



# Watford Rural Parish Council

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting

Held on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November @ 7.30pm at the Parish Office

**Attendance:** Councillor Angela Arnold  
 Councillor Kirsty Barnes  
 Councillor Ann Grant  
 Councillor Brigid Kelly  
 Councillor Joan King  
 Councillor Pam King  
 Councillor Stephen King  
 Councillor Ronan MacManus  
 Councillor Sean McCluskey  
 Councillor Michael Revan  
 Councillor Alison Scarth  
 Councillor William Waite

**Officer:** Gareth Williams (Clerk)

**Apologies:** Councillor Mandy Shumake

**Non-Attendance:**

86) **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**  
Apologies were noted and accepted

87) **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**  
None

88) **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS**  
Cllr S. King Cllr M. Revan & Cllr A. Scarth are on/or substitute for the Three Rivers Planning Committee

89) **POLICE MATTERS**  
 PCSO's Baldwin & Paul attended the meeting and gave a report on recent police and criminal activity.  
 Patrols increased due to concerns regarding Muirfield Road/Jubilee Walk with fly tipping/ASB/Drug related incidents.  
 Parking concerns – Sgt Amos is going to update at the Local Area Forum next week  
 Staffing levels are once again low with officers leaving for the Met Police.  
 Operation Greenbelt took place to do vehicle stops in the area looking for known criminals.  
 Halloween & Bonfire night – passed off relatively smoothly with little incident.  
 Working hard with Co-op to reduce the amount of shoplifting. Already reduced the amount



with moving displays and having less costly meat items out on show.  
Working with local primary and secondary schools talking about crime and knife prevention

[7.38pm Cllr Macmanus arrived]

CCTV Cameras (x2) located in South Oxhey at either end of the precinct

Questions/Issues raised

Is there going to be CCTV at Station Approach to deal with ASB issues there? PCSO Baldwin to find out and report back to Clerk.

ASB issues at the Highlands reported by Cllrs. Noted by Police.

Trial Bikes, Oxhey Lane – increase in number of vans using the field.

Dick Whittington is open on a temporary licence currently.

Reports of attacks by youths in balaclavas/hoodies in South Oxhey. Police said that these must be reported.

ASB issues/ drug use reported at Wentworth Drive. Noted by Police.

Asked Police to note pavement parking at the top of Carpenders Avenue, CP

90) **TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON**

- a) The Full Council Meeting minutes of 2<sup>nd</sup> October were noted and agreed
- b) The Finance & Administration Committee minutes of the 16<sup>th</sup> October were noted and agreed.

[7.56pm Cllr Macmanus arrived]

91) **TO RECEIVE A REPORT ABOUT AGREED ACTIONS FROM THE LAST MEETING (NB Not covered by Agenda items)**

**Village Green – Agenda Item 82(2018-2019)**

TRDC have acknowledged my reply to their request for help. They have stated that they will get in touch should they need any further help from us. Labour District cllrs said they would bring it up at TRDC Full Council for an update.

**Station Approach - Agenda Item 82(2018-2019)**

RNIB finally got back to the Clerk. Change of job role meant we were dropped from workload for a “short” time. They intimated they would be likely to take the case forward now as Herts County Council have not actioned any of the promised amendments to make the area safer for the visually impaired.

**Clerks Report - Item 55**

**Newsletter** – Ideas put forward at F&A. Deadline before fun day is extremely tight with workload at this time of year but Clerk will try to get it out before Funday to get maximum exposure for the new location.

**South Oxhey Initiative – Agenda Item 58**

- a) Wheelchair access/parking enforcement

TRDC/Hertsmere are meeting cllrs on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November with regards to the parking enforcement concerns



Cllrs were sent the reply from HCC regarding parking around SO Precinct

b) **Henbury Way** – Council were disappointed that TRDC officers did not inform us of the application to keep Henbury Way a car park.

**Trail Bikers – Agenda Item 59**

As Police and TRDC have had no reports about the noise from the area used they seem to be taking a step back from the issue. The Clerk will be visiting a possible address (located on Google so a long shot) to see if the person does on the land and hopefully discuss a resolution on the doorstep (will be with a PCSO). TRDC are pursuing the fly tipping on the land legally now so that is a positive step.

