

WALTON PARISH COUNCIL minutes

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 4th September 2018

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

In attendance: Cllrs: M Cummings and F Heptinstall (WMDC), Sgt Matt Jackson, Police, 1 member of the public & the Clerk to the Council.

67. To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Cllr S Leith and A Manifold (WMDC)

68. To receive declarations of interest.

Cllr K Shaw declared a personal interest in agenda item 9(4) as a member of the Horticultural Society and Cllr J Carlon as a connected person to Walton Herbs, both relating to the consideration of grant applications received.

69. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 3rd July 2018

Resolved to approve the minutes of both parts of the meeting held on 3rd July 2018 without amendment.

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

The Clerk confirmed the cellar has been cleared of outdated documents to comply with GDPR.

71. 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.

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

Sgt Jackson reported increased patrols in and surrounding Nature Colliery Park following reports of an assault at the park. The attempt at Walton Colliery has been inadvertently missed of the report but the Police have interviewed an individual matching the description who has since released. The Police consider this to be an isolated incident and are following all leads on the assault. The advice by police is for members of the public to be alert whilst in the park.

Reports of two burglaries on School Lane relate to the same property whilst the occupiers were believed to be away. Following reports of the burglaries on Elmwood Close and Cherry Tree Crescent, 6 individuals have been arrested.

Members raised the issue of the smashed vodka bottles at the stone sign on Common Lane. More bottles have been found and they seem to appear at differing times. Cllr Cummings reported CCTV installed has not found any footage yet of any persons depositing the bottles. It was noted the bottles were damaging the stonework.

Members requested extra patrols be organised for the parks and near the Common Lane stone sign.

Resolved to note the report.

73. To receive a report from ENGIE on the Grove Development.

A representative from ENGIE confirmed the development was progressing well with a sales office in place and showhomes available to view. It is expected approximately 12 individuals will be ready to move in before the end of the year. Interested people tend to be from Wakefield, with some previous residents returning to the village, with an average age of 75/76 and having some mobility issues.

ENGIE are aiming to progress with the Community Hub and had submitted a planning application for a single storey building following Walton Community Library's (WCL) decision to relocate on School's site. There has now been further dialogue with WCL and ENGIE believe a mezzanine floor could be drawn into a further planning application to accommodate space for WCL if negotiations continue. Having spoken with Yorkshire Pharmacy, they have requested extra space be allocated for a dentist, a podiatrist and physiotherapist to extend the medical offering. Plans are being considered to allow WCL to be further integrated and a new two-storey building designed. Costing options are being prepared and both WCL and Yorkshire Pharmacy consulted. The Hub was only ever advertised as housing a host of

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services. It was noted that ENGIE wanted to be transparent and reassured the Parish Council that once plans are finalised, ENGIE will consult with the Parish Council, WMDC and the host organisations. It was confirmed that a supermarket would not form part of the Hub.

Resolved: To note the report.

74. To receive reports from WMDC Ward 5 Councillors.

Cllr M Cummings of WMDC reported: -

- A survey was completed regarding the play area on Brooklands. There are plans to replace the cradle swing seats, lay chippings and add a small piece of equipment;
- Brook Farm – Ward councillors spoke with the relevant Service Manager at WMDC who confirmed the sale to Persimmon is close to completion, after which a meeting will be arranged;
- PACT meeting to be scheduled on 15th November at the Village Hall in the Committee room;
- No further bin will be installed by WMDC as one is believed to be in the relevant place;
- Parking restrictions near chicane after Brooklands View involved a long statutory process and given no recorded incidents, this was not considered a priority;
- CCTV on Common Lane near stone sign already mentioned.

Resolved to note the reports.

75. Finance & Governance

1. To receive the report of the External Auditor.

The External Auditor made no comment on the Annual Governance and Accountability Return and the Notice of Completion of the Audit together with the relevant pages of the return are displayed on the Notice Board.

Resolved to receive the report.

