

Watermead Parish Council Meeting

**Thursday 17 October 2019 at 7.30pm
The Village Hall, Watermead**

Attendees: Cllr Severn (Chair), Cllr A Schwab, Cllr Singleton, Cllr Rose, Cllr I Schwab
AVDC Cllr Ashley Bond, BCC Cllr Netta Glover
Noreen Shardlow (Clerk), Michelle Jackson (Assistant Parish Clerk)
plus 2 members of the public

19.49 Apologies

Cllr Gent, Cllr Toler

19.50 Declarations of Interest

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

19.51 To Receive Police Report re Protection of Persons & Property

No report received.

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

Cllr Glover gave her report.

Cllr Bond reported that 4 new ponds have been created where there had been sightings of great crested newts.

Cllr Glover was thanked for her kind donation of £250 towards noticeboards.

The Chairman thanked the visitors for their attendance.

Council Meeting

19.53 To agree the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 19 September 2019

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

19.54 Planning Matters

1. To update on any submitted Planning Applications - none
2. 19/03386/APP – Demolition of conservatory and erection of single storey rear extension (amendment to approval 18/04239/APP) – the PC had no objections to the planning application.
3. 17/00771/APP - Watermead Village Car Park, Lakeside – Erection of 21 flats with associated parking – At time of report we are waiting a committee date.

19.55 Finance & Administration

1. To agree the payment schedule for October 2019 - The Clerk had previously circulated the payment schedule for October, which was approved. One additional payment of £50 for Dave Lucas was approved

Payment Schedule Oct-19						Payment Method (if Chq provide Number)
Company	Invoice No	Allocation	Net Amount	VAT	Gross Amount	
Mobile Mini	7001401250	R&M Land	£51.60	£10.32	£61.92	BACS
Cllr E. Rose	N/A	Photographic Competitor	£128.51	£0.00	£128.51	BACS
Castle Water	2261853	Allotment Water	£13.95	£2.78	£16.73	BACS
		Cinema Event - To be recharged to Events				
Taplins Plant Hire	204801	Committee	£350.00	£70.00	£420.00	BACS
British Gas	600026660	Village Hall Gas Supply	£10.05	£0.50	£10.55	BACS
Michelle Jackson	Oct-19	Assistant Clerk	£230.52	£0.00	£230.52	BACS
Noreen Shardlow	Oct-19	Clerk & Office/Expenses	£1,613.80	£0.00	£1,613.80	BACS
HMRC	Oct-19	PAYE & NI	£511.11	£0.00	£511.11	BACS
G. M. Hall & Co	Oct-19	PAYE	£20.00	£0.00	£20.00	BACS
Celebration Management Service	Oct-19	Hall Management	£600.00	£0.00	£600.00	BACS
CLC Grounds Maintenance	2351-2353	Litter, R&M & Grass	£1,466.00	£0.00	£1,466.00	BACS
Ian Whittome	Oct-19	Grass	£45.00	£0.00	£45.00	BACS
			£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	BACS
			£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	BACS
			£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
			£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
			£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
			£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
			£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
Routine Payments Total			£5,040.54	£83.60	£5,124.14	

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

19.56 Councillors' Reports and Recommendations

1 Update on Land & Routine Works

Welcome to Watermead Sign

All the undergrowth from the "Welcome to Watermead" sign at the entrance to Watermead had been cleared. Further maintenance would be undertaken to remove and dispose of the heavy scrub. It was proposed and agreed to spend up to £350 on a heavy-duty petrol trimmer together with necessary safety protection equipment and training. A formal vote of thanks was given to Peter Dean, Graham Severn and others for the clearance works.

Misuse of Litter Bin

It was reported that the bin was continuing to be used for household rubbish including fruit and vegetable peelings which have been scattered on the ground all around the bin, presumably pulled out by an animal.

It was agreed to install a laminated sign on the bin to advise that the bin was not for household rubbish and that it was being monitored. Cllr Severn to check contents of the bin.

The Clerk
Cllr Severn

Request received from Mr. D. Forder – Conduct Wildlife Surveys

I am moving to Watermead in a few weeks time. I am a naturalist, birder & enjoy photographing wildlife. I offer advice & info regarding wildlife & the environment and a Trustee of the Box Moor Trust in Hemel Hempstead. I have set up a group for those who live or work in Watermead with an interest in the nature in the area...

<https://facebook.com/groups/1188692044671779>

I am also putting together a blog to document wildlife in the Watermead area. I was wondering, could you please send me the map of Watermead in PDF format, or the best quality you have please? Also, is there a particular person to contact regarding any questions or concerns regarding wildlife or the environment at Watermead? I would like to conduct wildlife surveys for the likes of MK & Bucks ERC, BBOWT & the BTO & it would be great to have a contact to discuss anything or share findings. I would like to offer any help or advice where I can in regards to nature & the environment in the area, so just thought I'd let you know that I'm here to help if I can.

It was proposed and agreed that Cllr Rose and the Clerk meet with Dan Forder.

