

Watermead Parish Council Meeting

Thursday 20 April 2017 at 7.30pm
The Village Hall, Watermead

Attendees: Cllr Severn (Chair), Cllr A Schwab, Cllr I Schwab, Cllr Singleton, Cllr Rose, Cllr J Gent, Cllr Toler
Noreen Shardlow (Clerk), Michelle Jackson (Assistant Parish Clerk),
AVDC Cllr Ashley Bond and AVDC & BCC Cllr Netta Glover plus 8 members of the public

17.1 Apologies

None.

17.2 Declarations of Interest

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

17.3 To Receive Police Report re Protection of Persons & Property

No police report received. Crime figures for February were on the Thames Valley website.

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

Kelvin Wong reported that there had been vandalism in the toilets of the pub and enquired as to whether there were any plans for the PC to install public toilets. The PC advised that it had no plans but there had been issues with illegal camping over the Easter weekend. The camper had refused to move on when asked to do so by the PCSO but name and address details had been taken. It was queried whether this had been reported to the Wildlife Officer. The Clerk advised that there no longer was one. Additional fencing around the copse was discussed. Cllr Glover suggested having a lock with a combination code to the pub toilets.

A parishioner reported on the problem of feeding ducks with bread, which was unhealthy for them. He queried whether it would be possible to have some educational signs in the prominent duck feeding areas; the piazza and along the walkway. Ruth Mayhew offered to find artwork regarding feeding ducks for the PC to consider. It was noted that both the pub and the shop sell duck feed. The Chairman would include information in her report in the Village View.

Ruth Mayhew

Cllr Severn

A parishioner commented on the inconsiderate and illegal parking around Watermead. There were areas where people were parking in visitor spaces leaving their own driveways empty. The Chairman would include in her Chairman's report in the Village View. Polite notice posters were also available to put onto windscreens, which could be emailed for residents' use. The Clerk to request that the PCSOs come out to inspect illegally parked cars.

Save Watermead Village signs were ready for the planning committee meeting.

Cllr Glover gave her report, which would be circulated to Cllrs.

The Chairman thanked the visitors for their attendance.

Council Meeting

17.5 To agree the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 16 March 2017

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

17.6 Charity Event & The Watermead inn

Ruth Mayhew and Kelvin gave an update on the May Fair. Leaflets had been prepared which would be displayed on the PC's noticeboards and the event promoted on social

media. Mr Bone had kindly given permission for car parking on his land, which the police cadets would be monitoring.

17.7 Planning Matters

1. To update on household Planning Applications already submitted

None.

2. New Planning Application – 17/00859/APP 12 Lark Vale, Watermead Two storey side extension – Plans circulated via email.

At the February 2017 meeting the Parish Council unanimously resolved to object to this planning application on the grounds that it was not in keeping with the vernacular of Watermead, it was over development of the site and concern was expressed that there would be the loss of light to the neighbouring property.

It was confirmed that AVDC refused this planning application and used the following key issues in determining this application.

- Impact on appearance and character of the dwelling house, street scene and wider area.
- Impact on the residential amenity
- Impact on highways and parking.

The proposed two-storey side/rear extension by reason of its size, scale and bulk would not appear subservient or complimentary to the existing dwelling. The extension would appear as an overly prominent addition that would detract from the pattern of development and would adversely impact the character and appearance of the original dwelling and result in harm to the visual amenities of the area and would be contrary to policies GP9, GP35 of AVDLP.

A revised application on a smaller scale had been submitted. It was proposed and agreed that the PC reiterate its former objections despite an attempt to improve the application. A vote of 4 were in favour and 2 were against. Motion carried.

3. 17/00071/APP – Watermead Village Car Park Erection of 21 flats with associated parking

The PC's objection letter and over 200 individual objections had been sent to AVDC. Photographic evidence of use of the car park was being collected. The PC would attend the planning committee meeting and the date circulated once known. The PC has Counsel's Opinion for the businesses (and PC lease) and it will be sent to them this week.

4. 14/01575/APP – Proposed Crematorium, The Riviera – Westerleigh to resubmit a variety of documentation to AVDC but were continuing to build. A letter from Westerleigh solicitors to AVDC stated that Westerleigh will not commence operation of the crematorium until planning permissions is granted but that they have had to go on with building for contractual reasons.

