

Watermead Parish Council Meeting

Thursday 17 January 2019 at 7.30pm
The Village Hall, Watermead

Attendees: Cllr Severn (Chair), Cllr A Schwab, Cllr I Schwab, Cllr Rose, Cllr Singleton, Cllr Gent
AVDC Cllr Ashley Bond
Alan Josè Ambassador - Westerleigh, Robin Gurton Vernieux - Regional Director for South East, Heather Dyson –
Aylesbury Site Manager
Noreen Shardlow (Clerk), Michelle Jackson (Assistant Parish Clerk),
plus 12 members of the public

18.73 Apologies

Cllr Toler, BCC Cllr Netta Glover

18.74 Declarations of Interest

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

18.75 To Receive Police Report re Protection of Persons & Property

New PCSO Jo Morgan had sent apologies for absence but would be attending the February meeting. There was no police report.

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

AVDC Cllr Bond gave his report - Unitary debate ongoing.

Westerleigh attended the meeting. Parishioners and Cllrs had the opportunity to ask any questions and the issues raised included screening, encroachment on PC land, light nuisance, opening hours and timings of services, car parking arrangements, the access road, traffic and the adverse effect on the residents of Watermead. Detailed notes were recorded separately.

Despite many requests for a meeting with AVDC, WPC's invitation had been declined. AVDC Cllr Ashley Bond reported Cllr Paternoster would not meet with WPC and he would report back to AVDC that Westerleigh had agreed to take WPC's comments back to their Board for consideration.

Cllr Bond

The Chairman thanked the visitors for their attendance.

Council Meeting

18.77 To agree the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 15 November 2018

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

18.78 Planning Matters

- (1) To update on any Planning Applications submitted – no updates.**
- (2) 7/00771/APP - Watermead Village Car Park, Lakeside – Erection of 21 Flats –** As circulated via email Buckinghamshire County Council has withdrawn their previous objections to this planning application.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.
- (3) 1401575/APP – Proposed Crematorium, The Riviera –** already discussed.
- (4) 18/03513/ACL – 11 The Chaffinch ACL Additional parking space -** Application for a Lawful Development Certificate for an existing use of additional parking space to driveway. To ratify the Parish Council's decision, December 2018. The Clerk advised December 2018 that we

should not have been consulted on the above application, as this is an application for a Lawful Development Certificate. This had recently been removed from Aylesbury Vale District Council's Planning Portal. The PC resolved no objections to this application.

(5) **18/04239/APP – 53 Kestrel Way demolition of conservatory and an erection of a single storey extension.** To ratify the Parish Council's decision, December 2018. The PC resolved no objections to this planning application.

(6) **Enforcement Issue** – the PC had received a confidential request to support an alleged planning breach. Individual Cllrs had seen evidence and the PC agreed to support.

18.79 Finance & Administration

1. To agree the payment schedule for December 2018 - The Clerk had previously circulated the payment schedule for December 2018, which was approved. Three further payments were approved:

