

Watermead Parish Council Meeting

**Thursday 18 July 2019 at 7.30pm
The Village Hall, Watermead**

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

19.31 Apologies

BCC Cllr Netta Glover

19.32 Declarations of Interest

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

19.33 To Receive Police Report re Protection of Persons & Property

A resident requested that it be reported to the Parish Council about an incident that happened in Watermead. Extract of email below:

"We have just returned from holiday to find out that two men tried to steal my cat in a car last Thursday early hours of the morning. He is normally locked in at night and my dad hadn't locked the cat flap both ways and he pulled the catch.

They attempted twice to get him in their car outside the front. Luckily he scratched them and escaped. I am concerned that they will return and try again. I have reported to police as per email. I don't want to draw attention to my cat in particular to avoid giving anyone else ideas but wanted to let you know as the parish council to make residents aware of this incident without mentioning my name and road. I do have CCTV which I will be sharing with police."

The Clerk would be meeting up with Police the following week and could relay any concerns raised by Parishioners then.

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

Cllr Glover had circulated her report.

Cllr Bond reported that the Unitary Council was going forward and the shadow authority would be organising the new budget and the announcement of the new Chief Executive. The Aylesbury Vale Plan would be going out for consultation in September and should be adopted by Christmas.

Parishioners reported on the overgrown bushes around the small lake, which are now hanging over the lake. It was noted that the bank was eroding near the nursing home. To be discussed under agenda item 19.38.1.

The Chairman thanked the visitors for their attendance.

Council Meeting

19.35 To agree the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 20 June 2019

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

19.36 Planning Matters

processed lawfully. It is a matter for a council if it chooses whether to name members of the public speaking or refers to them as “a resident” for example. Where councils do choose to identify members of the public, it would be prudent for them to exercise discretion and ask persons intending to speak if they would prefer their names and addresses not to be recorded in the minutes. The same principles would apply to the personal data of members of the public who contact the council in other ways.

Information Commissioners Office Advice

A public authority would not be expected to include:

- Any information, which would be exempt under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) or the Environmental Information Regulations (EIR);
- Any personal information, which it would be unfair to disclose or would otherwise breach the Data Protection Act 1998 (DPA);
- Minutes of meetings that fall outside the timeframe indicated in the sector definition documents (the usual requirement is to make available minutes for the current and previous three years);
- Information that it would be impractical or resource-intensive to publish; or
- Lower-level internal meetings, which may be of less general interest to the public.

Cllr I Schwab had also taken advice on this matter, which stated that names should not be included unless they specifically request. Cllr Schwab to circulate the advice received.

Cllr I Schwab

It was suggested that parishioners' names be held for PC purposes but not displayed in the minutes. Cllr Severn to send format for open forum minutes from Stoke Hammond Parish Council where 20 or more people attend each time for Cllrs to consider.

Cllr Severn

It was agreed to put this on the agenda for September.

19.38 Councillors' Reports and Recommendations

1 Update on Routine Land Work CLC Grounds Maintenance Update

CLC Grounds Maintenance has attended the walkway around the mound and the agreed walk on the Wilderness Meadow.

Vegetation on Small Lake

The vegetation was now hanging over the lake and the contractor had advised that in order to cut back he would need to access via the lake, which would be at a cost of £600-800. This was approved with the request that he check for any nesting wildlife before undertaking the work.

The Clerk

Domestic Rubbish in Litterbins

It was reported that at least one resident from Whitchat flats was putting household waste in the PC litterbin. The Clerk to write to the managing agents.

The Clerk

Duck Ramp

The Environmental Agency had widened the ramp and the PC would monitor.

Band Stand Wooden Edging

Cllr Singleton reported that a Canada gosling had got its foot stuck in the wooden edging around the bandstand island. She had managed to rescue and had taken it to Tiggywinkles. The PC to consider replacing the wooden edging. The Clerk to speak to the Piscatorials and contractors.

The Clerk

Walkway Brackets Installation

Brackets have arrived from the manufacturer and installation is imminent.

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.

Lake Clearance/Islands

To be rescheduled. D. Lucas & CLC Grounds Maintenance.

Watermead Junction

Monday 17th June Peter Dean, Graham Severn and another Watermead Resident started the works at the "Welcome to Watermead" sign. It certainly is noticeable when you drive in. Thank you to Dave Lucas too for lending the strimmer/equipment. They have done an amazing job. We are awaiting an update from BCC with regards to electricity and relighting the sign.

2 Litter, Sky Lanterns & Helium Balloons

<https://www.litterfreecoastandsea.co.uk/sky-lantern-and-balloon-release-charter/>

This had been brought to the PC's attention and it was agreed to monitor.

3 Canada Geese

The below email was received by a concerned resident. A document to accompany will be sent separately via email:

"The Canadian Geese babies are lovely this year but they will grow and start their own families. Their numbers are going up year on year and the duck population is decreasing because they are now outnumbered. The piazza suffers badly due to their poo, which they do every 6 minutes. I have downloaded an excellent report from Natural England Tech Information note on how to deal with this problem. It seems there are ways of dissuading them from sticking around by use of plants and I thought the parish council might be interested for future years. We must remember cute they may be but their poo can be toxic to other animals and humans. Just a thought before we are completely over run"

It was agreed that the Clerk should forward the Natural England Tech Information report the Piazza Managing Agents.

