

Watermead Parish Council Meeting

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

Attendees: Cllr Severn (Chair), Cllr A Schwab, Cllr I Schwab, Cllr M Singleton
Cllr M Morgan, Cllr D Forder, Cllr A Bond
Noreen Shardlow (Clerk), Michelle Jackson (Assistant Clerk)
plus 2 members of the public – Graham Severn, Daniel Hinds

22.43 Apologies

Cllr P. Cooper (Buckinghamshire Council) & Cllr D. Blamires (Buckinghamshire Council)

22.44 By-Election Results & Election of Ashley Bond

Cllr Severn welcomed Ashley Bond to the PC. He duly signed the acceptance of office papers and the Clerk received Cllr Bond's Register of Interests form.

22.45 Declarations of Interest

To declare any personal or prejudicial interests regarding the agenda – Cllr Bond regarding any items on Planning, Cllr I Schwab on any items relating to Land Registry or Legal.

22.46 To Receive Police Report re Protection of Persons & Property

No report received.

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

Daniel Hinds had made contact with the Clerk regarding a fundraising idea to run/jog laps of the large lake in Watermead with sponsorship.

This would NOT be a public event, just a small group of Aylesbury residents (5 people appx) wanting to fundraise for local charities. The initial thought was up to 100 laps (100 miles) over 24-36 hours, this would take place at this time next year in October.

He was enquiring whether any permissions would be needed to hold such an event.

It was proposed and unanimously agreed to allow use of the PC's land for the fundraising event and that it would offer support in any way it could. The Clerk to provide a copy of a Risk Assessment. Cllr Singleton to publicise in the Village View. Permission would also be needed from Mr Pardis for use of the jetty area.

Cllr Bond reported that the Community Board were getting involved with the Helping Hands scheme. More money has been awarded to help with food, drinks or a venue. A scheme had been started in South Bucks which would be coming to North Bucks whereby recycled plastics was being used in tarmac. Bucks was the best county for catching fly-tippers.

There were a lot more staff in Planning Enforcement.

The Christmas Light switch on was Sunday 20 November between 1pm-6pm.

The Chairman thanked the visitors for their attendance.

Council Meeting

22.48 To agree the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 20 October 2022

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

22.49 Planning Matters

(1) To update on any Planning Applications submitted

- **22/03567/APP 26 Ayleswater** Householder application for erection of single storey rear extension and part first floor side extension. Plans circulated via email – the PC agreed to remain neutral to the planning application.

(2) 22/02849/APP 20 Kingfisher – Householder application for removal of conservatory and erection of a single storey rear extension.

This planning application was discussed at our October 2022 Parish Council Meeting and no objections were raised. Since this meeting plans have been revised and Buckinghamshire Council are consulting with all consultees again. The PC agreed to remain neutral to the revised planning application.

22.50 Neighbourhood Plan & Open Day

1. Watermead Neighbourhood Plan Engagement Event

We are very pleased to report that a successful event was held at the Watermead Inn, courtesy of Kelvin Wong on the evening of 1st November 2022.

A relatively small number of residents attended, but those that did were well informed and very engaging in terms of asking many questions of the Neighbourhood Plan team present.

Resident's names were noted so that we could contact for future events.

More publicity was needed to engage more people at future events.

2. Future Engagement Events

My understanding is that we all agree that more of these events are required to engage with residents, businesses and other key stakeholders!

With this in mind, please can we agree some provisional dates for that, we can find suitable locations to hold the events and advertise widely to try to increase wider engagement?

Recommend that we not only publicise on website, Facebook Groups and noticeboard but also consider using a 'flyer' through letterboxes! Subject to Neighbourhood Plan team and Cllrs agreement.

It was agreed the next open day would be Saturday 14th January 2022 at the Village Hall, 10am-3pm.

3. Design Code

Feedback has been received back from Cllrs, Neighbourhood Planning Team members and Sally Chapman and provided to AECOM in order that they can make the appropriate revisions to the Design Code section in the Plan. Sally Chapman has suggested an opening chapter on the design concept/history and suggested that Stuart Mackay drafts as he prepared the history of Watermead document.

Thanks were given to The Clerk, Stuart Mackay and Peter Dean for their involvement.

