

# WATERPERRY with THOMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

#### December 2019

Minutes of Waterperry with Thomley Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2019 at 7:30pm in the Lecture Room, Waterperry Gardens

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## MINUTES

Present: Sue Parker, Lawrence Wootten, Royston Davis

Apologies: Daryl Atkinson

Also Present: None

**Actions** 

SP

- 1) There were no declarations of interest.
- 2) Minutes of the previous meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2019 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. <u>PC Insurance:</u> Clerk to update insured items from the Rec stock evaluation report and review against Clerk
- insured values.

d. Review of Effectiveness [of Audit]: Clerk to complete for review by the councillors.

Clerk

- e. <u>Playground sign:</u> Sue will email the owner of the hedge where the newest road safety playground sign is located to cut the hedge back around the sign so that it is visible to road traffic for safety reasons.
- 3) Public Open Session:

None.

#### 4) Finance and Administration:

On the advice of the clerk, one of the parish councillors was not invited to this meeting and the previous meeting, as he has not returned his Register of Interests to SODC despite several reminders in meetings, minutes and by emails and texts. This was required after the uncontested election in May, at which all five councillors retained their positions. It is a legal requirement that current Registers of Interests are available for public viewing and it is not possible for a parish councillor to comment on planning issues and such like if their Register of Interests is not published, as this could reasonably raise questions of disclosable pecuniary interests or other interests. The clerk had taken detailed advice from OALC and the SODC Returning Officer on this matter and the chairman presented their advice to the other councillors. After lengthy discussion it was reluctantly but unanimously agreed that this omission risked bringing the Parish Council into disrepute and as such the councillor had effectively disqualified himself from the elected office of being a councillor. The clerk will write to notify the councillor of this decision and will also notify the Returning Officer. This will result in a Casual Vacancy arising and the clerk will arrange the Public Notice of this.

Clerk

Sue mentioned that the clerk was intending to move away from Waterperry early next year and would resign as the clerk/RFO at the end of the financial year (end of March), whilst working from a distance once he has moved away. Regular tasks done in Waterperry would be delegated to the councillors until a new clerk is appointed, and public address/email address on SODC/OCC websites to be changed to that of the chairman.

Clerk / SP

The following accounts/receipts were previously approved, or approved at this meeting, and paid: Grass Cutting (RT Landscapes)

319.99 (cheque 100233)

The following items were received since the previous meeting:

None

Payments and Receipts into the Village News Account for the HWW Magazine are not shown here.

Clerk to make payments and SP to bank money as required

The moving quote for 2020 for £1,275 was agreed.

The Budget Plan for 2021/21 was reviewed. It was agreed that there may be a requirement to pay a replacement clerk, and Lawrence and Sue agreed to look into the likely costs, so this could be included in the budget and precept, which will be revised and reviewed at the next PC meeting.

LW / SP Clerk

### 5) State of Verge:

It was unanimously agreed to see whether the 20mph speed limit helps to prevent further erosion of the verge in the village.

#### Update on Village Projects:

Land Registration: This is continuing.

Traffic Speed Reduction: Scheme in progress and awaiting OCC to progress the next stage.

Recreation Ground: Lawrence and Daryl to do the required maintenance in the recreation ground before the Annual Safety Inspection in mid-December, as not done in November. The following were suggested in the previous meeting:

DA/LW

SP

- a. Lift and re-secure the grass protection mats under the swings to comply with the Recreation Ground Safety Inspector's recommendations.
- b. Remove branches near the play equipment.
- c. See if any trees in the recreation ground and surrounding it appear to be of concern for falling branches, etc.
- d. Oil any moving parts that require lubricating and tighten any bolts that require tightening.

#### Planning:

P19/S4051/FUL – Land to the North of No's 1 & 2 Spinney Cottages Waterperry Estate Waterperry OX33 1JZ – Development of site adjacent entrance to Waterperry Estate into two new 3-bedroom semi-detached houses. This scheme is the same as that which was granted planning permission (P16/S1878/FUL) and similar to planning permission P15/S4315/FUL which was granted for the construction of a new detached house of the same volume.

The Parish Council decided to respond to this planning application in line with what the last response was back in 2016 (P16/S1878/FUL). Sue to agree response so the clerk can enter the response on the SODC Planning website before the deadline.

SP / Clerk

#### Correspondence – postal correspondence received:

The clerk showed some recent correspondence, which was not felt relevant to the parish council.

## Any Other Business:

Lawrence as editor of the parish magazine circulated to Holton, Waterperry and Waterstock, raised the possibility for financial assistance for running the parish magazine with Holton and Waterstock also contributing. Clerk to add to Agenda for next meeting.

Clerk / LW

#### 10) Date of Next Meeting:

Other than possible meetings for planning applications, the date of the next meeting will be on Wednesday 8th January 2020 in the Lecture Room, Waterperry Gardens at 7.30pm.

Meeting closed at 9:50pm