

Watermead Parish Council Meeting

Thursday 20 October 2016 at 7.30pm
The Village Hall, Watermead

Attendees: Cllr Severn (Chair), Cllr Rose, Cllr A Schwab, Cllr I Schwab, Cllr Singleton, Cllr Toler, Cllr Gent Noreen Shardlow (Clerk), Michelle Jackson (Assistant Parish Clerk), AVDC Cllr Ashley Bond plus 5 members of the public

16.53 Apologies

AVDC and BCC Cllr Netta Glover

16.54 Declarations of Interest

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

16.55 To Receive Police Report re Protection of Persons & Property

To discuss any Neighbourhood Watch matters – TVP

No police report received. The Clerk had taken crime Statistics from the Thames Valley Police website for Watermead July 2016 in which it was reported that there was 1 incident of antisocial behaviour, 2 burglaries and 1 vehicle crime. Residents were advised not to leave valuables in the car.

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

A resident asked what the situation currently was with regard to the crematorium. Appeal to be heard 22nd November 2016. Cllr Schwab advised that the PC had looked into taking out an injunction to stop Westerleigh building but decided against this course of action, as it could be very costly to PC Cllrs. The resident congratulated the PC on getting the appeal brought forward from July next year to November this year.

Cllr Bond reported that the next stage of the VALP consultation would take place on 14 November. The unitary council debate continues.

Bollards – Repair imminent. Verbal rudeness to Buckinghamshire County Council officers undertaking survey. Cllr Rose expressed his disapproval of this behaviour and pointed out that people using the bus entry as a rat run was illegal and dangerous. He also suggested that the Chairman should make a note to this effect in her report in the next issue of Village View. The Chairman refused this suggestion. MVAS could not be put into operation until the survey for the ground screws had been issued by BCC. Cllr Bond was asked to request that the PC's money be refunded, as it had still not yet received the survey several months after payment had been made. The PC would then make its own arrangements to have the MVAS attached to lampposts.

Cllr
Bond

Cllr Singleton raised a problem with reporting streetlights, which are not working. She had reported a light on the BCC website several times but had been advised that it had been repaired.

The Chairman thanked the visitors for their attendance.

Council Meeting

16.57 To agree the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 15 September 2016

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

16.58 The Watermead Inn Charity Event Request

Ruth Mayhew and Kelvin requested to hold a May Fair on 28 May 2017. Cllrs agreed in principle subject to receiving an event plan. Ruth to email to the Clerk for her to circulate prior to the November meeting.

16.59 Planning Matters

1. To update on any Planning Applications submitted – no updates

2. 14/01575/APP – Appeal Update - Proposed Crematorium, Riviera Site – the hearing had been brought forward to 22 November 2016. A vote of thanks was given to Cllr I Schwab for representing the PC.

16.60 Finance & Administration

1. To agree the cheque run for October 2016 - The Clerk had previously circulated the cheque run for October 2016, which was approved.

Burgess Office Equipment	Law Court Bundles Stationery	£173.58	£34.72	£208.30	2683
LMS Printing	Copying of large documents for Appeal	£179.13	£35.83	£214.96	2684
CLC Grounds Maintenance	Grass Cutting, R & M, Bench Installation, Weedkilling Roads, Tree works following survey, Litter & Allotment Mowing	£4,119.00	£0.00	£4,119.00	2685
British Gas	Village Hall	£2.44	£0.12	£2.56	2686
Sign Wizzard	Dog & Land Signs	£93.24	£18.65	£111.89	2687
E.ON	Village Hall, Gatehouse and Land	£150.71	£7.54	£158.25	2688
I. Whittome	Land R & M	£45.00	£0.00	£45.00	2689
C. Nickless	Litter	£68.00	£0.00	£68.00	2690
Mazars LLP	External Audit of Accounts	£400.00	£80.00	£480.00	2691
Hertfordshire Supplies	Supplies for Village Hall	£98.92	£19.78	£118.70	2692
Celebration Management Services	Village Hall Management	£600.00	£0.00	£600.00	2693
M. Jackson	Assistant Clerk	£212.00	£0.00	£212.00	2694
N. Shardlow	Clerk	£1,436.92	£0.00	£1,436.92	2695
HMRC	PAYE October 2016	£463.58	£0.00	£463.58	2696
G. M. Hall	PAYE October 2016	£20.00	£0.00	£20.00	2697
Schwab & Co. Legal Services	Legal Crematorium	£400.00	£0.00	£400.00	2698

2. To agree the accounts to end September 2016 - The Clerk had previously circulated the Accounts to end September 2016, which were approved.

3. Adoption of Memorial Benches & Tree Policy – It was unanimously agreed to adopt the proposed policy. Cllr Rose was thanked for his work on this.

16.61. Councillors' Reports and Recommendations – Agreed to move and debate prior to 16.60 (3)

1. Memorial Bench Request by Mrs Stocker – It was proposed to allow the bench to be sited by the beach area near to the trees as requested by Mrs Stocker. Cllrs voted 6 in favour and 1 against.

