

Watermead Parish Council Meeting

Thursday 17 February 2022 at 7.30pm
Held at the Village Hall, Watermead

Attendees: Cllr S Severn (Chair), Cllr A Schwab, Cllr I Schwab, Cllr M Singleton
Cllr S Mackay, Cllr M Morgan, Cllr E Rose
BC Cllr Ashley Bond
Noreen Shardlow (Clerk), Michelle Jackson (Assistant Parish Clerk)
plus members of the public: Graham Severn

21.79 Apologies

BC Cllr Diana Blamires, BC Cllr Peter Cooper

21.80 Declarations of Interest

To declare any personal or prejudicial interest regarding the agenda – none

21.81 To Receive Police Report re Protection of Persons & Property

No police report. The Clerk had attended the Bucks Community Board the previous night. PCSOs are down by 50% in the area but with the new government funding, numbers are expected to increase. However the process takes up to 18 months for them to be trained.

21.82 Open Forum for Parishioner at 7.40pm-8.10pm followed by the Council Meeting

Cllr Bond reported that budgets were going through. Council tax increase of around 4%. Children's Services had now come out of special measures. At the Community Board there had been a presentation on health of school children and that they were not doing as much exercise now and they were pre-pandemic. Cllr Bond to investigate funding for a walking crocodile. Cllr Severn to get further information from NALC. BC were also looking at recruiting some youth on the Community Board but the Cottesloe School was the only one located within the Wing ward.

Cllr Bond
Cllr Severn

The Chairman thanked the visitors for their attendance.

Council Meeting

21.83 To agree the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 20 January 2022

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

21.84 Planning Matters

1. To update on any Planning Applications submitted

20/03343/AOP Outline planning permission for demolition of the former football club and redevelopment of the site, including land re-profiling, for residential use (42 dwellings), new public open space, landscaping and access.

The Stadium Buckingham Road Aylesbury Buckinghamshire

Latest communications from the Environment Agency and Applicant sent via email. The Clerk to monitor. Cllr Schwab had advised the residents of Oliffe Close. It was agreed that the Clerk should write a formal letter to the Planning Department regarding the requirement for a sequential test, copied to the Town Council, Buckingham Park, County Cllrs Bond, Blamires and Cooper. Cllr Bond to speak to Michael Rand.

The Clerk

21/04922/APP 3 Kittiwake – Householder application for ground and first floor side extensions and replace approved Juliet balcony with full balcony. Garage conversion – Cllr Severn advised she had received a phone call from a distressed parishioner regarding the planning application and

Cllr Bond

parking issues. The Chair to advise the neighbour to make contact with the Planning Department directly.

2. **21/03659/AOP** - Outline Planning Application with all matters reserved except for landscape for change of use from garden centre to Industrial/Storage Unit – no update. It was noted that there was a development in Aston Clinton along the A41 for commercial business units/storage units. This land had already been included in the Neighbourhood Plan.
3. **17/00771/APP** - Piazza Car Park Proposed Development – no update.

21.85 Finance & Administration

1.To agree the payment schedule for February 2022 – the Clerk had previously circulated the payment schedule which were approved.

| Payment Schedule Feb-21 | | | | | | Payment Method (if Chq provide Number) |
|---|------------|--|------------------|----------------|------------------|--|
| Company | Invoice No | Allocation | Net Amount VAT | | Gross Amount | |
| Mobile Mini | 7002334683 | R&M Land | £55.20 | £11.04 | £66.24 | BACS |
| Ian Whittome | 31/01/2022 | Grass | £50.00 | £0.00 | £50.00 | BACS |
| CLC Grounds Maintenance | 2842-2844 | Litter, R&M & Grass | £1,380.00 | £0.00 | £1,380.00 | BACS |
| Michelle Jackson | Feb-22 | Assistant Clerk | £246.28 | £0.00 | £246.28 | BACS |
| Noreen Shardlow | Feb-22 | Clerk & Office/Expenses | £1,646.31 | £0.00 | £1,646.31 | BACS |
| HMRC | Feb-22 | PAYE & NI | £520.61 | £0.00 | £520.61 | BACS |
| G. M. Hall & Co | Feb-22 | PAYE | £20.00 | £0.00 | £20.00 | BACS |
| Village Hall Management | Feb-22 | Hall Management | £600.00 | £0.00 | £600.00 | BACS |
| E.ON Electricity | A-4A9A8D6C | Village Hall Supply | £256.19 | £51.24 | £307.43 | BACS |
| E.ON Electricity | A-CA102F38 | Gatehouse Supply | £17.17 | £0.86 | £18.03 | BACS |
| British Gas | 60026660 | Village Hall Supply | £111.71 | £5.58 | £117.29 | BACS |
| Herts Fullstop | CS537598 | Village Hall Cleaning Supp. | £84.59 | £16.92 | £101.51 | BACS |
| Buckinghamshire Council Bins | Aug-30 | Village Hall and Land Bins | £81.65 | £0.00 | £81.65 | DD |
| British Telecom | SM50260908 | Office & VH Phone + WIFI Hall | £190.35 | £38.07 | £228.42 | DD |
| | | | £0.00 | £0.00 | £0.00 | |
| Routine Payments Total | | | £5,260.06 | £123.71 | £5,383.77 | |
| Non Routine Payment | | | | | | |
| | | | £0.00 | £0.00 | £0.00 | |
| | | | £0.00 | £0.00 | £0.00 | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| Total | | | £5,260.06 | £123.71 | £5,383.77 | |
| Approval for Electronic Payments - To be signed by two Cllr. Signatories at meeting of the Parish | | Cllr Signature: _____ Date Approved: _____ | | | | |

