



Watford Rural Parish Council

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting

Held on **Wednesday 5th February @ 7.30pm** at the Parish Office

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

Officer: Gareth Williams (Clerk)

Apologies: Councillor Brigid Kelly
Councillor Ronan MacManus
Councillor Mandy Shumake
Councillor Donna Duncan

Non-Attendance:

132) **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were noted and accepted

133) **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS**

Cllr S. King, Cllr M. Revan & Cllr A. Scarth are on, or substitute for, the Three Rivers Planning Committee

134) **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None

135) **POLICE MATTERS**

PCSO's Ross Huegdon & Robyn Smyth attended to give a report including:
recent work to remove squatters living above precinct shops;
operations undertaken to target known nominals both in person and in their vehicles;
removed a vehicle in Fairfield Avenue wilfully obstructing highway (prevented bus passing);
undertaking Primary school talks, 8 weeks at every school outlining issues such as cyber bullying,
knife crime, ASB, Drugs, different cultures etc. Police agreed to do talks for cub/scout members too;
regular patrols for the field on Oxhey Lane being used by bikers. Police now have power to



remove offenders;

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

The Full Council Meeting minutes of 8th January were noted and agreed with the following change Cllr M. Revan to be moved from showing attending to apologies list as he was away

137) **TO RECEIVE A REPORT ON AGREED ACTIONS FROM THE LAST MEETING AND DISCUSS MATTERS ARISING**

Village Green – Agenda Item 82(2018-2019)

TRDC updated Cllr J King re. progress. Despite promising to keep WRPC in the loop no updates were given. Cllr J. King to continue to ask for updates.

Trail Bikers – Agenda Item 59

Latest update is that the fencing put up by the owner has been cut and fence posts removed to gain access. Local Police SNT has increased patrols to that area. They have suggested that TRDC oversee signage and liaising with landowner which they have agreed to.

Planning – Agenda Item 122

19/2419/OUT (Foxgrove Path development) – letter sent calling in this application

Wildflower Meadow – Agenda Item 80

Email sent to Contractor asking for dates for remedial work in March. Clerk to chase

Correspondence to consider – Agenda item 121

Local Police SNT understood the decision of the Council re. the grant

Finance & admin – Agenda Item 109bc

Clerk still to finalise wood degradation issue on our play equipment

Finance & admin – Agenda Item 109c

Crack internally & externally. Have received a large claim form to start the ball rolling. Hopefully, we can claim from Aldwyck

AOB – Agenda Item 129

Clerk wrote to NHS Herts Valleys trust asking for guidance on who best to speak to relating to this venture. Although a read receipt was sent back no response as yet. HCC not involved in GP surgeries so will wait to hear from NHS first. Clerk to chase

WRPC noticeboards should all have a refuse collection calendar now.

138) **CORRESPONDENCE TO CONSIDER/COMMUNITY MATTERS**

- a) SORA brought up the issue of potholes, specifically mentioning the damage that the new developments constant stream of Heavy Goods Vehicles is causing. To be brought up at the next South Oxhey Initiative Board meeting. The Clerk to look into the parameters for pothole repair.



- b) South Oxhey Residents Association brought up the issue of two abandoned trailers on Ashridge Drive and the way TRDC had dealt with them. Once an owner “claims” the reported vehicle they are deemed not abandoned. The Clerk was asked by Council to contact the other Hertfordshire District & Borough Councils to request information on their abandoned vehicle policy, vehicles removed, fines given etc. TRDC cllrs will then take this forward.

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

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

The Councils Freedom of Information requests regarding the South Oxhey development have gone unanswered. The Council agreed that contacting the ICO was the best way forward.

Cllr McCluskey brought up the issues for wheelchair users and the poor design of Station Approach. The only option is for taxi drivers to use the disabled parking area but this is always full with non-disabled drivers parking there.

140) **SOUTH OXHEY INTIATIVE**

Nothing to really update as no meeting has taken place

141) **COMMUNITY ASSETS**

Cllrs discussed fully the priority community assets. The Council decided to concentrate on these in the short term.

- Step up/Ascend, Oxhey Drive
- Oxhey Library, Bridlington Road
- Oxhey Chapel, Gosforth Lane
- Carpenders Park Community Hall
- The Partridge Pub, CP
- The Dick Whittington Pub, SO
- The Pavilion, SO

142) **PARKING ISSUES/ENFORCEMENT**

Cllr Barnes sent letters to St Meryl, The Police and TRDC outlining concerns about child safety and anti-social parking especially around schools. Reply from Herts mere parking enforcement state there is not a lot they can do even if they patrol. They state that they are patrolling on a rota but did not provide the rota when requested. The Clerk to look into child safety signage. The Clerk to also look into Public Space Protection Orders and ask at joint parish meeting

143) **FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION**

- a) December Accounts noted and approved
- b) The clerk explained the new domain “watfordrural-pc.gov.uk” was up and running – website is being worked on and councillors will have access to new emails shortly

144) **CHAIRPERSONS REPORT**

Attended the SO Baptist Churches 10-year anniversary for a lovely evening celebrating with so many nice people.



145) **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Asked Councillors to consider ideas for celebrating VE day on 8th May

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

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**

- a) Proposal for Council to take Ill Health Insurance from legal & General (as recommended by LGPS). Unanimously agreed, **RESOLVED**
- b) Precept for 2020-2021 to be set at £251,765. Unanimously agreed. **RESOLVED**

147) **CLOSE OF BUSINESS**

The Chairperson closed the meeting at 9.15 pm

Next meeting Wednesday 4th March @ 7.30pm