2. To update on Routine Land Work

Stroke Association Resolution/Fun Run Request – An initial request had been received from the Stroke Association to hold a fun run around the lakes. It was agreed that the Clerk could pursue this.

The Clerk

Copse Repairs Update – solar powered lighting to be installed and signage that CCTV was in operation.

Tree Works had now been completed

Vegetation around Lakes – Awaiting Paul Holton of Aylesbury Vale District Council to confirm a site visit.

Dog Signage – Stencil signage to Bandstand Island had now arrived.

Alison Lambert Bench Request – It was confirmed that the bench had now been positioned on the Balloon Meadow.

Small Lake Bandstand – It was proposed and unanimously agreed to proceed with the quote received from K&L Property Services. Work to commence Spring 2017.

Land between Sandpiper and The Osprey: Still waiting to hear from Ralph Branston. Cllr. Ashley Bond also chasing.

3 To update on Bank erosion & Land Project

Funding sources had been identified. An application had been made to Biffa/The Wildlife Trust and the standard template would be used for other funding providers.

4 Watermead Piscatorials & EA Site Update

The barrier between the small and large lake had been installed and the ramps installed for the ducks to cross from one side to the other. It was agreed to monitor as water levels rise.

5 To Update on Allotments

Annual renewals system is about to commence.

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.

6 To report on Village View

Deadline for articles is 26 October and many contributions had been received already. An editorial meeting had been planned for Sunday 30 October. Publication date was 3 December but it was planned to have the December issue distributed the week before in time to advertise the Christmas Fair.

7 To report on Village Hall

Communication received from Watermead Village Lakeside Residents Association had been circulated to all Cllr prior to meeting.

PC to continue to support residents with hall facilities and advice and write to the management company expressing its concern for the businesses and tenants in the Piazza area.

Cllr. Severn

The rear wall to the hall is yet again affected by dampness. This has been reported

to Jean Jones of Compton Management. Jean has advised me that we are not the only property affected by this problem. A Surveyor is now scheduled to take a look as they wish to cure this problem before the external decoration works take place. In light of the above communication from WVLR works are delayed.

8 To update on Transport/Highways Issues

At the September 2016 meeting of the Parish Council it was agreed for the Clerk to investigate the possibility of installing anti-traveller posts/boulders on the grass verges along the spine road into Watermead.

As this land remains and falls under the Highway remit advice has been sought from Buckinghamshire County Council:

In the first instance we must send a fully detailed report to our Local Area Forum. This used to be managed by our Local Area Technician but this no longer applies. The Local Area Forum will then arrange for a Feasibility Study to be carried out. As no traffic survey will be needed they advised costs should be minimal. Once carried out and they agree to such measure we then have a couple of options.

1. They will produce a quotation for the works to be carried out by Transport for Bucks (Buckinghamshire County Council). The Local Area Forum may even make a contribution. However I believe funds for 2017-2018 have already been reserved.
2. Should we wish to arrange quotes and the works ourselves they would provide to us the details of approved contractors who are accredited. Please note we would still need to go through the Local Area Form.

We cannot proceed any other way as the survey and statutory undertaking drawings have to be agreed and carried out through Buckinghamshire County Council.

On the basis that we proceed they advised they would ascertain/prefer to install as per their description the measure pictured below. Please note they quoted in the region of £150 per bollard (this includes installation).

Cllr. Severn/Clerk

Cllr Severn & Clerk to contact The Local Area Forum.

Weeds in Roadways

UPDATE As agreed at the September 2016 Parish Council meeting all weeds have now been sprayed/treated by CLC Grounds Maintenance. The treatment has taken effect and many residents have cleared. For the areas that have not been treated I had a chat a local gardener. It may be possible for a wire brush head attachment to be fitted to one of his industrial trimmers and the power should remove the weed. Contractor is going to order one and test the area outside his property and will let us know the outcome and if so how much to attend the outstanding areas of Watermead.

The Clerk had spoken with Aylesbury Vale District Council and asked could they attend Watermead. Sue Goldbourne of Aylesbury Vale District Council confirmed we are scheduled for five weeks time and this schedule cannot be altered.

Bus Bollards on Lark Vale

Repair imminent as advised by James Hale of Buckinghamshire County Council.

Street Name Signs

Following our last meeting, AVDC have now confirmed that they will replace unreadable signs but not ones that have been damaged! AVDC has raised an order for Partridge Way and Owl Close.

9 To update on Cricket Pitch

Cllr Gent gave an update on the Cricket Pitch. PC still investigating how to proceed.

10 To update on Christmas Events

The band, vicar and Father Christmas had been booked for the Carol Concert on 10 December. The craft fair had been arranged for 3 December 2016. Dot Toler would be doing the catering and Cllr Severn to provide a bear for the Name the Bear stall. The Christmas tree had been ordered. An advert for volunteers to help with the Christmas events had been put on the noticeboard and website.

Cllr Severn

The memorial event would be held on 11 November.

16.62 Date of meetings

17 November, 15 December (Budget)

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.30 pm and thanked people for their attendance.

16.63 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

Legal/Crematorium Update – Cllr. Severn & Full Council