

# WATLINGTON MEMORIAL CLUB

20 HIGH STREET, WATLINGTON, OXON OX49 5PY

Charity 271000

————— *sports & social facilities for the community of Watlington* —————

## Minutes of a Special Meeting held on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2014

Club members and local residents present:

Anna Badcock	Robin Holmes-Smith*	Chris O'Sullivan*
Helen Batten*	Keith Jackson	Dave Parkes*
Tom Bindoff	Terry Jackson	Graham Smith*
Gill Bindoff	Chris Mackenzie	Deborah Smith
Gordon Britton*	Amanda Macrae	Jeremy Stone
Olivier Cointre	Bob Muir	Henry Wancke*
Claire Cointre*	Pam Mundy*	Linda Wancke
Howard Griffiths*	Peter Neal	Jenny Wilkinson

\*committee

- 1. Welcome & introduction to the committee:** Dave Parkes welcomed all present and introduced committee members.
- 2. Proposed transfer to a new constitution & legal status:** Dave Parkes and Graham Smith introduced the proposed change recommended by the committee, which is to move to a charitable incorporated organisation with new constitution. Information was provided to explain the reasons for recommending this change, its anticipated benefits and what the new organisation would look like in practice. [The full presentation is appended to these minutes].
- 3. Questions & answers:** Questions and comments were taken from the floor, clarifying the following:
  - The proposed CIO constitution is a standard format which will be approved by the Charities Commission, and will require a minor variation to incorporate the undertaking with the Parish Council regarding potential property disposal.
  - Maintenance of the existing Club buildings and site does not require specific mention in the proposed CIO constitution since this activity is not the objective of the existing charity or the proposed CIO.
  - It is anticipated that the move from unlimited to limited liability for trustees/directors of the CIO will make it easier to attract volunteers to join the committee and help secure the future of the Club.

- 4. Resolution:** Following a proposal by Bob Muir, seconded by Henry Wancke, it was resolved by unanimous agreement to create a new charity CIO and to transfer the assets of Watlington Memorial Club into the CIO.
- 5. Next steps:** The target timetable for the transfer and associated activities was agreed as follows:
- 1 August 2014: Submit CIO application to Charities Commission; open new bank account.
  - 1 October 2014: Launch of new charity; transfer assets and leases from old charity; notify suppliers of changes.
  - 31 December 2014: Dissolve old charity
- 6. Proposed branding change:** Dave Parkes and Graham Smith presented the proposal recommended by the committee to change the name of the charity to The Watlington Club, using the strap line “remembering the past, looking to the future”. Information was provided to explain the rationale for this decision and the anticipated benefits [see presentation].

Suggestions were made and discussed as follows:

- ‘Memorial’ has a specific meaning, is a direct link to the founding and original purpose of the Club and is therefore a good word to maintain in the name of the organisation.
- ‘The Watlington Club’ does not convey the activities of the charity and ‘The Watlington Sports & Social Club’ might be better. The committee explained that the proposed name will be easy to use with the sporting sections which are part of the charity and will also facilitate links with other organisations.
- Bar operation should be arranged to ensure that an appropriate service is offered to all sections of the charity, and action taken to prevent the problems of smoking outside the front of the building. The committee confirmed that these issues are being examined and will be prioritised in any new bar tenancy arrangement.
- Subscriptions should be increased to reflect improvements in the management and facilities of the Club.
- It was clarified that although there are already a substantial number of members there is no limit to membership which is open to all residents of Watlington and the surrounding areas. It is particularly hoped to increase the number of younger members.

Following a proposal by Dave Parkes, seconded by Graham Smith, it was resolved that the name of the new CIO charity will be The Watlington Club [19 in favour; 2 against; 3 abstentions.]

- 7.** On behalf of the committee and all members, Howard Griffiths thanked Dave Parkes and Graham Smith for their work in preparing the CIO proposal and guiding the process of change.
- 8.** Dave Parkes thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.00 pm.