MVAS annual maintenance contract - £110

Electricity bill for Gatehouse - £49

Electricity bill for Village Hall - £238

Payment Schedule		Jan-19				Payment Method (if Chq provide Number)
Company	Invoice No	Allocation	Net Amount	VAT	Gross Amount	
Mobile Mini	7001092437	R&M Land	£48.00	£9.60	£57.60	BACS
Herts Supplies	H121804760	Hall Supplies	£100.49	£20.10	£120.59	BACS
Taplins Plant Hire	184087	Heras Fence Christmas Tree	£12.00	£2.40	£14.40	BACS
Castle Water	09/02/6244	Allotments Water	£13.44	£2.69	£16.13	BACS
HCI Data	WEB11279	Website Domain	£70.00	£14.00	£84.00	BACS
Ian Whittome	Jan-19	R&M Grass	£45.00	£0.00	£45.00	BACS
Michelle Jackson	Jan-19	Assistant Clerk	£230.52	£0.00	£230.52	BACS
Noreen Shardlow	Jan-19	Clerk & Office	£1,570.06	£0.00	£1,570.06	BACS
HMRC	Jan-19	PAYE & NI	£526.29	£0.00	£526.29	BACS
G. M. Hall & Co	Jan-19	PAYE	£20.00	£0.00	£20.00	BACS
Celebration Management Service	Jan-19	Hall Management	£600.00	£0.00	£600.00	BACS
CLC Grounds Maintenance	2171-2173	Litter, R&M & Grass	£1,380.00	£0.00	£1,380.00	BACS
Dave Lucas	Jan-19	Walkway Repairs	£30.00	£0.00	£30.00	BACS
E.ON Electricity	H16B02993E	Bandstand Electricity	£26.96	£1.35	£28.31	BACS
British Gas	952609212	Village Hall Gas Supply	£122.73	£6.13	£128.86	BACS
			£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
			£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
			£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
Routine Payments Total			£4,795.49	£56.27	£4,851.76	
Non Routine Payment						
Pentagon Sports (South) Ltd			£8,095.00	£1,619.00	£9,714.00	BACS
Trim Trail Project Funded from grant received						
Total			£12,890.49	£1,675.27	£14,565.76	
Approval for Electronic Payments - To be signed by two Cllr. Signatories at meeting of the Parish Council		Cllr Signature:		Date Approved:		
		Cllr Signature:		Date Approved:		

2. To agree the accounts to end December 2018 - The Clerk had previously circulated the Accounts to end December 2018 which were approved.
3. To agree the Budget for 2019/2020 – approved

		Code	Note	2017/2018 Budget	2017/2018 Actual	2018/2019 Budget	2018/2019 Actual	2019/2020 TBC
		D	E					
Income & Expenditure								
Precept		prec /G		-73125.00	-73125.00	-75000.00	£75,000.00	-76500.00
Bank	Interest	int /G		-30.00	-36.15	-30.00	£23.83	-30.00
Village Hall	Hire	hire /G		-12000.00	-12006.50	-12360.00	£7,897.01	-12669.00
Grants Received		man/G		0.00	-500.00	0.00	£0.00	0.00
Legal Costs		use/G		0.00	-34086.12	0.00	£0.00	0.00
Summer Event		lark /G		0.00	0.00	0.00	£0.00	0.00
View		view /G		-8000.00	-4501.00	-8000.00	£3,504.50	-8000.00
Fishing		fish /G		-750.00	-750.00	-500.00	£500.00	-500.00
Devolution		ball /G		-2255.56	0.00	-2255.56	£2,255.55	-2255.56
Grants (Precept Government)		grant /G		0.00	0.00	0.00	£0.00	0.00
Allotments		wren /G		-1250.00	-1755.71	-1250.00	£591.50	-2000.00
Christmas Events		oth /G		-200.00	-307.15	-200.00	£38.00	-500.00
LOAN		loan/G		-29600.00	-29575.00	0.00	£0.00	0.00
VAT Receipts		vat/G		-6000.00	-11505.60	-6000.00	£3,327.49	-6000.00
Income				-133210.56	-168148.23	-105595.56	-93131.88	-108454.56
Admin	Post, Phone, Station'y	post /H		1200.00	1522.16	1500.00	983.56	1300.00
	Office	off /H		550.00	520.08	600.00	541.10	660.00
	Petty Cash (Held in Office)	pc /H		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Clerk's salary	clrk /H		16000.00	19008.11	16320.00	11969.80	17000.00
	Clerk's Expenses	exps /H		100.00	7.75	100.00	37.10	100.00
	Ass Clerk	ass /H		2550.00	2833.42	2601.00	1801.20	2900.00
	Legal Fees	law /H		28000.00	29120.61	16000.00	16916.24	10000.00
	Nl/Tax	ins /H		5500.00	6937.32	5610.00	4283.96	6000.00
	Web Site	web /H		100.00	104.70	100.00	0.00	100.00
	Payroll/Audit	aud /H		1000.00	860.00	1000.00	830.00	1000.00
12/13 Clerk 2	Insurance	bank /H		1600.00	2015.82	1900.00	0.00	2150.00
Subscriptions	LC Clerks/NBPPC	lc /H		100.00	20.00	100.00	45.00	100.00
	Data Protection	data /H		35.00	35.00	35.00	40.00	40.00
	SLCC	sloc /H		175.00	165.00	175.00	0.00	175.00
	BALC	balc /H		370.00	379.70	390.00	399.10	420.00
	Community Action	bca /H		50.00	0.00	50.00	0.00	50.00
Councillor	Allowances	all /H		1000.00	772.23	1000.00	7.25	1000.00
	sub total			58330.00	64301.90	47481.00	37854.31	42995.00
Land	Repairs & Mainten'	r&m /l		11000.00	14010.29	11000.00	10539.87	11000.00
	Allotments	allot/l		1200.00	1413.04	1500.00	1346.24	1500.00
	Signs	sign /l		500.00	209.27	250.00	204.99	250.00
	Litter	lit /l		6000.00	5170.00	6000.00	6429.95	6000.00
	Grass	grass /l		6500.00	5500.00	6500.00	4500.00	6000.00
	Energy	ener /l		100.00	76.97	100.00	78.92	100.00
	Recreational Facilities	rec /l		2000.00	500.00	1000.00	0.00	0.00
	Dog Bins	dog /l		1300.00	1306.25	2000.00	0.00	1500.00
	ROSPA	rosp /l		500.00	70.00	500.00	70.00	250.00
	sub total			29100.00	28255.82	28850.00	23169.97	26600.00