It was proposed and unanimously agreed to retain the advising consultants and allow for up to £5k for professional fees if so required. It was noted that the £35k legal costs incurred by the PC to be returned in full from AVDC.

17.8 Finance & Administration

1. To agree the payment schedule for April 2017 – the Clerk had previously circulated the payment schedule, which was approved. Three additional payments were also approved:

- Ian Whittome – £45.00 Grass R&M
- Celebration Management Services - £600 Hall Management
- Schwab & Co. Legal Services £680 – Legal Advice

- **Bandstand** – Refurbishment of the small lake bandstand will commence in May by appointed contractor, K & L Property Services.
- **Wildlife Signage** – At time of this report the below replacement signs have been collected from Sign Wizzard. Suitable locations have been identified. Signs to be given to contractor and will be in place by time of PC meeting. Two further replacement signs for “No Dogs” onto the small lake bandstand to be ordered.



**GROUND NESTING BIRDS
DISTURBANCES REDUCES
NESTING SUCCESS**

Please keep your dog on a lead and only use the footpaths in this area.
Please keep your dog away from the waters edge, shrubs and swimming in the lake.

Thank you



**NO DOGS
ALLOWED**



**WILDLIFE
BREEDING
AREA**



- **Hanging Baskets 2017** - The 2017 quotation has been received from Window Flowers. To provide 28 hanging baskets late May/early June and removing in late September £66.25 per basket, £1855.00 plus VAT. No price increase from 2016. It was proposed and agreed to proceed.
- **Vegetation around Lakes** – At the March 2016 Parish Council meeting Cllr E. Rose had circulated a report following a site visit with Paul Holton (AVDC Biodiversity) and the Clerk. He proposed and it was unanimously agreed that the Parish Council adopt a 3-year cyclical programme of maintenance along the guidelines suggested by Paul Holton. It was also further proposed and agreed that the Parish Council should approach Vale Countryside Volunteers and also ask for local volunteers to assist with the works. Paul Holton to arrange the meeting between the Parish Council and Vale Countryside Volunteers, awaiting date.
- **Copse** - Dave Lucas to quote for tension eyelets at the top of the fence around the copse and fence in the gap.
- **Allotments** - White goods and a canoe have been fly-tipped onto the allotments. As this is private land we need to dispose of. David Lucas (contractor) has confirmed he is able to dispose of such equipment.
- **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.

2 **Bank Erosion Project**

The Clerk confirmed that the PC's application to the Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) has now been determined and approved by Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) for the essential Bank Erosion works. Environments for People have now been instructed and materials required are now on order. Initial talks estimated that the works would take place in May-June. Once dates are confirmed a drawdown will be made to PWLB for the funding.

3 **To update on Land/Meadow Project**

A briefing document had been circulated to Cllrs and plans available for review. Concern was expressed about toilet and parking facilities if the proposed MUGA was to be used by outside groups. The MUGA would also need to be lockable to prevent anti-

social behaviour. The next step would be to consult the public. A vote of thanks was given to Cllr Severn for putting the proposal together. It was proposed and agreed to defer the proposal to allow for proper consideration. In the meantime Cllrs to obtain parishioner's views and report back. It was agreed to obtain demographic information and Cllr Severn to put together a survey with the help of James Wilks for Cllrs review.

Cllr Severn

4 To report on Village View

The editorial meeting would be held on Sunday to discuss content for the Summer issue, which was due for publication mid May in time to include the May Fair. Articles would be needed by 22 April.

5 To report on Village Hall, Piazza businesses & Lakeside Residents

ONGOING The rear wall to the hall. In light of the communication from WVLRA works are delayed.

6 To update on Transport & MVAS

The Sentinel speeding equipment would be delivered by the end of the month. Cllr Severn and the Clerk had been trained.

7 Highways – Spine Road provision of verge bollards, double yellow lines & signage

It was proposed that the Clerk put together a plan of where the bollards would be positioned along the spine road and costings for discussion at the next meeting. It was further agreed to have an informal chat with BCC regarding double yellow lines.

The Clerk

8 To update of Recreational Facilities & EGM

Councillors received a report from Cllr Gent regarding his discussions with the Bucks County Cricket Board representative.

17.10 Date of meetings

18 May 2017, 15 June 2016, 20 July 2017, 17 August 2017, 21 September 2017, 19 October 2017, 16 November 2017, 21 December 2017.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 10.04 pm and thanked people for their attendance.