**Delta Gain – Agenda Item 60**

Still awaiting the architect's drawings and therefore ok'd by stakeholders.

**Golf range – Agenda Item 64**

Have had no update on the outcome of the potential sale to a Leisure company.

**Tree Planting – Agenda Item 75f**

Left a voicemail with the member of public but had no response back. Clerk to chase in the near future.

**Planning – Agenda Item 76**

19/1461/FUL, infill town house, Upper Hitch. Letter sent asking for it to be called in to TRDC planning committee.

**Wildflower Meadow – Agenda Item 80**

The Clerk update the Council on the Meadow. Recommendation to delay remedial work until spring to achieve the best result was agreed. Bulbs to be planted Autumn 2020

92) **CORRESPONDENCE TO CONSIDER**

- a) Request for donation assistance Essex & Herts Air Ambulance. Proposal to donate £1500 from our Grant fund. Unanimously Agreed.

**RESOLVED**

- b) Thank you letters for our grants from CP Community Hall & Citizens Advice Bureau were noted.

93) **TO CONSIDER PLANNING/LICENCE APPLICATIONS**

Cllr S. King, Cllr Revan, Cllr Scarth left the hall as they are on/or substitute for TRDC Planning committee.

The Clerk was asked to look into 17/1010/FUL, 19/1992/FUL, 19/1961/FUL, 19/1937/FUL and call in to TRDC planning committee where appropriate.

94) **SOUTH OXHEY INITIATIVE**

- a) Discussion about residents' concerns of the use of wood on the balconies both for longevity and fire safety. Countryside have assured the Chair of the South Oxhey Initiative (SOI) Board that they follow standards. Majority of cllrs feel they aren't being listened to by the developer



though they acknowledge they are following the minimum regulations where they can. The local planning authority need to step in more often to protect residents especially disabled.

- b) Phase 2 lamp posts – now that Countryside have confirmed they are to have Christmas Light compatible lamp posts ongoing we want them to take out the non-compatible lampposts in Phase 1. Cllrs to bring this up at the next SOI board meeting  
Next meeting Monday Dec 2nd

95) **FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION**

- a) September Accounts noted and approved
- b) Hearing Advisory Service. Proposal to propose to Herts County Council to fund the service for our parish ongoing to ensure it carries on. Unanimously agreed. **RESOLVED**
- c) ROSPA Inspection Report – not received
- d) Street naming – “Spellen” & “Prescott” to be put forward for the developments requested. Unanimously agreed. **RESOLVED**
- e) Tree Inspection Regime. Proposal to have the trees and hedges inspected on our land every 18 months. Unanimously agreed. **RESOLVED**
- f) Councils Drinks – Date suggested 18<sup>th</sup> December. Unanimously agreed. **RESOLVED**
- g) Parish Office shutdown – Proposed closure from 23<sup>rd</sup> December to reopen 2<sup>nd</sup> January. Unanimously agreed. **RESOLVED**

96) **EXCLUSIONS OF THE PRESS & PUBLIC**

- a) Resolve to exclude the Press & Public under the provisions of **Section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, as amended by Section 100 of the Local Government Act 1972** due to the confidential nature of the business transacted. Unanimously agreed. **RESOLVED**
- b) Earmarked Reserves – Initial discussions took place - will be finalised once TRDC specify the Council Tax Base
- c) Precept Budget – Initial discussions took place - will be finalised once TRDC specify the Council Tax Base

97) **CHAIRPERSONS REPORT**

Will be laying a wreath at the SO jets memorial match. Call out for volunteers for the Winter Funday. NB this was brought forward in front of Item 96.

[9.30pm - Proposal to suspend standing orders to allow the completion of the agenda.  
Unanimously agreed. **RESOLVED**

98) **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

None

99) **CLOSE OF BUSINESS**

The Chairperson closed the meeting at 9.35pm

Next meeting Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December @ 7.30pm