Cllr Rose/
The Clerk

Request received from Ms. A. Williams - Proposal for the parish council to approve the hiding of Geocaches around Watermead Lakes

Information had been circulated to Cllrs by email. It was proposed and agreed to support the proposal and review after 6 months.

Culvert

Cllr Rose reported that the culvert between Sandpiper and The Osprey had become increasingly clogged. Reported to Aylesbury Vale District Council, Environmental Health and at time of report we are awaiting an update.

Crematorium Screening

September 2019: It was agreed that Cllrs should undertake a site visit and mark out the areas for screening.

Copy of email sent 25th July 2019 - *At the March 2019 Parish Council Meeting Mr Morgan of Kingfisher requested would the Parish Council if possible meet with Westerleigh Crematoria to discuss appropriate planting in both the short and long term. It was agreed that we would pursue this enquiry.*

Our two main objectives are to shield the view of the Crematorium site from any public/residential views and furthermore the bridge and the car park remain a concern as the hearses and mourners are clearly visible to all residential properties as well as all users of the public walks and meadows.

Alan Josè, Ambassador for Westerleigh & Robin Gurton-Vernieux made a visit to Watermead and would like the Parish Council to identify the areas they would like to see screened. Alan Josè has suggested a meeting for September / October time with the Parish Council to discuss further.

Walkway Brackets Installation

Waiting confirmed installation date.

Replacement Dog Waste Bin

Marcus Young advised he would send the dog waste bin and for our contractor to install. A follow up email has been sent to Marcus Young Landscapes. To date no response has been received.

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.

2 BBOWT Update

The Watermead meadow creation planting day had taken place on 5 October which had been organised by Marcus Militello as part of the Hedgerow Havens Project to create a new haven for wildlife in Watermead. A number of District Councillors had been in attendance and AVDC had issued a press release to the Bucks Herald. Cllrs expressed their concern regarding the content of the press release. Paul Irwin had been made aware of the PC's concerns and this would be discussed further with him on his return from holiday. Cllr Severn and the Clerk had also met with Marcus to discuss.

3 Buckingham Park Scouts Request

I am the Group Scout Leader for 12th Aylesbury (1st Buckingham Park) Scout Group, we have been an independent group for over 3 years. I started the group

form scratch and now have nearly 100 young people in the group with close on the same amount on the waiting list. As the group has grown much of our efforts outside of the running of the group have gone on fundraising events to help acquire kit and facilities for camping.

All of the fundraising we have managed to date have gone on equipment to allow the children to benefit from the great opportunities Scouting can offer. This has left us little funds to support the sections in their adventurous endeavours. The Scouts have a chance to go to Iceland and we have several members who have signed up to this trip at a cost of £1400 each. Even though they are committed to do some fund raising as the group attending I would like to assist their efforts,

I would like to understand what opportunities there are for the Parish Council to support, financially those member going. Please let me know if you need to know any more information.

This is a great opportunity for youngsters in the parish to enjoy a trip of a lifetime. I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours in Scouting

**Iain Stanley, Queen's Scout
Group Scout Leader**

The PC did not feel it would be appropriate to make a donation for individuals but it agreed to make a donation towards a specific item of equipment. The Clerk to discuss with Iain Stanley.

The Clerk

4 Balloon Meadow BBQ Provision Update

As agreed at the September 2019 meeting an order has been made to commence rental of the outdoor BBQ from Easter/April 2020 with the option to purchase if successful thereafter.

5 Watermead Events Committee

The Film Night had raised £920 profit, which would be donated to the British Heart Foundation. A request had been received to hold a Larks Event on 24 May 2020, which was agreed. It was agreed to add an item to the next agenda to discuss holding an event to commemorate the 75th anniversary of VE Day.

6 To update on Allotments

All was going well with the allotments. A meeting would be held on 30 October.

7 To report on Village View

An editorial meeting had been held on Sunday and there were new contributors to the magazine. The deadline for articles was 26 October. The Christmas lights advert previously used would be on the back page of the Winter edition. Cllr Singleton to contact Tiggywinkles for an update following the PC's decision to donate proceeds from the Carol Concert and Fair. Election information to also be included.

Cllr Singleton

8 To update on Village Hall

The floor would be replaced over the half term break. Thanks were given to AVDC for the funding.

9 To update on Transport & MVAS

Nothing to report.

**10 To update on Highways
Proposed Toucan Crossing and Cycle Path**

**** AWAITING UPDATE ****

It was agreed to remove this item from the agenda.

11 Photography Exhibition/Competition

Cllr Rose was thanked for organising another successful photographic competition. He advised that the categories may be changed slightly for next year's competition. Cllrs discussed hiring out the display boards and it was agreed to revisit to discuss charges should a request be received.

Calendar Costing

It was agreed to order 100 x A3 size calendars. To be sold at £7 per calendar.

12 Christmas Events

The craft stalls at the Christmas Fair had all sold out. A new vicar would be in place in time for the Carol Concert.

19.57 Date of meetings

21 November, 19 December.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 21.05pm and thanked people for their attendance.