

Watermead Parish Council Meeting

Thursday 19 October 2017 at 7.30pm
The Village Hall, Watermead

Attendees: Cllr Severn (Chair), Cllr A Schwab, Cllr E Rose, Cllr I Schwab
Noreen Shardlow (Clerk), Michelle Jackson (Assistant Parish Clerk),
BCC Cllr Netta Glover, AVDC Cllr Ashley Bond, PCSO Danny Fahy & PCSO Hannah Ransome
plus 2 members of the public

17.55 Apologies

Cllr M Singleton, Cllr J Gent, Cllr P Toler

17.56 Declarations of Interest

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

17.57 To Receive Police Report re Protection of Persons & Property

PCSO Danny Fahy reported on an incident at the crematorium site. There had been an act of criminal damage by kids who had gained access via the allotment side. CCTV on site was being investigated and security guards were also now in place.

The PC again expressed concern about traffic coming from Buckingham Park, crossing to Watermead and heading into the line of traffic along the slip road back out of Watermead. PCSO to check signage from Buckingham Park side of the junction and monitor.

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

A parishioner thanked the PC for its hard work to date on issues relating to the proposed crematorium.

Another parishioner had written to AVDC planning enforcement and received acknowledgement of receipt, yet nothing was being done to stop building works. The hump area by the lake had been replaced with drains and the area was currently showing a lot of surface water. Whilst protecting the site, this was endangering the village with the water running into the lakes. The PC expressed its concern to Cllr Glover that it had received no response to any communication.

Cllr Glover gave her report, which would also be circulated by email. Cllr Bond reported that the Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan would be out for consultation from 2nd November.

The Chairman thanked the visitors for their attendance.

Council Meeting

17.59 **Watermead Inn Event** – No report received.

17.60 **To agree the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 21 September 2017**
The Minutes were agreed and signed as a true record of the meeting.

17.61 Planning & Licensing Matters

(1) No updates on existing applications

(2) **17/00071/APP** – Watermead Village Car Park Erection of 21 flats with associated parking – Awaiting AVDC committee date.

(3) **14/01575/APP** – Proposed Crematorium, The Riviera – the Clerk reported that documents had been received which were being reviewed by the PC's lawyers and consultants and by the Clerk/Chair. Planning notices had been put up however the PC

was concerned that there appeared to be a number of different closing dates for comments on the planning application. The Clerk to return the consultation form expressing the PC's objections stating that further objection information would follow. The PC was also concerned that it was not getting any response as to what stage of the process DCLG would be involved. Cllr Bond to take up with AVDC Susan Kitchen. Cllr Severn to write to AVDC Neil Blake.

17.62 Finance & Administration

- 1. To agree the payment schedule for October 2017** – the Clerk had previously circulated the payment schedule which was approved. One additional payment to Schwab & Co for £150 was approved.
- 2. To agree the accounts to end of September 2017** - The Clerk had previously circulated the Accounts to end September 2017, which were approved.
- 3. To consider introducing a Land Request Policy** – The Clerk had circulated the revised policy, which had been amended to include definitions. Cllrs approved the policy subject to adding that equipment should be removed from site within 24 hours of the closure of an event.

17.63 Councillors' Reports and Recommendations

1 Update on Routine Land Work

Update routine works – Litter Bins. The litterbins have been monitored over the past month and we have now returned to once a week litterbin collections, every Monday.

Summer path cleaning – Awaiting confirmed quotes at time of report.

Access to Parish Council land

At the September 2017 Parish Council meeting it was agreed for the Clerk to obtain quotations to install a gate to the left hand side of the Gatehouse to ensure that the PC has available access to their land at all times.

The easiest method would have been to install a gate at the largest section between the main posts (52") a quote for this option has been received. However when on site with the PC's contractors and when the Clerk advised them of the PC's intention, concern was expressed about the width in case there was a need to get larger machinery through in the future. An alternative option is to install a 7ft gate on the original main posts but at an angle as opposed to straight on. The Clerk was awaiting a second quote.

It was also agreed to seek pricing to clear a pathway on Parish Council land starting from the left hand side of the allotments car park, along the newly installed fence line at the back of the ski mound to enable us to access our land next to the Crematorium.

The Clerk confirmed that both Cllr Rose and herself had met with Darren Adamson of CLC Grounds Maintenance. It was reported that Darren would be able to carry out the initial works within his monthly repairs and maintenance charges as the PC is no longer clearing the Wildlife areas on an annual basis. Once the initial clearance works have been completed another site visit will be arranged to determine if any further works/clearance is required. Future maintenance will be carried as and when required and included in current monthly agreement.

It was reported that top soil had been put along one side of the access road to the crematorium site forming an embankment. There were concerns of trespass on the PC's land on several occasions. The access road gate posts had also been installed on PC land. The Clerk to write to Beard to advise that the PC land has not been restored to its satisfaction as requested. The "No Crematorium" sign had gone missing from the Gatehouse. It was agreed to bring the existing ones forward and order 2 new ones.

The Clerk

Bank Erosion Works & Heras Fencing – As agreed at the September 2017 meeting and on a trial basis, the fencing has now been removed.

Lake Clearance – Contractors Dave Lucas & CLC Grounds Maintenance have been made aware that these works have been agreed and deferred to Spring 2018.