4. Sections Drafting Updates

Land Assessment - Complete

Wildlife - Awaiting

Highways - Awaiting

History - Complete

Sustainability - Included in Irina's text

Amenities - Awaiting (Peter & Noreen meeting on Thursday)

Cllr Forder and Cllr Morgan to meet the following week regarding the Wildlife section. Cllr Severn agreed to do the Highways section.

Cllr Forder/
Cllr Morgan
Cllr Severn

Cllr Forder suggested a nature trail for the children. This could be tied in with the Pliosaur and wildlife signage boards.

22.52 Councillors' Reports and Recommendations

1 To update on Land Registry Matters

Cllr I Schwab advised that we were awaiting draft transfer documents for them to approve the memorandum of understandings.

2 To update on Land & Routine Land Work

Watermead Small Lake Walkway – At time of report I am awaiting/chasing an update from David Patrick from Environments For People and Contractors.

David Patrick and Radu (FCC) are in discussion to see whether Radu can take on the fixing of the small walkway. The Clerk was monitoring the gap on a regular basis.

Email 4th July 2022

re: **Small Lake Walkway Update**

Further to Cllr Rose's email dated 25th May and the update communication provided at our June Parish Council meeting, I write to provide you with the following update.

Wednesday 22nd June 2022, David Patrick of Environments For People attended to inspect the small lake walkway. He confirmed that the walkway has subsided near to the outflow pipe at the Nursing Home and believes this is caused by the surface run off drain, and the water impact is lifting the surface of the lake, exactly where this post is positioned. This has not yet been confirmed in writing. He agreed after taking many photographs, videos and measurements, he would prepare a report for Cllrs to consider at our next meeting.

During this meeting I asked is the walkway at risk of imminent collapse and he advised, no.

Today, Monday 4th July 2022 I received a phone call from Steve who is the Bailiff of The Watermead Piscatorials. He was calling to express his concern, so I agreed to meet with him at the walkway there and then. I explained to Steve where we are on this matter and I wasn't in a position to confirm the dip had worsened since David's visit as I walk this route once or twice a day and to me it looked about the same. I called Eric to get a second opinion (before calling David-Environments For People) as he originally reported this and he has agreed to pop down tomorrow to take a look.

I then arranged a video call with David. He was on a close video for the call and confirmed again (whilst I was with Steve) that the walkway is not a risk of imminent collapse and will provide both a temporary (short term) and permanent fix for this part of the walkway.

I will continue to walk each day and check for any further upright movement and Steve has agreed to do the same.

As soon as David's reports/recommendations are received, I will of course forward to you all.

Works agreed and awaiting completion:

Existing Benches Ground Works D. Lucas

Large Lake Walkway

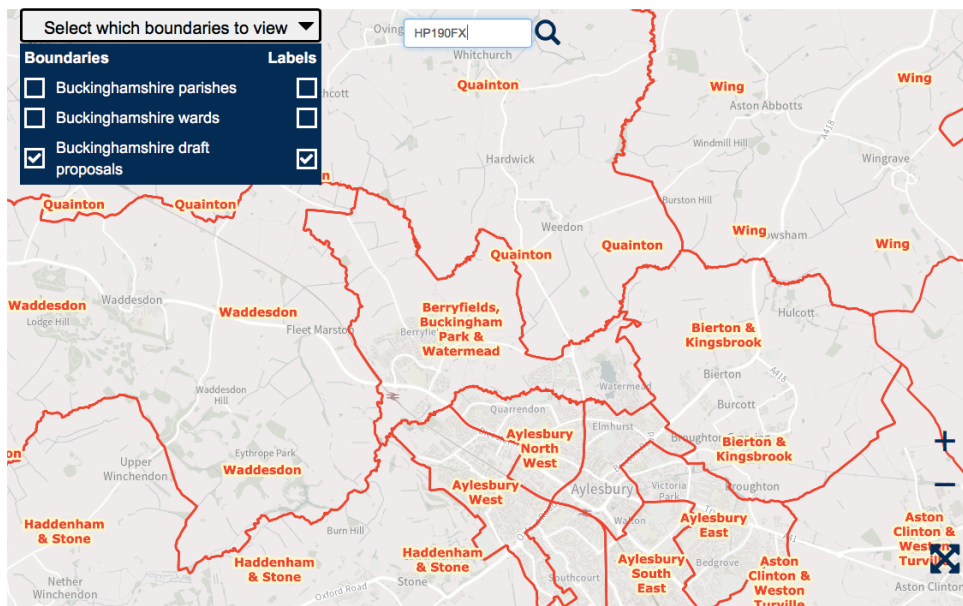
The Clerk advised that signage had been ordered.

