

Watermead Parish Council Meeting

**Thursday 20 September 2018 at 7.30pm
The Village Hall, Watermead**

Attendees: Cllr Severn (Chair), Cllr A Schwab, Cllr I Schwab, Cllr Singleton, Cllr Rose, Cllr Toler
Noreen Shardlow (Clerk), Michelle Jackson (Assistant Parish Clerk),
AVDC Cllr Ashley Bond, BCC Cllr Netta Glover plus 3 members of the public

18.43 Apologies

Cllr Gent

18.44 Declarations of Interest

To declare any personal or prejudicial interests regarding the agenda
Cllr I Schwab & Cllr A Schwab – All items relating to Crematorium and Legal.
Cllr Toler – Agenda Item 18.50(2).

18.45 To Receive Police Report re Protection of Persons & Property

A resident from Kestrel Way had had their Land Rover stolen from their driveway. It was believed that the keys had been cloned from outside the property. It was reported that many incidents were being reported on the All About Watermead Facebook page rather than directly to the police.

Residents were urged to report all incidents to 101. Police contact details to be included in the Village View and on the All About Watermead Facebook page. The Romanian lorry was again parking along Watermeadow. PCSO Danny Fahy to investigate.

Cars were still exiting Buckingham Park, coming across to Watermead to cut into the traffic exiting Watermead on the slip road.

Residents to consider setting up a neighbourhood watch group. Information to be included in the Village View.

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

AVDC Cllr Ashley Bond reported that AVDC had approved the town centre improvement plan.

BCC Cllr Netta Glover gave her report.

The Chairman thanked the visitors for their attendance.

Council Meeting

18.47 To agree the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 19 July 2018

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

18.48 Planning Matters

(1) To update on any Planning Applications submitted.

(2) 18/02421/APP – 14 Peregrine – Erection of timber garden studio –
Cllrs had agreed by email that it had no objections to the planning application.

(3) 7/00771/APP - Watermead Village Car Park, Lakeside – Erection of 21 Flats – As circulated via email Buckinghamshire County Council has withdrawn their previous objections to this planning application. BCC Cllr Glover to speak to Highways to request a site visit. Cllr Severn to write to the Planning Officer, Mark Shaw and Angela Macpherson. Cllrs to make their individual objections on the planning

respectively.

The Clerk confirmed the spreadsheet formula has been corrected to prevent these payments being allocated to Box 6 payments.

18.50 Councillors' Reports and Recommendations

Replacement Dog Waste Bin

Awaiting delivery to Marcus Young Landscapes.

Lake Clearance

Awaiting Contractors D. Lucas & CLC Grounds Maintenance. Deferred due to blue/green algae.

Watermead Entrance Clearance

A Watermead resident has made contact with the Parish Council and has very kindly offered to clear the area around the entrance to Watermead (see below). I have acknowledged receipt of his request and advised that the necessary approvals would need to be sought from the Parish Council (small part of area is under devolved services we mow) and also Len Bone, as Len owns most of the land in question.

Update: Len Bone has confirmed he is happy to proceed. Contact has been made with the resident who offered to clear but to date no reply has been received.

Provision of Additional Litter Bin on Meadow

The agreed Double Derby bin was ordered from Broxap following our July meeting. Delivery is scheduled for Friday 21st September 2018. Installation will be w/c 24th September 2018.

Memorial Trees

A request has been received for a memorial tree to be planted by a non-resident of Watermead. The reason the family would like to have a tree here is that their father use to visit here on a daily basis. Cllrs unanimously agreed this subject to the Clerk taking advice from Marcus Militello on what tree would be best suited in the memorial garden.

Ducks Signs

Several residents have requested could the Parish Council install some signs about the dangers of feeding bread to the wildlife. It was agreed to spend up to £100 on signage.

Small Lake Cutting

A request has been received from a resident to cut the vegetation around the small lake lower, so that when they sit by the lake they can see the water. It was agreed to lower the vegetation in front of the bench.

Kingfisher Land

D. Lightfoot request and further documentation, circulated via email. The Clerk & Cllr I Schwab to respond to advise that the land was public open space and not available (land in transfer from legal representatives of owner).

It was further agreed to contact AVDC Community Space re open land on Watermead for adoption/maintenance.

Small Lake Bandstand

In between the July and September meeting Cllr Rose reported some very

large dead Willow branches on Bandstand Island, which needed attention. Images were sent to our contractor and CLC Grounds Maintenance agreed to attend within their agreed R&M budget. Unfortunately, the tree that was reported needed one more limb removing and a tree climber was required, the Willow next to this one also has a broken limb very high up and furthermore a Willow tree behind the bandstand had several branches pushing against the roof of the bandstand, which in time would cause damage to the tiles.

All the above necessary works were carried out.

Litter Bins

It was reported that the bins by the small lake were being filled by a resident of the Guillemot flats. It was agreed to remove the bags and dispose of them in the bins allocated to the flats.

2 Request for permission received from Phil Toler for operation of category one commercial surveillance drone over Watermead

Circulated via email. Watermead Parish Council, as land owner and local authority with jurisdiction, granted permission to Phil Toler to operate a commercial surveillance small Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) in category 1 (under 20kg), in accordance with the Air Navigation Order 2016, within the Watermead area.