4. To agree the Precept for 2019/2020 - It was provisionally agreed to raise the precept to £76,500.00, an overall increase of 2.23% on a band D property (see below illustrative table). The PC ratified this proposal.

Watermead		
1	2019/20 Precept	£ 76,500.00
2	Precept Increase %	2.00%
3	2019/20 Tax Base	£ 963.61
4	Tax Base Movement	-0.220%
5	2019/20 Band D Council Tax	£ 79.39
6	Band D Increase %	2.23%

5. To agree the 2019/2020 Village Hall & Allotment rates - It was proposed and agreed at the December 2018 budget meeting to increase all Village Hall hire rates by 2.5% and the allotments to increase from £25 to £30 and non-residents rate £50 to £60 per plot from April 2019. – The PC approved.
6. To agree the minutes of the Parish Council Budget/Precept Working Group Meeting Dec 2018 – agreed.



Marcus Militello, Hedgerow Havens Project Officer of Berks, Bucks & Oxon Wildlife Trust

Update: Hedge planting is now complete. Marcus and the team from Vale Countryside Volunteers including Adrian Bayliss achieved the works in one working day as opposed to two. As mentioned in the plan Marcus has now advised, it would be good to carry out two cut and removes this year, one in late April and one in August. Marcus will be introduced to our contractor Darren Adamson of CLC Grounds Maintenance to see if he can do this part of the project, as he believes this would be best. Marcus confirmed the BBOWT will cover the costs of carrying out the cut and remove this year, then following the payment of the grant to us these future costs will be made by the PC.

Marcus will visit Watermead in March to spray off some of the weeds on site again.

Land to the rear of Goldcrest

Prior to the Christmas period a number of residents had reported via the office and via All About Watermead that food waste was being disposed on open land and also in the ditch that runs along the back of Goldcrest. Many residents believed this is potential danger to pedestrians using this area for walking/exercising their dogs as it had been reported that many dog walkers are struggling to deter their pets going into the ditch and in the event they enter the ditch, they are struggling to get them out. We had also been informed that a dog has been very unwell after eating decomposing food.

The above concerns were relayed to the property owner who has cleared the area however they advised the following concerns they encounter at their property:

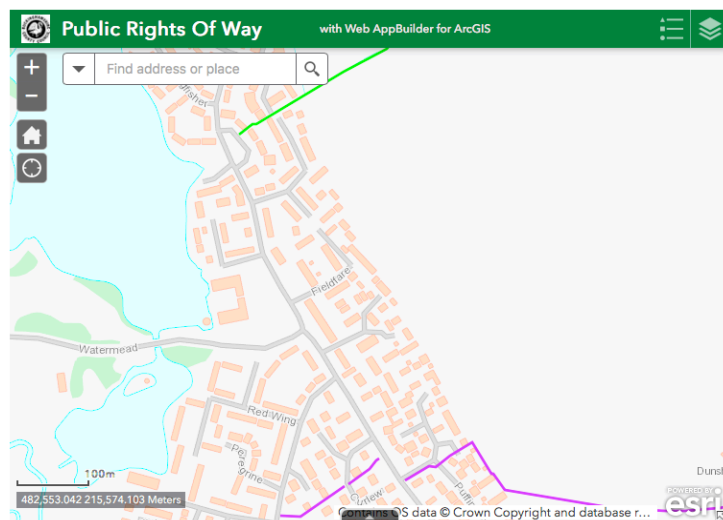
“PRIVACY - I purchased my property in 1999 and one of the key reasons for buying was privacy, in so much as the land behind was not built on, could not be due to covenant and I was not overlooked.

My privacy has been interrupted for almost 20 years and at least 20 times a day 7 days a week by these complaining dog walking trespassers, who walk by and stare into my property through the three sets of double of doors, I would have more privacy if my house backed onto another property and at least it would be only one family looking in.

DOG MESS - These same dog walkers, while trespassing also allow their dogs to consistently foul on the ground directly outside my property and they do not clear it up, there are approximately 8 piles of dog excrement as I type, I have taken photos if you would like to see them.

DOGS NOT ON LEADS AND UNMUZZLED - These same dog walkers allow their dogs to walk off of the lead and on occasion some of the more aggressive ones have come up to my boundary fence and attempted to attack my own dog who is in her own garden. This happened over this Xmas period where a delightful Staffordshire Bull-Terrier came to my fence and attempted to bite my dog through it, this dog was called Missy and was un-muzzled and not on a lead”.

I attach below a map, which highlights the area, confirms this is not a public right of way. A follow up email (sent for information) received from the property owners was forwarded to all Cllrs.



It was agreed to put a reminder in article in the Village View of land ownership and rights of way. Resident to be asked if he would like a 'We're Watching You' sign installed on his boundary.

Scouts are making free poo bag dispensers out of empty litre bottles and it was agreed to put these in public places.

Florence Nightingale Land Request

At the September 2018 meeting of the Parish Council and subject to the necessary documentation being approved and receiving the relevant permission from other landowners in advance, the Parish Council resolved to seeing the return of the Florence Nightingale Superhero Fun Run return to Watermead.

Michelle Merrison has been in contact to inform us that whilst it was decided that they would not be going ahead with Superhero Fun Run, they would like to hold an 80's themed fun run instead, preferably in April. Reasoning behind the 80's theme is that it is their 30th Anniversary.

Brief overview of event:

Date- Saturday 6th April

Time- Registration from 10am, Warm up 10.45am, Run begins 11am.

Ideally they will have a 2.5km route (one route round the lakes) and a 5km route (twice around the lakes)

They hope to have 200-300 runners and will be promoting in the local area around Watermead.

All runners will receive a medal on completion.

The PC agreed to the event subject to risk assessments and EMP being put together.

2 To update on River Thame Trust Visit

Awaiting a report.

3 Updates received from the Events Committee – A meeting was due to be held on Monday 21st January to start preparing for Larks by the Lake in May. Dave Lucas has held the annual quiz, which had raised £300 to put into the Events Committee. The Photographic Competition would be held on Saturday 21 September. Cllr Rose to put something together for inclusion in the Village View.

4 Allotments

Nothing to report.

5 To report on Village View

Cllr Singleton reported that the editorial team had met the previous Sunday and everything was on track. Deadline for articles was 28 January. A visit to the printers had been organised to review pricing.

6 To update on Village Hall

Decoration provisionally booked in for the February half term.

7 To update on Transport

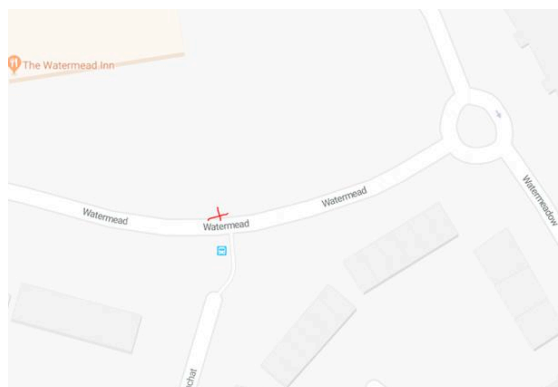
Devolved Services Update: New agreement arrived 14th January 2019.