The Clerk

4 Update of Balloon Meadow BBQ

Delivery was around 5 August for a short-term rental as opposed to 26 weeks. After 8 weeks, the PC could then make a decision as to whether to continue for longer.

5 To report on BBOWT & Vale Countryside Volunteers Land Requests

Marcus had attended site for 2 days, one with the children and would continue with the land behind the gatehouse.

Cllr Rose and the Clerk would be meeting with Adrian Bayliss in the next couple of

weeks to discuss areas to be tended to and agree a date in September (not 11th as this clashed with date for the Lunch club).

6 Watermead Events Committee

The Events Committee have agreed to split the proceeds as follows:

Smiles (Local Charity) £950.00
Chat (Local Charity) £950.00
Prostate Cancer UK £950.00
Community Project (TBD) £950.00

The Watermead Darts evening raised at total of £2180.00. All proceeds for this event is for Prostate Cancer UK.

The Events Committee is now planning the next event, which is the Movie Night, Saturday 14th September. Proceeds for this event will be donated to the British Heart Foundation. Event management plan, insurance and risk assessment and associated documentation approved by the PC.

A further request has been made to allow use of the Balloon Meadow, Sunday 25th August 2019 for a family picnic day. There will be no infrastructure/traders or vehicular access. If the PC is happy to consider this request a risk assessment/mini event management plan will be sent for approval – unanimously approved.

7 To update on Allotments

Cllr Rose to write his report on the best-kept allotment for inclusion in the village view.

Cllr Rose

8 To report on Village View

Cllr Singleton reported that the editorial meeting would be taking place on Sunday and that the deadline for submission of articles was 26 July.

9 To update on Village Hall

Watermead Cygnets Closure – Application submission deadline Friday 27th September 2019.

**10 To update on Transport & MVAS
Community Speed Watch Signs**

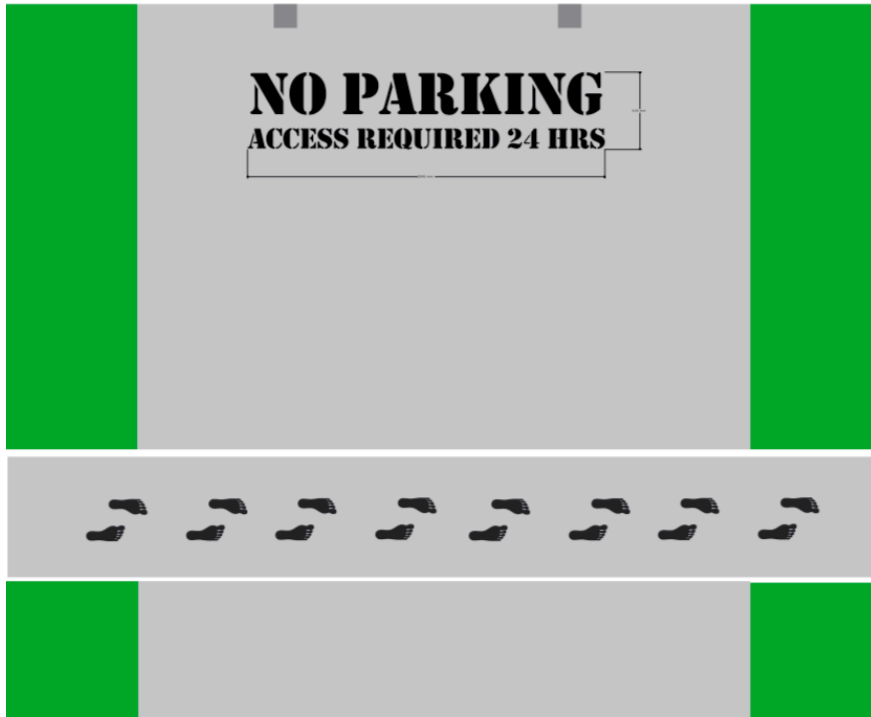
Additional Community Speed Watch signs have been installed along Ayleswater and Watermeadow. Installed Friday 12th July 2019.

Sentinel would be used the following week.

No Parking Drop Section – Stencil Costs

Re : No Parking Stencil

Item	Qty	Description	Unit Price	
A	1	Supply 5mm pvc forex stencil 3050 x 785mm re: NO PARKING ACCESS REQUIRED AT ALL TIMES OR ACCESS REQUIRED 24HRS (TBC)	£168.46	£
			Sub Total	£
			VAT	:
			TOTAL	£



It was agreed to proceed with the stencil.

Change of Bus Stop Location

Update July 2019 – Location has now been determined and approved by Paul Goodwin of Buckinghamshire County Council and installation of the hard-standing area has been ordered. Dave Lucas.

Lark Vale Bus Bollards

Friday 12th July 2019 - Unfortunately the bollard system has failed again and a new cable is being ordered (scheduled as priority). Once repaired Transport For Buckinghamshire have confirmed that they will issue the Parish Council with a key and training. TFB will make contact once repaired.

11 To update on Highways

Highways Weeds – Our contractor CLC Grounds Maintenance treated all highway weeds w/c 8th July 2019.

Cllr Severn suggested running a Speed Sign competition for the children to produce designs, which would then be made up and displayed around Watermead. It was agreed to put details in the Village View.

12 Photography Exhibition/Competition

It was anticipated that 150-200 entries would be received and display boards had been ordered accordingly.

19.39 Date of meetings

15 August (finance), 19 September, 17 October, 21 November, 19 December.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.55pm and thanked people for their attendance.