2. To approve accounts to be paid, already paid under delegated powers and income received July and August 2018.

The Clerk submitted details (copy attached to minutes) of accounts paid totalling £4,397.78 and £2,517.15 income received in July 2018 and £1,941.57 paid and £1,753.10 received in August 2018.

The account balances at the end of August are:

Current a/c:	£2,123.82
Barclays Business Res a/c:	£45,915.41
HSBC deposit a/c:	<u>£40,146.68</u>
Total	£88,275.91

The Clerk noted a second cheque had been lost in transit between the Post Office and the Bank.

Resolved: to approve the financial statements and payments.

3. To receive a budget monitor for the 5-month period April to August 2018 and to consider establishing a Village Hall Reserve.

The Clerk submitted a budget monitor for the five months ended 31st August 2018 which shows the annual budget, the payments and receipts for the period, the amounts for the corresponding period in the previous year, and the difference between the budget and the amounts in the period. It was noted some categories are likely to result in an overspend whilst some underspends are anticipated.

The Chair noted that whilst the painting of the Village Hall was underway, some areas in the hall appeared to require further work and refurbishment including the curtains, the rear toilets and the floor. It was thought a rolling program of works be identified and money be set aside for this refurbishment. It was agreed the Working Party meet to identify the works and likely costs. It was suggested that a percentage of the hiring's be set aside for the refurbishment whilst a sinking fund was also considered.

Resolved

- (i) to receive the report on the budget;

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- (ii) the Working Party to produce a schedule of works for the 2019/2020 budget proposal meeting in December 2018.

4. To consider applications for grants received.

Members noted no information was submitted by an applicant from outside the village regarding the benefits received by the community of Walton. Once this is made available, the Parish Council can consider the application fully.

Resolved to award:

- (i) £250 to Walton Horticultural Society towards the cost of new gardening equipment;
- (ii) £155 to Friends of Walton to develop the Memorial Garden at the Nature Park.

5. To consider and authorise the Clerk to attend training at a cost of £115.

Resolved to authorise the clerk to attend training delivered by YLCA at a cost of £115.

76. To consider correspondence received.

Resolved to note correspondence received.

77. Planning Working Party.

1. To consider planning applications validated and decided July and August 2018.

There have been 6 applications for Walton validated and 6 applications decided since the last meeting.

Resolved:

- (i) To comment on application 18/01551/FUL - 27 Elmwood Drive that the Parish Council has no objections providing the proposal complies with WMDC Residential Design Guide.
- (ii) To lodge an objection to planning application 18/01545/OUT - Bridge gate Farm, Shay Lane on the following grounds:
 - It considers the land in question is on the Green Belt and not Brownfield land given no evidence has been submitted to substantiate brownfield use;
 - The proposed application is a great deal larger than the previous permanent residential use and having regard to paragraph 89 of the National Planning Policy Framework, it is considered the nature and extent of the scheme will have an adverse impact on the Green Belt;
 - The proposal introduces housing which is outside the defined settlement of the village. This is in conflict with the Wakefield Core Strategy policy CS1 which confirms that small scale development can take place in villages “where it helps to meet identified local needs within the existing boundaries of the settlement”. We do not consider any strong special circumstances have been presented by the applicant to demonstrate local need;
 - No special circumstances have been demonstrated to allow development to take place on Green Belt land in line with the Local Development Framework Core Strategy 1 and Chapter 9 in the NPPF; and
 - The proposal does not comply with or reference Walton Neighbourhood Plan.
- (iii) To lodge an objection to application 18/01426/FUL - Walton Driving Range, Common Lane on the same grounds as previously lodged being:
 - Whilst the provisions of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) are noted, there will be an adverse impact on the Green Belt as, having regard to the configuration, and viewed from the side, the elevational mass of the 2 new houses and Clubhouse is materially greater than the existing building;
 - The proposal to add 2 new dwellings (and convert the clubhouse) introduces housing which is outside the defined settlement of the village. This is in conflict with the Wakefield Core Strategy policy CS1 which confirms that small scale development can take place in villages “where it helps to meet identified local needs within the existing boundaries of the settlement”

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We do not consider any strong special circumstances have been presented by the applicant to demonstrate local need;

- No special circumstances have been demonstrated to allow development to take place on Green Belt land in line with the Local Development Framework Core Strategy 1 and Chapter 9 in the NPPF;
- The proposal is in an unsustainable location for development which is contrary to the Local Development Framework Core Strategy and the amended application does not demonstrate any means by which this has been addressed; and
- The Design and Access statement makes no comment on why the application now shows a reduction to 3 dwellings compared to the 4 dwellings in the previous submission.