Variations of agreement being sent via email. PC agreed and signed.

Following the recent unitary announcement, Buckinghamshire County Council have had to reconsider the devolution service offer for 2019 and beyond. They advised with the possible changes coming over the next 2-3 years, it would be short-sighted of them to issue 4-year contracts or not give us all the opportunity to revisit the discussions we had around other devolved services Local Councils could take from us as a unitary council. In light of this, and the on-going pilot of additional maintenance services, they have decided to offer a 1-year devolved contact (from 1st April 2019) to all Local Councils who *already* have a Local Council Devolution Scheme Agreement with them.

Change of Bus Stop Location

With the change made to the Water Rider Bus Service route at the end of November 2018, the Parish Council received an email from Amanda Covington of Buckinghamshire County Council who proposed installing a new stop (pole and flag) to be located opposite the existing Shelter on the main Watermead Road near the post-box – please see map below. Amanda also advised the rest of the route along Watermeadow, Lark Vale etc. will remain Hail and Ride. This email was sent to all for comments.



All comments made by the PC were passed onto Paul Goodwin, Passenger Transport Team at Buckinghamshire County Council and advised that a more permanent/safer bus location needs putting into place.

We discussed the request of a shelter and Paul advised that he knows the area quite well and due to the size of the verge we could look into installing the below style shelter along the spine road which is smaller than the existing on the opposite side. We also discussed the costs of moving the shelter but for two reasons Paul advised against, the shelter is too large and JC Decaux cost to relocate is higher than a new shelter. Paul confirmed costs for a new shelter by email, £5120 plus VAT. He also said he would investigate any possible funding from their budgets. He wasn't sure he would be successful but he said he would ask around and report back to us early in the new-year. **Unfortunately Paul confirmed Monday 14th January 2019 they are not able to contribute towards a new shelter.**

We need to confirm instructions with regard to the pole and flag stop. Cllr I Schwab expressed her concerns about the location of the proposed bus stop on the bend making visibility dangerous and overtaking difficult when the bus stops. Clerk had raised the issues with Highways who had approved the location. The Clerk to request a site visit and a safety comparison between the existing and proposed new location. Funding for a bus shelter to be sought. PC to consider putting in paving on the grass verge at the proposed location.



**** AWAITING INSTALLATION ** Village Gates**

Further to our June Parish Council meeting and the update provided on the Village entrances gates, I am pleased to report the following advice from Matthew Whincup our Local Area Technician, Buckinghamshire County Council confirming both gates will be replaced (see below).

"Now that you have confirmed the gate is no longer serviceable I will order a new replacement along with a matching one for the other side of the road. The gates we use now are actually made of plastic and are a lot easier to maintain and keep clean. They have a wood effect and look just like the original wooden ones but better in my opinion.

I need to confirm what size gates we need as the manufacturer does various widths and I will want to match the size as close as possible to the original ones. I need to have a measure up first then I will order them. It can take a while for the gates to be made and name sign attached".

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.

Highways Bus Bollards UPDATE: The installation has been scheduled for the February 2019 half term holidays to ensure the bus service for school children is not disrupted.

The bus bollards at Lark Vale are not operational. The bid for installation of a new system was successful and installation is imminent. Concern has been expressed about the size of bus vehicles now being used and the change of the bus stop location. Awaiting an update from Cllr Netta Glover.

9 Christmas Events

The craft fair and carol concert had raised a total of £316.79 and a donation of £226.79 had been given to charity.

18.81 Date of meetings

21 February (Cllr Rose gave his apologies in advance)
21 March, 18 April, 16 May, 20 June, 18 July, 15 August, 19 September, 17 October, 21 November, 19 December.

18.82 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 Chairman closed the meeting at 9.30pm and thanked people for their attendance.