

## Watermead Parish Council Meeting

Thursday 19 November 2020 at 7.30pm  
Via Video Conferencing

Attendees: Cllr Severn (Chair), Cllr A Schwab, Cllr Singleton, Cllr I Schwab, Cllr Rose, Cllr Dean, Cllr Morgan  
Noreen Shardlow (Clerk), Michelle Jackson (Assistant Parish Clerk)  
Stuart Mackay, Cristina Martin-Fernandez plus 1 member of the public

### ACTION

**20.58 Apologies**

AVDC Cllr Ashley Bond  
Cllr Netta Glover

**20.59 Cllr Mick Morgan**

Declaration of Acceptance of Office signed and Disclosable Pecuniary Interests received.

**20.60 Declarations of Interest.**

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

**20.61 To Receive Police Report re Protection of Persons & Property Report received 14<sup>th</sup> November 2020 from PCSO Matthew Sansom**

Burglaries continue to remain low in Watermead, however even though people spend more time at home there is still a risk of burglaries occurring when popping out for essential reasons.

Please therefore take the below precautions to protect your property:

- Look for weaknesses in your garden boundary, gaps in hedges, fencing.
- Consider defensive planting and trellis.
- Fit a strong, lockable side/rear gates.
- Ensure all doors and windows are locked when not in use, but still the keys are accessible in an emergency.
- Use timer switches for lights if you will be out when it is dark.
- Consider CCTV, Burglar Alarms system to enhance your security.

Always report any suspicious incidents to the Police IMMEDIATELY either via 101 or if you feel a crime is in progress via 999.

Reported crime in Watermead is fairly low and we want to keep it this way working with the community, key message being that residents report suspicious incidents to the police via 101 and not just on local Facebook groups. Due to COVID, its harder for us to communicate in ways we used to (Have Your Say events etc) but we would like to communicate as much as we can to reassure people and keep them informed of relevant information.

The link to sign up is below:

<https://thamesvalleyalert.co.uk/>

Advice to be put on the All About Watermead Facebook page.

Cllr Rose

There were reports of teenagers asking local dog walkers about their dogs and where they live.

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

Cristina apologised for not attending the previous meeting and offered to help the PC with any projects.



2. To agree the accounts to the end of October 2020 - The Clerk had previously circulated the accounts to the end of October 2020, which were approved.
3. Precept & Budget setting preparation for 2021/2022 – the Clerk to prepare in advance of the December working group meeting.

The Clerk

## 20.66 Councillors' Reports and Recommendations

- 1 To update of Land and Routine Land Work inc. Tree Survey  
**Spratt Endicott Parcels of Land** - Ongoing Awaiting response from Crown Estates.

**Emergency Tree Works/Vegetation** - At the October 2020 Parish Council meeting it was proposed and agreed to proceed with the emergency tree works as per report from RTM Landscapes. £8k to be taken from reserves to cover costs.

The Clerk to request a plan for replacement of trees where appropriate.

At time of report the works have commenced and we are awaiting the proposed replacement plan.

Cllr Singleton reported that she had been approached by Roger Jefcoate from Winslow (Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Buckinghamshire) who has offered to plant rare Black Poplars at Watermead (free of charge) and that a meeting is to be arranged between him and Wayne to discuss potential suitable locations for them.

**Field Access Point** - A letter was sent to all three names on the Land Registry title deeds. A phone call response was received TB Brown title holder, advising that he no longer makes any decision on the land. Therefore, we await a response from G Daniels & M Brown the other title holders.

**BBQ** - Awaiting confirmed collection date from David Ogilvie Engineering. Contact has been made on three occasion, two to collect and one to advise about the flooding.

**Bandstand Island – Bridge** – Don Smith from the Piscatorials had reported that approximately 15 years ago the vegetation beneath the bridge had been the cause of the bridge rising. Once the water levels have gone down this would be investigated.



### The Gatehouse – Flood Damage Update

At the October 2020 Parish Council it was proposed and agreed to accept D. Lucas quotation as per below. Works have now commenced and the building has been cleared of all the flood damaged items.

**Dog Bin Request** - Awaiting response from Buckinghamshire Council to see if they would install a dog bin on the Public Right of Way land.

The Clerk

**Crematorium Screening** – The Clerk to contact Alan Jose of Westerleigh to follow

up and arrange an onsite meeting.

July 2020 the Parish Council reviewed and agreed new locations for potential planting. Copy sent to Alan Jose.