(iv) To note the validated and decided applications.

78. Village Hall and Coronation Cottage Working Party - to receive reports.

1. To consider increasing frequency of fire detection services.

Resolved: to continue undertaking an annual service of the fire detection system.

2. To consider cost of planting tub outside VH

The Chair proposed the planter be substituted for a permanent stone planter.

Resolved: to defer consideration until the cost of stone planter could be determined.

3. To consider switching the car park entrance/exits to the Village Hall

The Chair conveyed a resident's request to switch the car park entrances due to visibility problems and the tight space when exiting the car park due to increased cars parked on School Lane. It was noted the increase cars were likely to be from the School Lane development contractors. It was agreed this was a temporary issue and would not be long-term once the development was complete.

Resolved: to keep the entrances as they are.

4. To consider suggested changes to the terms of Hiring regarding the use of bouncy castles and first aid kit.

The Clerk noted that the current terms only required hirers to confirm bouncy castle providers to have public liability insurance but for a copy not to be provided. The Clerk recommended a copy be submitted in advance of a booking to ensure providers are covered with the necessary insurance.

The Clerk also recommended wording be added to the terms of hiring to ensure hirers use the First Aid kit at their own risk due to the risk of allergic reactions to any of the items and that the Parish Council does not have a first aider.

Resolved: to approve the Clerk to add additional wording to require copies of providers public liability and insurance and a disclaimer for use of the first aid kit.

79. Recreation & Playgrounds Working Party

1. To consider a resident's report of injury on playground.

Resolved: to respond to the resident that no similar reports had been received and no issues noted by Working Party risk assessment, WMDC inspection team or ROSPA as part of the annual safety risk assessments.

2. To consider the new fence erected behind the Tennis Clubhouse

Resolved: to defer consideration to next month's meeting once members have viewed the new fence.

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3. To consider remedial steps to clear land behind Tennis Clubhouse.

Resolved:

- (i) To write to the Tennis Club to request they clear the land behind of the Clubhouse;
- (ii) To request the caretaker to avoid storing hedge trimmings and items behind the Clubhouse;
- (iii) To construct a compost bin for grass cuttings.

80. Environmental Improvements Working Party

1. To consider the Clerk undertaking a consultation with neighbouring residents near Cherry Tree Stores regarding a new memorial bench

Resolved: to approve the consultation with the bungalows across the road.

2. To consider quote for new style bench near war memorial.

Resolved: to defer until advice is sought from YLCA regarding procurement of the uniform style benches.

81. Tree Working Party

1. To consider the new tree survey

Resolved: to defer until inspection of the relevant trees are made due to anomalies identified in the survey.

2. To consider work requested by Tennis Club

Resolved: to delegate to the Working Party to make recommendations based on further information from the report being clarified with WMDC.

82. New website working party

No reports.

83. Footpaths Working party

No reports.

84. To consider amending the Standing Orders in line with model recommendations from NALC.

Resolved: to adopt the amended changes except for the publication of draft minutes.

85. To consider steps that can be taken to become a Dementia Friendly Parish Council.

Resolved: to defer to next month's meeting.

86. 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 consider the Recreation Ground boundary walls to the School Lane development.

Resolved:

- (i) to forward the Boundary agreement to the solicitors for comment/advice;
- (ii) to authorise the Chair and another member to execute the agreement if not materially different to the form presented at the meeting.

87. To receive matters reported directly to the Clerk.

None.

Meeting closed at 10.15 p.m.