An enquiry had been received regarding litter picking for the Duke of Edinburgh scheme which was approved and it was agreed to sign off assessment forms. The

PC to provide a hi-viz jacket. Jacket to also be provided for Dave Lang.

Andy Killingbeck from the EA was trying to get someone from another team to come and visit regarding solutions for the dipped area around the large lake.

3 Ward Boundaries Consultation



Cllrs to individually respond to the ward boundaries consultation as well as the PC sending a response.

All Cllrs

4 Charity Run Request

Discussed under the Open Forum.

5 Report received from Roman Park Community Trust

There was only £587 in the bank compared to £10k the previous year. The number of families in need of support was increasing. £140/week was being spent to buy food. Meeting to be arranged. Cllr Singleton had asked U3A members to bring donations in for Christmas hampers. No donations of food had been put in the box outside the village hall. Proceeds from the Film Night, Craft Fair and Carol Concert would go to the Trust. Cllr Bond suggested setting up a 100 Club.

6 To update on Allotments

Draft minutes of the AGM had been circulated by email.

7 To report on Village View

The Winter issue had gone to the printers on Monday and was due back middle of next week ready for distribution in time for the Craft Fair and Carol Concert. The deadline for the Spring issue was 26 January 2023. Cllr Forder to create a puzzles section. Anyone wishing to join the editorial team was welcome.

Cllr Forder

8 To update on Village Hall

3 men had been on site to measure up the walls without the Clerk's knowledge. She had been advised by the ladies of the art group who were using the hall at the time. The Clerk had made contact with Comptons but had not received a response as yet. An email from a resident of the piazza had been received. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to request account information to query the £113k shortfall.

The Clerk

9 To update on Highways & Transport including Devolution Update

Dear Clerk,

We are writing to you regarding the devolved services agreement you have with Buckinghamshire Council.

As we are sure you are aware Buckinghamshire Council has been undertaking a large procurement exercise for the new Highway contracts which will come into effect at midnight on the 31st March 2023. This will be an entirely new service delivery model with new service providers, a commitment to delivering value for money and to work more collaboratively with community groups, Town and Parish Councils. Given these changes we have decided to extend the current devolution agreements until the new model is operational so that Town and Parish Councils are fully aware of the new service provisions and to allow time for more detailed and informed discussion about future devolution arrangements.

We therefore propose that the current devolution agreement be extended for one more year from the 1st April 2023. We will commence a full consultation in May 2023 with Town & Parish Councils which will include surveys and workshops to listen to your views on Highways Devolution for the future.

We will shortly be asking you to update us on your bank and correspondence details and once this has been collected the devolution agreements will be sent out to be signed.

We would like to thank you for continuing to support your local area by carrying out devolution functions.

Kind regards,

Highways Devolution Team

Highways & Technical Services
Communities Directorate
Buckinghamshire Council

The damaged MVAS and street lamp still needed replacing.

10 Christmas Events

The Craft Fair was fully booked and would be held on 3 December and the Carol Concert on 10 December.

22.53 Date of meetings

15 December, 19 January 2023, 16 February 2023, 16 March 2023, 20 April 2023, 18 May 2023 and APM, 15 June 2023, 20 July 2023, 17 August 2023, 21 September 2023, 19 October 2023, 16 November 2023, 21 December 2023

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.

Staff Review - To agree the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) pay award agreed with effect from 1 April 2022 with an increase of one day to all employees' annual leave entitlement – it was proposed and unanimously agreed to backdate to April 2022. Thanks were given to Noreen Shardlow and Michelle Jackson for their efforts and hard work.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9pm and thanked people for their attendance.