

## WATERBEACH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the virtual Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 7 July 2020 at 7.00pm

### 20/30. THOSE PRESENT / APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

**Present:** Cllrs Bavester, Bull, Gilzean, Grant, Howlett, , Rabbett, Seamarks, B Williams, J Williams, J Williamson, M Williamson, Wright

**Apologies:** Cllrs B Johnson, P Johnson

**In Attendance:** S Mason – Clerk, County and District Cllr Bradnam, District Cllrs Rippeth and Smith

### 20/32 MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Item 20/42ii) Cllrs M Williamson, J Williamson and Wright declared interested as members of the Parochial Church Council of St Johns Church, Waterbeach.

### 20/33 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 2 June 2020 were approved and will be signed as a true record of the meeting.

**Proposed: Cllr Wright    Seconded: Cllr Howlett Unanimous**

The minutes of the meeting held on 29 June 2020 were approved and will be signed as a true record of the meeting.

**Proposed: Cllr Bull                      Seconded: Cllr Rabbett    In favour 11 Abstention: 1**

### 20/34 HIGHWAY SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS ON WAY LANE

#### [Near Waterbeach Primary School - S278 Works](#)

To review CCC Highways preferred [option 1](#) for safety improvements on Way Lane (also [option 2](#) and [option 3](#)) alongside an interim response from Waterbeach Primary School - and agree a response.

WPC does not think any of the options are ideal but of the three it could accept Option 1 provided it included a zebra crossing on the raised table. It also makes the following comments:

- Please check the drainage arrangements to ensure that water run off does not puddle on the 3 entrances by the table (this has been a problem with the Chapel Street crossing)
- The space by Fenleigh Close needs an safety/accessibility check to ensure there is adequate space for wheelchair users to position themselves to use the crossing
- Can the approaching road surfaces be resurfaced at the same time as the platform is put in place
- Once underway, all works need to be completed expeditiously to minimise the disruption on these key route.

**Proposed: Cllr Rabbett    Seconded: Cllr Wright    Unanimous**

It is aware that that a site visit is being arranged and asked the Clerk to advise the organiser that it would like to be represented at it.

District Cllr H Smith joined the meeting

### 20/35 PROPOSED SPEED RESTRICTIONS

Members **AGREED** to support the CCC Highways proposal for 40 mph speed limits on: a section of Clayhithe Road and a section of Horningsea Road.

**Proposed: Cllr Wright    Seconded: Cllr Rabbett    In favour: 11 Against 1**

### 20/36 RISK

i) To review risk sheets for the play areas including Supplementary Covid-19 risk assessment around reopening of play parks and discuss whether to reopen them for use.

Having carefully considered the risk assessment Members **AGREED** in principle that playparks in Waterbeach could reopen once they had been cleaned and new signage was in place – but that the Chair and Recreation Advisory Group Chair would do a final check beforehand. Due to works cancelled owing to Coronavirus Lockdown, and ongoing investigations about the safety of the play equipment, Chittering play park would remain closed for the time being.

**Proposed: B Williams    Seconded: Cllr Rabbett    In favour: 11 Abstention: 1**

ii) To review risk sheets for the Recreation Ground, Skate park and Village Green/Gault/other open areas

Deferred to the next meeting

## **20/37 HEALTH AND SAFETY**

- A dead branch had been removed from a tree on the Village Green and a site visit arranged to identify any further branches causing concern.
- A number of path lights had been vandalised and the Clerk was seeking advice about whether these could be filled in rather than just replacing the transparent cover to prevent further problems.
- There was a problem with smashed glass over the far side of the Rec associated with the anti-social behaviour evidence
- WPC action outstanding on the Denny End Road bus shelters

## **20/38 USE OF PARISH COUNCIL LAND**

**To discuss the following requests:**

- i) To run yoga classes on the Recreation Ground
- ii) To hold boot camp sessions on the Recreation Ground

After much discussion it was concluded that the Council was receiving too many requests for classes on the Recreation Ground to deal with on an ad-hoc basis as further ones had been received since the agenda had been published. As a minimum it already required confirmation of insurance cover and risk assessments but the Clerk was asked to draw up a draft policy for agreement at a future meeting.

iii) To hold Community Markets on the Village Green

Cllrs noted that the proposer had now concluded that holding a market on the Recreation Ground rather than the Green would be better, but felt the level of detail provided so far was not sufficient to make a decision. The Clerk was asked to pursue with the proposer.