2 **Land Request Stroke Association**

After the success of the Stroke Associations Resolution Run around Watermead lakes, to date raising £15,000, the following request has been made.

The Stroke Association would like to repeat the “Resolution Run”, exactly the same format on Sunday 4th March 2018. As before they will provide a full event management plan, risk assessment, public liability and also indemnify the Parish Council by signing our new land request agreement. The PC unanimously approved this.

Again the Stroke Association thanked everyone for their support and all those who took part in a Resolution Run in 2017. It was their most successful Resolution Run series ever nationwide, with over 11,000 runners taking part and almost £650,000 raised.

The Stroke Association Resolution Run took bronze in the Best Event Series category at the 2017 Running Awards.

3 **To update on Allotments**

Cllr Rose Allotment Competition Report circulated via email.

The Winner -Plot 34 Gail Lisok

After going round several times Cllr Rose decided that this year's winner by the narrowest of margins was Plot 34 which has a lovely variety of healthy crops set off by two jauntily painted blue sheds.

Runner Up Plot 51 Katarzyna Szydio

In second place by a whisker was plot 51 which also contained a good variety of lovely clean crops

However, as I have said the choice was difficult and there were other examples of excellent work

Additional Comments

Cllr Rose would be happy to judge again next year if requested but would suggest that the members give thought to a few issues

- 1 Timing; I am told that some think that August is too late to show crops at their best.
- 2 Previous winners: Should previous winners be disqualified. If so there will be a decreasing number of eligible plots
- 3 Plot numbering: the lack of plot numbers is a major issue for me as judge; I would recommend that this is addressed before next year.

ONGOING Ditches site inspection is still to be carried out by Buckinghamshire County Council who will come back to us in due course with their findings and suggestion of works. TFB have just rearranged Local Area Technician areas. Matthew Whincup will continue with Watermead.

4 **To report on Village View**

The editorial team is meeting this Sunday, 22nd October 2017. Deadline for articles is 28th October 2017. Publication date is 2nd December but we will be distributing copies the weekend before that.

Cllr Singleton had met with Llew Monger from Community Impact Bucks yesterday. He

co-ordinates monthly lunch clubs for over 50's with the aim of getting people who may be lonely etc., out to meet other people. He will be contacting Kelvin to discuss further but from my earlier discussions with Kelvin he seemed keen on the idea. Cllr Singleton was hoping to be able to "spread the word" in this edition of VV and have our first lunch in January.

5 To report on Village Hall

As advised via email, notification was received from Compton Management (Management Company of the Piazza) that the balcony situated to the rear of Avanti, Lily Pot. Lakeside Takeaway, WM News & The Mobility Store is due to be replaced imminently. This balcony does not run along the rear of the Village Hall, however I was advised that they may need access to our garden area.

The Clerk

As this is a Health & Safety concern for all hall users a meeting took place with Martin Hastings, Compton Management Surveyor and their appointed contractor, Gemini. The following was agreed:

Access is needed to the Village Hall garden to accommodate the end of their scaffolding as the balcony being replaced finishes on our boundary. The land they wish to use is part of the patio area (this area is on lease and opposed to the area we own freehold).

They need a small part of the patio to place their metal supports (legs) and have agreed to a rubber/soft coating around the supports and this will all be screened and also the area will be coned off (approx. 1200mm x 1200m). Also the working area of the scaffolding will also be screened. I made arrangements for Dot Toler, Pre-School administrator to be present.

The scaffolding arrived on Tuesday 17th October 2017 and they have managed to erect the scaffolding in such way that they did not need to place the metal supports within the hall garden.

Prior to the works commencing all H&S certificates, Public Liability (£10,000,000), Risk Assessment, main site contact and all other liability certifications arrived with our office. Copies have been provided to the Cygnets Pre-School and a copy has been left at the hall for all users.

When asked will the wall painting be done at the same time they advised that this has not been scheduled until much later on in the programme. Scaffolding will be in place 4-5 weeks.

6 To update on Transport & MVAS

The MVAS equipment would be back for use on Watermead week after next.

7 Highways

The bus bollards at Lark Vale are still not operational.

The PC became aware of the problem in August and have been chasing for an update/repairs since reported. Since reporting the Clerk has been advised that the problem was caused by a faulty sensor, this was replaced on 19th September. However, this did not cure the problem.

The Clerk has made contact on many occasions with Transport for Buckinghamshire and also Cllr Netta Glover. She has been advised by Transport for Buckinghamshire that as the system has been unreliable for a number of years, the prime cause of this being that the control units themselves are life expired, they have placed a bid for capital resource for a complete replacement of both the hydraulic and electronic systems across all of their sites in Buckinghamshire. The upgrade will greatly increase the reliability of the units and that downtime will be much reduced. If their bid is successful, then they will be exploring options with the team to accelerate the works programme so that installation can be completed as soon as possible.

The Clerk is still waiting to hear if the above bid is successful and chasing on a regular basis direct with Transport for Bucks.

At a previous PC meeting, concern had been expressed on the poor state of the highways. The Clerk had spoken to Matthew Whincup, Local Area Technician who was already aware and advised that it was on the system for repair.

8 To report on Christmas Events

The craft fair was fully booked. Preparations for the Carol Concert were underway for 9th December (6-7 pm in Piazza).

17.64 Date of meetings

16 November 2017, 21 December 2017 (budget meeting).

17.65 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 meeting closed at 9.08 pm.