

WALTON PARISH COUNCIL minutes

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 3rd December 2019

Present: Cllrs: E Fairclough (Chair), K Shaw, P Lee, S Leith, S Birkby, T Saunders, C Pearson and J Carlon.

In attendance: Cllr: A Manifold, and Cllr M Cummings WMDC (Ward Councillors) and the Clerk to the Council.

109. To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Cllrs C Wagstaff, E Prince and H Massey, Ward Cllr F Heptinstall (WMDC) and PC Carl Hall.

110. To receive declarations of interest.

None.

111. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 5th November 2019.

Resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 5th November 2019 without amendment as a correct record.

112. To be notified of matters accomplished or arisen since the last meeting not included elsewhere on the agenda.

The Clerk notified the Parish Council 9 out of 11 fire drills have taken place with regular hirers and recorded in the Fire Logbook.

Two Cllrs considered the offer of free trees from the Woodlands Trust but it was believed there was no space for additional trees at this moment in time.

113. Public forum session – To permit members of the public to make representations, answer questions, and give evidence in respect of any item of business included in the agenda.

None present.

114. To receive a report on the SAFE scheme and Police matters.

PC Hall was not present, but a report was circulated to members to peruse.

The Chair commented the Police and Communities Together (PACT) meeting was well attended and PC Hall responded to many questions.

Resolved to note the report.

115. To receive reports from WMDC Ward 5 Councillors.

Cllr Manifold reported:-

- WMDC Highways would be looking at signage to address concerns regarding speeding and children on this stretch of road;
- Smiley SID speed monitor will be scheduled in the next month and will monitor traffic speed on School Lane;

Cllr M Cummings reported:

- School Lane was scheduled for resurfacing in 2020;
- Utilities work is scheduled to take place on 12th December on Shay Lane;

The Chair queried if there were any further updates on Brook Farm but none was available.

The Ward Councillors wished everyone a Merry Christmas before departing.

Resolved to note the reports.

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116. Finance & Governance

1. To approve accounts to be paid, already paid under delegated powers and income received November 2019.

The Clerk submitted details (copy attached to minutes) of accounts paid totalling £3,376.18 for November 2019, and income received of £1,997.25.

The account balances at the end of November are:

| | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Current a/c: | £1,551.88 |
| Barclays Business Res a/c: | £19,510.88 |
| HSBC deposit a/c: | <u>£50,355.48</u> |
| Total | £71,418.24 |

Resolved: to approve the financial statements and payments.

2. To receive a budget monitor for the period to November and forecast for the current financial year 2019/20. To consider priorities for the Budget 20/21.

A fire drill was conducted at 7.15pm with all present evacuating and resuming the meeting at 7.25pm.

The Clerk circulated a forecast for the current financial year 2019/20 up to 30 November 2019. Whilst the Parish Council has overspent under two categories due to unforeseen repairs to the Village Hall, this was counterbalanced with underspending in other categories as a result of projects not pursued. It is anticipated the Parish Council will only require £26,000 from reserves rather than the projected £36,000 anticipated. The Clerk requested ideas for any priorities which would need to be added to next month's budget, which included refurbishment and maintenance of the tennis club, further refurbishment to the Village Hall and Coronation Cottage if needed and for the allotments.

Resolved to note the report and incorporate priorities into next month's budget.

3. To consider cost of SLCC membership renewal for 2020.

Resolved to renew membership for 2020 at a cost of £161.

117. To consider correspondence received.

The Clerk summarised the correspondence received this month and listed the invitations.

Resolved:

- (i) Accept Walton Primary Academy's invitation for a show round in January 2020.
- (ii) Note all other correspondence.

118. Planning Working Party.

1. To consider planning applications validated and decided November 2019.

There have been 2 applications validated and 2 application decided since the last meeting.

Resolved

- (i) To object to planning application 19/02474/FUL 89 Elmwood Drive as the proposal would lead to the overdevelopment of the site and would not be consistent with WMDC's Residential Design Guide in the following respects:-
 - a. 1.06.07 – It seems that more than half the garden area will be developed.
 - b. 1.06.08 – There will arise an effective loss of a functional front garden
 - c. 1.09.04 – The proposals are not sympathetic to the scale of the original house
 - d. 1.12.03 – The “workshop” proposed takes on the appearance of a large single garage. The RDG states that it is not acceptable to have garages in highly prominent locations or project forward of the front wall of the house.

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(ii) to note the remaining validated and decided applications.

- 2. Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 s1(2) – In view of the confidential nature of the business concerned, to resolve to exclude the Press and Public to receive an update on the proposed lease for the allotment space.**

Resolved to chase the developer's solicitors for an update.

119. Village Hall and Coronation Cottage Working Party

- 1. To consider quotes for a replacement heater for the Village Hall Committee Room.**

Two quotes were obtained with a third contractor approached who declined to provide one. There was a debate on any greener options but due to the age of the building and the last remaining heater not recently replaced, a gas heater was considered the best option for the time being.

Resolved to replace the heater at a cost of £1,338.53 plus VAT with an additional £224 payable of the flue requires replacing.

- 2. To receive reports on the risk assessments for the internal and external of Coronation Cottage and the Tennis Club.**

Cllr J Carlon has reviewed the external of the Tennis Club and Coronation Cottage but to assess the internal of these two properties.

Resolved to defer until the next meeting.

- 3. To consider renewal of the gas boiler Homecare agreement at Coronation Cottage.**

Members wished to retain current coverage of the boiler and the central heating but happy to accept a reduced quote on payment of an excess.

Resolved to renew cover with British Gas at a cost of £204 with an excess of £60.

120. Environmental Improvements Working Party

- 1. To receive reports on the risk Assessment on the village seats and signs, bus shelter and war memorial and the Jubilee Field.**

Resolved to defer to next month's meeting.

- 2. To consider the need/quotes for a traffic survey.**

As a project listed under the Neighbourhood Plan, members have previously discussed commissioning a traffic survey following the opening of the Eastern relief road but felt the Parish Council should liaise with WMDC to determine if they would support the project and implement its findings before committing to the costs.

Resolved to liaise with the Ward Councillors and WMDC Highways as to their involvement with the project.

121. To consider employee terms and conditions.

Resolved to implement changes from 1st April 2020 to salaries and to make the relevant payments for December 2019.

122. To receive a proposal on a new award scheme by Cllr Massey.

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Resolved to defer to January 2020 meeting for a considered proposal of the new scheme.

- 123. To receive matters reported directly to the Clerk.**
None.

Meeting closed at 8.40 pm.