Cllr Howlett left the meeting at 8.30pm as a result connection problems.

iv) Tennis courts

The Clerk reported back that there appeared to be up to 3 coaches using the one of the three courts but not at the same time. No further complaints had been received and one Waterbeach resident had emailed in support of continuing to be able to continue being coached at the court. While noting she would continue to monitor the situation, Councillors asked that this was swept up in the policy review asked for above.

Cllr Howlett re-joined the meeting at 8.35pm

County and District Cllr Bradnam joined the meeting.

## **20/39 OFFICER & COUNCILLOR UPDATES**

**The County Cllr** explained the plans for school opening in September which were going to pose some logistical challenges. She also highlighted that a public consultation had been launched on Waterbeach-Cambridge public transport.

Cllrs asked if she could chase the lining of the bus bays on the Green/High Street and also referred to a proliferation of commercial signage on the entrances to the village which were potentially distracting. Cllr Bradnam said she would but asked Cllrs to send her photos.

**District Cllrs** had submitted a written report and mentioned two corrections: Option G on A10 public engagement item referred to junction improvements and not dualling work. Secondly, on the Amey appeal, the date of the CCC refusal to the application was September 2018 rather than last year.

**The Clerk** reported the following:

- The A10 initiative is a public information exhibition rather than a formal consultation. She recommended Cllrs comment directly by 14 July if they wished to do so.
- Waterbeach to Cambridge public transport – the project team had offered a meeting to introduce this.
- Consultations on the relocation of the sewage works and also of Cambridge police station were also live/about to go live.
- She had attended a SCDC planning officers liaison meeting at which the team leader for this area had introduced his team who handle the routine applications outside of the major developments. He has also offered a sit visit to see problematic areas – Cllrs who wished to take part should get in touch with her.
- Confirmation received that no planning application is needed for cycle parking racks on village green. Waterbeach Cycling Campaign are looking to get quotes in .
- Rec car park – surface dressing has commenced.
- Attempted break in at bowls pavilion. The gate padlock was cut through but the pavilion was not accessed.

District Cllrs Smith and Rippeth left the meeting at 8.50pm.

**The Library Officer** reported on plans to reopen the library which were in limbo because of ongoing delays in tarmacing the approach. Risk assessments had been done which followed County Council guidance and she was asked to arrange for copies of the volunteer risk assessment to be circulated to Council for review since they were currently covered by WPC insurance. It was also suggested that a proposal should come to Council if they were seeking to Council should they need any Covid-19 related support.

It was **AGREED** to extend the meeting for a further 30 minutes.

Neighbourhood Plan - this will soon reach a key milestone as a draft is going to the Inspector for a 'health check'. A grant request has been submitted to cover health check and ongoing technical support provided by Cambridgeshire ACRE.

#### **20/40 MONTHLY PAYMENTS**

The accounts were approved for payment.