**Walkway Brackets Installation** - Delayed due to flooding.

### **Fridge in Lake**

Due to environmental issues raised by parishioners, it was proposed and agreed to spend up to £350 to request that Martin Nolan remove the fridge with the invoice being forwarded to Hamid Pardis as the landowner responsible.

### **2 Vale Countryside Volunteers (VCV) Update**

The return visit has been delayed due to Covid-19 restrictions and 2<sup>nd</sup> lockdown.

### **3 Large Lake Footways Report** - Full reports, drawings and costings had been circulated to Cllrs.

The Clerk had received quotes from Environments for People and BG's Garden Services. Cllr Severn to provide contact details in order that a third quote could be sought. If no further quotes are obtained by the next meeting the PC would choose between the 2 already received.

Cllr Severn/  
The Clerk

### **4 Report received from the Watermead Volunteer Army/Roman Park Community Trust**

Cllr Severn reported that the Trust was now being as a registered charity called Roman Park Community Trust.

The PC has no liability with regards to the actions of the Trust.

£3,400 had been received in grants towards the Christmas appeal and Christmas presents would be delivered to 100 children with Christmas dinner ingredients to their families during the week before Christmas.

It was proposed that the PC adopt the Roman Park Community Trust as its chosen charity to which any fundraising proceeds would be donated and to be a Community Partnership. Thanks were given to all volunteers for their help.

### **5 To update on Allotments**

Renewal invoices for 2021 to be issued shortly.

### **6 To report on Village View**

Cllr Singleton reported that the Winter issue would be another full edition and would be distributed at the end of November. From Spring, a new printer would be used at a much reduced rate than currently charged. Thanks were given to Graphic Designer, Rachel Seago, for the cost saving. Contributions for the next edition were due by 26 January. The neighbourhood plan questionnaire to be timed to coincide with the Spring edition.

### **7 To update on Village Hall & COVID-19 Measures**

The Clerk advised that the application for a business grant had been successful and a payment of £1,334 would be received into the PC's account.

### **8 WLRA & Compton Property Management**

At the October 2020 meeting the Parish Council requested to see Project Management fees for Phase 1. Attached below and document to accompany to be circulated by separate email.

Christopher Evans, Property Manager from Compton Property Management has been in contact to advise as follows and to provide the statement of estimates in relation to the proposed works.

Instructions are soon to be placed with a contractor for stage 2 external internal repairs and decorations to be started. A programme is yet to be finalised. If all proceeds to plan, We expect commencement on site October 2020 and completion as soon as possible thereafter, weather permitting.

A pre-start meeting between appointed surveyors, contractor and Compton management will be arranged in the next few weeks.

The schedule of works sets out details of the Labour and materials needed to complete this contract. The contractor will need clarification of details before placing orders for materials.

Residents are requested to review the details of questions set out in the document previously emailed, discuss options, debate requirements and to unanimously agree on answers to those questions.

Concern was expressed about the Project Management Fee and it was agreed for the Clerk to contact Christopher Evans. Christopher advised that Aston Building Surveyors had project managed Stage 1 of the Piazza and it was agreed for continuity purposes that Aston Building Surveyors would again project manage the whole of Stage 2. For background information Aston Building Surveyors were sought and agreed at the time the estimated costs were much higher.

CIlrs to discuss potential one-off payment request for Stage 2 of the major works.

Due to the unexpected expenditure throughout the financial year it was agreed to discuss at the budget working group meeting in December.

- 9 To update on Transport & MVAS  
Proposed Toucan Crossing and Cycle Path \*\* AWAITING UPDATE**  
Awaiting supply of replacement battery.

- 10 To update on Highways  
Highways – Spine Road Parking & Safety – Response received from Buckinghamshire Council**

An application has been submitted to our Community Board to fund the installation of Access Protection Markings for the below areas of concern. Awaiting response to our application.

Parking on the junction of Stonechat and The Brambling continues to be a problem and residents remain very concerned.

- 11 Christmas Events**  
The annual Parish Council Christmas Tree will be in place around 1<sup>st</sup> December 2020. Ross who provides our tree and Dave Lucas have made the necessary arrangement to put the tree in place when delivered. The contractors at the Piazza have also very kindly agreed to help with the manpower when installing.

The Virtual Christmas Fair is now live on the Parish Council website.

- 20.67 Date of meetings**  
Budget working group 17 December 2020.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 21.25pm and thanked people for their attendance.