a gate to the left hand side of the Gatehouse to ensure that the PC has available access to their land at all times.

The easiest method would have been to install a gate at the largest section between the main posts (52") a quote for this option has been received. However when on site with our contractors and when I advised them of our intention, concern was expressed about the width in case we need to get larger machinery through in the future. An alternative option is to install a 7ft gate on the original main posts but at an angle as opposed to straight on. Two quotes had been received and it was proposed and agreed to go with the quote from Ripple at a cost of £410. It was further proposed to allocate up to £150 for CLC Ground Maintenance to move the pile of top soil around the mound to make the pathway accessible.

Lake Clearance – Contractors D. Lucas & CLC Grounds Maintenance are made aware that these works have been agreed and deferred to Spring 2018.

2 **Land Request Stroke Association**

Approval was given at the October 2017 Parish Council meeting to The Stroke Association to repeat the Resolution Run. The Clerk confirmed that Mr Hamid Pardis has given his approval to cross the former Riviera land.

They have agreed as per last year to provide all relevant documents, event plan, risk assessment, public liability insurance and have agreed to the PC's adhere to our new "Land Request" document.

Documents to be provided and circulated nearer the time.

3 **To update on Allotments**

Plot Numbering – Cllr Eric Rose identified and reported that during the judging of the Best Allotment Competition 2017 the lack of plot numbers was a major issue and recommended that this be addressed before next year.

The Clerk had met with Peter Smith, Chairman of The Watermead Gardening Society and has agreed to assist them to seek funding, as the Parish Council did with the Allotment Gardens notice board.

Renewal invoices to be distributed shortly.

ONGOING Ditches site inspection is still to be carried out by Buckinghamshire County Council who will come back to us in due course with their findings and suggestion of works.

4 **To report on Village View**

The Winter issue was currently with the printers and would be distributed end of November in time for the Christmas Fair.

5 **To report on Village Hall**

As advised via email and reported at the October 2017 Parish Council meeting, works to replace the balcony situated to the rear of the Village Hall have commenced and the contractors are now at the following stage (advised by construction company, Gemini Builders).

The Clerk

An Asphalt surface is now being put into place and all access to the balcony will be prohibited from 13-18th November 2017. Those directly affected by these works have been notified in writing by Gemini Builders. Confirmation has been received that this phase of works does not restrict the use of the outdoor area of the hall.

The daytime users of the hall have been advised of the above as a precaution. Watermead Cygnets have notified me that the builders have been non-intrusive during their sessions.

6 **To update on Transport & MVAS**

The MVAS and Sentinel equipment was currently with Berryfields. The Chair requested assistance in undertaking speed checks.

7 Highways

Rising Bollards – Lark Vale The Parish Council became aware of the problem in August and have been chasing for an update/repairs since reported. Since reporting we have been advised that the problem was caused by a faulty sensor, this was replaced on 19th September. However this did not cure the problem.

The Clerk had made contact on many occasions with Transport For Buckinghamshire and also Cllr Netta Glover. We have been advised by Transport for Buckinghamshire that as the system has been unreliable for a number of years, the prime cause of this being that the control units themselves are life expired, they have placed a bid for capital resource for a complete replacement of both the hydraulic and electronic systems across all of their sites in Buckinghamshire. The upgrade will greatly increase the reliability of the units and that downtime will be much reduced. If their bid is successful then they will be exploring options with the team to accelerate the works programme so that installation can be completed as soon as possible.

Waiting to hear if the above bid is successful and chasing on a regular basis direct with Transport for Bucks and Cllr Netta Glover.

8 To report on Christmas Events

The craft fair was fully booked for 2 December from 11 am in the Village Hall and the Carol Concert organised for 9th December 6pm-7pm in the Piazza.

17.73 Date of meetings

21 December 2017 (budget meeting), 18 January 2018, 15 February, 15 March, 19 April, 17 May, 21 June, 19 July, 16 August, 20 September, 18 October, 15 November, 20 December (budget)

17.74 Due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed, it will be necessary for a Councillor to move a motion to close the meeting to the press and public under Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.

Planning/Legal Review

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.20 pm.