**Proposed: Wright Seconded: Cllr Bull In favour 9 Abstentions: 3**

The bank reconciliation for May 2020 was noted

#### **20/41 NEW WATERBEACH PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE**

Cllrs M Williamson and Seemarks agreed to assist in the transition to a new website and assessing potential packages

#### **20/42 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

i) [20/02441/FUL](#): Removal of an existing ventilation louvre on the west elevation and replacement with an aluminium cowl fitted to the window frame: Telephone Exchange 3 Cambridge Road  
WPC **AGREES** this provided that work is carried out in adherence to relevant noise regulations to minimise disruption to neighbouring properties

ii) [20/02668/FUL](#): Change of use of agricultural building to a dwelling (Class C3) and for associated development: Agricultural Building Land To The Rear Of St Johns Church Station Road

WPC recommend that this application is **REFUSED** – the points made by the Appeals Officer previously (that it is not permitted development and it is in a conservation area) still stand. In addition, the land behind the bungalow would block all access to the land behind and WPC is also concerned that the site plan as currently drawn may not be accurate as it is believes that that land is also owned by the applicant.

iii) [S/4744/18/FL. Notification of a Planning Appeal](#) : Proposed residential development for 21 dwellings including affordable houses with associated access landscaping open space garages and one self-build/custom build plot: Land To East Of Cody Road And North Of Bannold Road

WPC stands by its earlier comments objecting to the application and adds that SCDC has a confirmed 5 year land supply without needing to support this application.

iv) [S/4415/17/VC](#) Variation of Conditions: 6 (Travel Plan); 9 (Landscaping); 12 (ecology); 19 (Renewable Energy); 21 (Scheme for the provision and location of fire hydrant) of planning permission S/0558/14/0L for outline planning permission for erection of up to 57 dwellings including affordable housing public open space new roads and associated infrastructure including a sustainable drainage system with main access off Bannold Road.  
Land off Bannold Road and Bannold Drove, Waterbeach.

The case officer has advised that, due to the history of this application and the large amount of variations that have been submitted over time, this current application will tidy up and combined them into one. This was noted.

#### **20/43 [S/0559/17/OL](#) Urban and Civic Waterbeach Barracks planning application**

Members noted the written update from Urban and Civic. Cllr B Williams had attended a workshop with U&C at which a scoping report was presented. This was a first step in efforts to look at inter alia steps to help deal with issues of Rat Running and Nuisance Parking. Cllrs were asked to provide review it and feed comments in to Cllr B Williams and the Clerk.

#### **20/44 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

It was **RESOLVED** in accordance with section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meeting) Act 1960 that as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted at the next agenda item (s) the Chairman asked that in the public interest the public and press be temporarily excluded from the meeting and were herewith instructed to withdraw. **Unanimous**

#### **20/45 MINUTES OF MEETING ON 29 JUNE 2020**

The confidential minutes from the meeting on 29 June were agreed and will be signed as a true record of the meeting.

The following statement was **AGREED** and would be put onto the website and village notice boards.

“The Council has a duty of care to its employees and it will not tolerate personal attacks against employees, whether physical, verbal or via social media. Should these occur, it will take action through the appropriate channels.

It is the Council that is corporately responsible for the delivery of services in the parish. This means it sets the operational standards that it requires its staff work to and it is unfair to criticise its employees if you are not happy about these. It is doubly unfair as employees are not able<sup>1</sup> to comment on social media.

Constructive suggestions or legitimate complaints should be directed to it via the Parish Clerk for investigation. A copy of the complaints procedure can be found on:

[http://www.waterbeach.org.uk/opus/php/wbpc/Documents//Procedural%20Documents/141202\\_WATERBEACH%20PARISH%20COUNCIL%20COMPLAINTS%20PROCEDURE.pdf](http://www.waterbeach.org.uk/opus/php/wbpc/Documents//Procedural%20Documents/141202_WATERBEACH%20PARISH%20COUNCIL%20COMPLAINTS%20PROCEDURE.pdf)

The Council would like to put on record that we are extremely confident that our staff are more than capable of delivering the quality of work required in the service they provide. Please show them consideration and respect as they go about their duties.”

**Proposed: Cllr M Williamson Seconded: Cllr J Williamson. In favour: 8 Against: 1 Abstentions: 3**

Council wished this decision to be communicated to the public as soon as possible