

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WATER ORTON PARISH COUNCIL

held on Thursday 30 November 2023 at 7.00pm at the Pavilion, Open Field Croft

Present: Cllr S. Stuart (Chair), Cllr. C. Chown, Cllr. W. Rees, Cllr D. Room, Cllr Freeman, Cllr K. Brown, Cllr. R. Coldrick, Cllr. R. Lowe,

Guests in Attendance: County Councillor Martin Watson, PCSO Demi Rose Smith, PC Louis Thompson

Public in Attendance: 6

Minute Taker : Zoe Millman.

The Chair opened the meeting at 19.00.

23.105 Apologies: David Reilly and Rachel Scully.

23.106. Public participation:

PCSO Demi Rose Smith -Apologies given for not being at previous meeting, there had been a spate of burglaries last 3 months, and on this month 2 but the numbers were down, due to more police presence. There had been 6 suspicious jobs reported, off road bikes complaint, spoke to West Mids. Police, there have been reports of man taking pictures of house and cars, advised more security. A fire had been reported at the tennis courts, and an anti-social report of 2 individuals coming over from Smith Wood, there had been two incidents with traffic due to traffic light problems. There was a fire at the old Primary school site, had a walk round with the Fire service to try to secure the site. 2 Road Traffic Collisions, damage to the barriers outside the shop, vehicle did drive off which has been reported.

Was asked if a survey was being done by the police, had received telephone calls asking about personal thoughts of the police service. CC had received one of these calls, but also felt it might be suspect. CS ask to get PCSO to investigate.

MW talked about the old school development and mentioned that there is additional security on the site and this will be kept going till March next year.

Traffic movement discussed, highways perspective about the speeding restriction, current policy Vehicle-activated Signs are not put in because it encourages speeding. Double parking, more traffic wardens are being assigned.

Demi Rose is leaving to become a regular, SS thanked her for her work and assistance.

MW said he will need to look at flooding report.

23.107. Declarations of Interest and dispensations:

NF-Reported on item 5 under Minute reference: **23.109.**

23.108. Minutes:

To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 26 October 2023.

Approved

23.109. Reports from Chairman, Parish Councillors (for information only):

NF-access to park/playing field, asking for a drop down kerb, as need better access to the less able and for the land to be flattened and no parking at all. Four options have been offered:

1. preventive measure such as railing, stop the parking but pedestrian would be in the road, MW said that it was not put in, as access was there for access to the park
2. Formalise the layby-expensive option

Chairman Initials.....

3. Tarmac area, next to the hedge, problem the gate is the wrong way round, effectively an extension of the footpath may or may not have railing
4. Putting a timber edge path-same as 4 but different source
5. Move the path to further down towards the junction

The matter was deferred to next meeting to look further at the resolution.
There was no report from the Chair.

23.110. Maintenance

CC still awaiting a report from Greyhound so cannot give update until then. Wet pour repairs prices have risen to £100 per sq metre, discussed repairing the rusty pole but Rob advised to replace it.
Item deferred as awaiting Greyhound information.

23.111. Finance: All passed

23.112. Policies:

- a) To consider adoption of Outdoor Hire Agreement and Associated Procedures (via maintenance sub-committee).
 - b) To consider fees for October Hire for 2023-2024 (via Finance sub-committee)
 - c) To review the Risk Management Policy
- All approved

23.113. Clerks Report:

The Clerks Report was received.

Severn Trent approached for the Xmas Tree, Orchard as an alternative. Looking at asking for tree earlier in the year to guarantee acquiring one.

Memorial bench to be investigated before the next meeting.

Requests from Photos of the Councillors for the website.

23.114. Correspondence

Shelter- The item to be deferred item until after the finance committee meeting.

Heritage Group- Some members of the Heritage Group would like to attend and be represented at the Special management zone meetings. Would like the Parish Council (PC) to raise with Steve Maxy, the status, keen to be completed, request of clerk to get an answer.

23.115. Public Spaces Protection Order-Dog Fouling:

It was resolved to formally respond to the consultation.

23.116. Elections-May 23:

Propose withhold charges as not applicable to the PC.

23.117. Former Water Orton Primary School:

The following points and questions were raised regarding the plan:

Footpath-suggestion to move path, moving it eastward,

Plan 10a what is the significance of purple line-visibility splay.

The plan does not show the back gardens correctly.

The access road forking to the west

(TF-asked about a traffic assessment, it was confirmed a report had been carried out with no adverse impact).

The footpath east west replacement is not fit for purpose.

Village pound is not correctly displayed.

Junction- more work to follow.

Carter Jonas (CJ) is going to look at the plan and re-look at the questions raised.

CJ confirmed that affordable housing had been included.

Is access to the substation going to be 24hr access, CJ-as already there, not impacted.

Clarification on whether the substation would be standalone or piggy back existing power as there has previously been outage.

RC- queried the allocation of the housing as the numbers kept changing. CJ- explained it was because of the type and size of the accommodation being built was differing slightly, so the number levelled out.

Is Countryside still the appointed contractor. Query was raised of the quality of the build, and it is reported that Countryside is not highly rated.

SS- raised the issue of the sewage on the site from the old school, there is concern that the newer volume and the existing pipework may not cope. Also there is concern about the documentation, how representation of the opposition is not accurately reported. Infrastructure movement works are already happening on the site before the planning application has been granted.

23.118. Commonwealth Games Legacy Funds Bid:

This fits alongside the neighbourhood plan, (open consultation 09/11, and closing January). The proposal is to put in a bid for older people and youth provision, exercise class, tennis club which would engage the youth, and ask the police to support.

Passed.

23.119. Planning:

Discussed overbridge from HS2, comments are invited as under Schedule 17. The Heritage Group is asked to consult about it. The best objection if happen would come from Heritage Group rather than the PC.

23.120. Items for the next meeting/s:

The Agenda Item Reporting Sheet to be used to record for the next meeting.

23.121. Date, Time and Place of the next Parish Council Meeting:

The next Parish Council Meeting is to be held on Thursday 25th January 2024 1900 hrs at The Playing Field Pavilion, Openfield Croft.

23.122. Closed Session:

No items to be discussed.

The meeting was closed at 20:23 hours

..... Signed

..... Date