3 Marcus Militello, Hedgerow Havens Project Officer of Berks, Bucks & Oxon Wildlife Trust

Full report and proposal circulated via email. The PC unanimously approved the proposal and the 25 year agreement for the PC to manage. Volunteers were welcome to help with the planting.

4 Vale Countryside Volunteers Update

Report circulated via email. The working party took place as previously arranged on 12 September. Cllr Rose and the Clerk were in attendance for part of the time, as was Libby Rose, but unfortunately there were no other volunteers from Watermead possibly due to the monthly lunch club taking place on the same day. Several large stands of blackthorn which had been spreading were cut back and also some dogwood.

5 Florence Nightingale Charity Run Request

The Florence Nightingale Hospice has made a request to bring the Superhero Run Charity Event back to Watermead. They would like the run to return over the Easter 2019 holidays. In the event the Parish Council are willing to consider this request they will prepare all the necessary documentation, assessments and liability insurance as per our policy and submit for approval prior to the event. Cllrs unanimously approved the request.

6 Larks by the Lake Children's Play Equipment

A grant application has now been submitted to The National Lottery Awards for All.

7 Films by the Lake

The event was a huge success and very well attended (700+). The Committee would be meeting Monday 24th September and a full report will be presented at the October 2018 meeting.

8 To update on Allotments

A request had been received from Thomas Hickman School for a year 5 class to visit the allotments. The Clerk to suggest that May/June would be the best time of year to visit.

The Clerk

9 To report on Village View

Cllr Singleton reported that the deadline for the December issue was 26 October with distribution over the last weekend of November in time for the Christmas Fair. Christmas events to be added to the next agenda.

10 To update on Village Hall

After nine years as Lead Practitioner of Watermead Cygnets Pre-school, Maree Van Danzig would be leaving Watermead Cygnets to further her career. Maree will be leaving at the end of this half term. The Clerk reported that the newly appointed lead practitioner is Dot Toler and will be taking over from 27th October 2018.

Watermead Cygnets Fridge Replacement – With the money donated from the Larks by the Lake event, Cygnets proposed updating the fridge which would benefit all hall users. This was unanimously approved.

11 To update on Transport/Highways & MVAS

**** AWAITING INSTALLATION ** Village Gates**

Further to our June Parish Council meeting and the update provided on the Village entrances gates, The Clerk reported the following advice from Matthew Whincup our Local Area Technician, Buckinghamshire County Council confirming both gates will be replaced (see below).

"Now that you have confirmed the gate is no longer serviceable I will order a new replacement along with a matching one for the other side of the road. The gates we use now are actually made of plastic and are a lot easier to maintain and keep clean. They have a wood effect and look just like the original wooden ones but better in my opinion.

I need to confirm what size gates we need as the manufacturer does various widths and I will want to match the size as close as possible to the original ones. I need to have a measure up first then I will order them. It can take a while for the gates to be made and name sign attached".

Proposed Toucan Crossing and Cycle Path

**** AWAITING UPDATE **** As reported at the January 2018 Parish Council a meeting was arranged with Paul Ahluwalia, Traffic Signal Engineer of Buckinghamshire County Council, Cllr Severn, Cllr Rose and the Clerk. The meeting was arranged for Buckinghamshire County Council to provide an outline of what the above-mentioned scheme entails.

Paul advised that at present the remit is to provide a costing to install a Toucan crossing at the point where the Pegasus (horse crossing) crossing was initially proposed on the A413. This was part of the original planning agreement for the Buckingham Park development opposite Watermead. To accompany the crossing, a formal cycle-path is proposed to provide an adequate and usable amenity for those wishing to use the crossing. This element will require extensive (7m) cutting back of the verge-line to allow construction of a cycle-path. Only when a costing has been provided and

funding addressed (believe the whole project will be over budget), will a final decision be made on whether to proceed with construction.

The Parish Council provided Paul with the necessary maps and advised that they believe the Parish Council owns the land in question.

The next steps are for Paul to commission a topographical survey and make Land Registry enquiries to determine land ownership. Upon results of this Paul will make contact with us.

Highways Bus Bollards – The bus bollards at Lark Vale are not operational. The bid for installation of a new system was successful and installation is imminent.

Parking/Flats

The residents of Redwing and Stonechat have made contact with regard to the parking of the flats residents opposite. They have reported that some of the flat occupiers are parking on the residential-street, as opposed to their parking/visitors bays. They have asked for the Parish Council to advise the managing agents who may be able to assist, as they have received no positive response from Buckinghamshire County Council. The Clerk to write to managing agents.

Traffic on Spine Road

Cllr Rose reported on the volume and speed of the traffic on the spine road early in the morning. It was agreed to gather evidence in support of a crossing.

12 Photography Exhibition/Competition Update

Ron Adams to judge. Sandra Landy Cup to be presented to the winner and the PC agreed to further prizes for the runners up.

18.51 Date of meetings

18 October, 15 November, 20 December (Finance Working Group)

- 18.52** 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 Chairman closed the meeting at 10.00m and thanked people for their attendance.