2. To agree the accounts to the end of January 2022 - The Clerk had previously circulated the accounts which were approved.
3. Approved payment process.
It was proposed and unanimously agreed to devolve responsibility to the Clerk for any emergency expenditure up to £1k or up to the budgeted amount without her having to reference Cllrs.

21.86 Neighbourhood Plan Update

Following on from the previous full update in December 21, which was duly communicated via the Parish Council, Village View and via various other media outlets, the latest progress can be seen as follows. Following positive feedback and advice from our 'expert' retained consultant Agreed next steps

- 1) NP Team has re-engaged Sally Chapman, Planning Consultant, to develop final wording for the 'Aims, Objectives and Vision' in relation to the Neighbourhood Planning Document (Work in progress)
- 2) Completion of the crucial 'Land Assessment Survey' is on-going' and will follow the formal process which is set out in the NP guidelines. Important that all 'pockets' of land are identified and assessed against the criteria. This will enable the RAG report to be completed and subsequently communicated within the Plan. (Work in progress)
- 3) Engagement with Businesses is on-going and will continue for the duration. This will include engagement within those both inside and outside of the 'designated area' (Work in progress)
- 4) Once stages 1 & 2 above are completed, the next phase of engagement with both Residents and Businesses will take place, through publicly open events and communications through agreed media platforms. (To be confirmed)

Whilst 1, 2 & 3 take place, the Neighbourhood Plan Team will continue to gather the required Technical Evidence which will be included to support the content of the Plan.

Representation for the proposed development of 22 houses at Kestrel Way may attend prior to a PC meeting.

21.87 Councillors' Reports and Recommendations

1 To update on Land Registry Matters

Awaiting response from the Crown's solicitors. The Clerk to list where letters had been issued. A no response counted as a no objection. The Clerk also advised that four private properties are to be contacted in the event a transfer takes place.

2 To update on Litter, Land and Routine Land Work Fallen Tree

One of the areas of land under talks with Land Registry is where the tree fell down during Storm Dudley the previous day. Dave Lucas and a resident had attended and made safe. More damage was anticipated the following day from Storm Eunice.

Communication with Mr Pardis

The communication that the PC agreed at the January 2022 meeting was sent. To date no response has been received.

Works agreed and awaiting completion:

Walkway Brackets D Lucas

Existing Benches Ground Works D Lucas

3 Watermead Piscatorials Update

Update: Awaiting a follow up meeting. Watermead Piscatorials AGM is scheduled to take place Friday 4th March 2022.

Following the October 2021 Parish Council meeting a meet up was scheduled and the Chairman, Clerk & Peter Dean attended. Martin Mynott, Steve (Bailiff) and Don Smith attended from the Watermead Piscatorials.

The meeting was a very productive meeting, the Piscatorials were thanked for the works carried out recently and they confirmed that further works are still in progress.

Dredging of the lake was discussed and it was suggested that the Parish Council and the Piscatorials work together with Andy Killingbeck of the Environment Agency to seek funding for this project (potential funder the EA).

4 Large Lake Footways Project Update

FCC Communities Foundation

Our grant application with FCC Communities Foundation has been reviewed and assessed and our application of £42,205.00 (50% of net costs) has been successful.

