



# WATERPERRY with THOMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

July 2020

Minutes of Waterperry with Thomley Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday  
29<sup>th</sup> July 2020 at 7:00pm in the Lecture Room, Waterperry Gardens

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## MINUTES

Present: Sue Parker, Lawrence Wootten, Daryl Atkinson  
Apologies: Royston Davis  
Also Present: Sarah Gray – SODC Councillor for Forest Hill & Holton Ward,  
Guy Withers (Waterperry Opera), Simon Buchanan (Waterperry Gardens), 2 parishioners

Actions

1. There were no declarations of interest.
2. Minutes of the previous meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2020 sent by email to all councillors approved and signed.

Matters carried forward from previous minutes:

- |  |         |
|--|---------|
| a. Rec Ground Furniture: Progress purchases and siting of new recycled plastic seating.  | On-Hold |
| b. Two Saplings by Bow Bridge: Progress request to ask for these to be removed.  | SP      |
| c. PC Insurance: Clerk to update insured items from the Rec stock evaluation report and review against insured values.   | Clerk   |
| d. Playground sign: Sue reported that the hedge where the newest road safety playground sign is located had been cut back a bit around the sign to help make it more visible to road traffic for safety reasons. | SP      |
| e. Recreation Ground Maintenance: Lawrence and Daryl to do the required maintenance in the recreation ground. The following were suggested in a previous meeting:  | LW / DA |
| 1. Lift and re-secure the grass protection mats under the swings to comply with the Recreation Ground Safety Inspector's recommendations.  |         |
| 2. Remove branches near the play equipment.  |         |
| 3. Oil any moving parts of the play equipment that require lubricating and tighten any bolts that require tightening.  |         |
| 4. See if any trees in the recreation ground and surrounding it appear to be of concern for falling branches, etc.   |         |

### 3. Public Open Session:

Sarah Gray updated the councillors on relevant items happening at SODC, in particular those relating to revised planning procedures, the likely future structure of Oxfordshire's local government and the SODC local plan.

Simon Buchanan introduced Guy Withers (Waterperry Opera) who outlined the plans for Waterperry Opera Festival in August as well as a much smaller production of The Wizard of Oz and week beforehand. Simon Buchanan emphasized the health and safety stipulations of both events in light of Covid-19 restrictions.

### 4. Co-option of new Parish Councillor:

Sue had received an expression of interest in the vacant position of Parish Councillor from Simon Melton. Proposed by Sue, seconded by Lawrence and duly co-opted. His details would now be added to the official record of Parish Councillors held by SODC and OCC.

SP/LW

5. Finance and Administration:
  - a. Cheques were released for R Taylor Landscapes and Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils for Sue to forward. SP
  - b. Verify Petty Cash postponed. Clerk/SP
  - c. Lawrence and Sue had gone into Barclays Bank in Thame and changed the signatories to the account. Clerk/SP
  - d. Review Bank Statement against Cashbook postponed. Clerk/SP
  - e. Review Expenditure against Budget postponed. Clerk/SP
  - f. Review of Financial Regulations postponed. Clerk/SP
  - g. Review of Financial Management Risk Assessment postponed. Clerk/SP
6. Update on Village Projects:
  - a. SODC are offering free 30-minute legal sessions for Parish Councils.  
It was agreed that such a session ought to be considered to move forward on the recreation ground land registration – currently on-hold owing to Covid-19 restrictions. SP
  - b. There was a constructive discussion with Simon Buchanan about publicising the 20mph village speed limit with Waterperry Gardens staff – Simon agreed to raise the matter again with staff. There was further discussion with parishioners present at the meeting about ways of reducing traffic speeds through the village – including the “scarecrow” initiative used in Holton village (which also has a 20mph speed limit). The possibility of obtaining help from the local Community Support Officer was also discussed – perhaps a police speed check, as used in Holton- Sue agreed to investigate. SP
7. Planning: Owing to Covid-19 restrictions, the Parish Council had been unable to meet to discuss planning applications. However, the application at Witsend Farm, Waterperry Road, had been deemed agricultural usage, so no planning permission was necessary. It is understood that the application at 22 Waterperry was awaiting a decision from the conservation and countryside officers although there were no objections from neighbours. Possible infringements of planning regulations at Townsend Farm were being investigated by SODC Planning Enforcement Officers. Lawrence pointed out that all active planning applications can now be easily followed on Planning Tracker page of the Parish Council website ([www.waterperry.org](http://www.waterperry.org)).
8. Correspondence: None.
9. Any other business: None.
10. Date of next meeting:  
Other than possible meetings for planning applications, the date of the next meeting will be on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> August 2020 at 7.00pm – venue to be agreed.

Meeting closed at 9:15pm