If successful with Bucks Community Board funding, FCC requested confirmation on the PC contact who would make the drawdowns and sign contracts. In accordance with the standing orders it was agreed that the Clerk and the Chair would sign agreements and that the Clerk would sign for drawdowns.

Buckinghamshire Community Board

The Community Board had asked for technical information and FCC had produced reports which would hopefully alleviate any concerns BC had regarding water levels and wildlife etc.

Antisocial behaviour was discussed should the project proceed with the pathways being made more accessible. It was agreed to discuss these issues in more detail at next month's meeting.

The below response has been received from Buckinghamshire Council, Community Board:

"In essence we have had great feedback about the project and I am very pleased with the comments we have had. For it to go to members for final recommendations however, there has been a condition applied by council services who we had to involve.

The requirements would mean involvement of the environment agency (for flood risk assessment) and planning (I think for the bridge element). If they have already been involved and covered, please do let me know with any detail you have and we can talk through the next steps either way."

I have since spoken with Katrina Holyoake our Community Board who has confirmed it would be best for us to engage with our preferred/chosen contractor Focuss Construction and their engineer to provide detailed drawings.

It was agreed to contact Focuss Construction and proceed with the Engineer Design Report as per quotation of £2000 included within original scope of works.

5 Report received from Roman Park Community Trust

Cllr Severn reported that more people were using the foodbank. The Carol Concert had made £160 to donate to the Trust. Thanks were given to all.

6 To Update on Allotments

4 new plot holders had signed up.

7 To report on Village View

There were fewer advertisers but a couple of new ones this edition. Cllr Mackay advised he would be going through the Vale magazine and Check-a-Trade leaflet to identify potential new advertisers. Business recommendations on the Facebook pages to also be contacted. It was hoped to distribute the Spring edition next weekend.

8 To update on Village Hall (including return of groups and service utilities)

Awaiting contact from Christopher Evans. The surveyor had been on site and identified where the water was now leaking through into the village hall ceiling. It was agreed that the Clerk should seek approval from Comptons to add a post box to the outside wall of the village hall.

Service bills were discussed and the anticipated price increase with British Gas. The Clerk to find the best deal and advise the PC of her decision.

The Clerk

9 To update on Highways & MVAS to include Cycling Safety Campaign

MVAS – the new MVAS was available for use in Watermead.

Cllr Severn has reported the MVAS to Buckinghamshire Council, as has Cllr Cooper (as per email dated 17th November 2021).

Contact has also been made with Swarco Traffic, and I can advise as follows:

Swarco's standard call out charge, including two hours labour is £630 plus VAT. However as they have an office in Milton Keynes near to the A5 junction they advised if we can get the non-working MVAS to their offices they would reduce this fee to £180 and again this includes two hours labour. They also kindly agreed if we wish to get the two devices looked at they would not charge an additional £180.00. They would advise of further charges and parts before we commit to such work.

Apologies for the delay in this matter, on our initial call we had a bit of trouble locating the device on their database. The installation of our devices was before their database was implemented.

It was agreed that the Clerk should take the MVAS to Milton Keynes for repair at a cost of £180.

The Clerk reported that the Aqua Way cycle path is overgrown. A site visit had taken place on Wednesday by Street Scene who were unaware they maintained the land. It was hoped the area would now be cleared.

Lamp Posts/Road Signs

The lamp post that had been hit by the car needed attention and the pedestrian refuges were filthy as well as the road signs.

Hanging Baskets

The Clerk advised that the paperwork usually arrived in April for installing in June. There had been a request that the flowers be red, white and blue to coincide with the Queen's Jubilee. A request had been put in with Highways that the baskets could be brought more into the village starting from the bridge, due to the vandalism on the baskets at the end of the spine road last year. Alternative wrap-around brackets to also be requested from Window Flowers.

10 Watermead Photography Competition 2022

Jubilee to be included as an events category. It was agreed to display winning prints on the village hall wall.

11 Jubilee Event & Events Committee Update

The event would take place on 5 June. All resident children in attendance to receive a Jubilee Medal. It was agreed to hold a "Best Crown" competition.

The Events Committee wished to hold a Larks event in either early May or late August and a Film Night in September. The next committee meeting to be held on 7 March.

The Christmas Craft Fair would take place on 3 December and the Carol Concert on 10 December

21.88 Date of meetings

17 March – Cllr Mackay gave his apologies in advance
21 April, 19 May (plus APCM), 16 June, 21 July, 18 August, 15 September, 20 October, 17 November, 15 December

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 21.44pm and thanked people for their attendance.