

Present:

Cllr J Carlon (Chair), Cllr G Newby, Cllr T Saunders, Cllr J Sutcliffe, Cllr S Baker & Cllr T Earnshaw

In attendance:

Mr P Walsh (Clerk)

Cllr U Ali, Cllr M Cummings, Cllr M Morley & Mr Martin Barnes, Highways Manager (WMDC)

PC Craig Steel, West Yorkshire Police

5 members of the public

Cllrs Baker & Earnshaw who were absent at the last meeting were permitted to sign their Declarations of Acceptance of Office

17 To receive apologies for absence

Cllrs C Pearson & K Nixon

The reasons for absence were **approved**

18 To approve the minutes of the council meeting held on 16th May 2023

RESOLVED The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 16th May 2023 were approved as an accurate record

19 To receive declarations of interest - none

20 To be advised of matters achieved or arisen since the last meeting not included elsewhere on the agenda - none

21 Public Forum

A member of the public asked whether there is likely to be a traffic survey and any physical measures to calm speeding on Oakenshaw Lane – see later under item 23

22 SAFE Scheme & Police matters - the latest report was reviewed

23 To receive a report from the Wakefield MDC Ward councillors

Cllr Cummings advised: -

- Shay Lane bridge will be closed 21-22 June for inspection
- The alleged hate crime graffiti (Z against Ukraine) on the mobile phone mast was subsequently identified as Zen and will be removed
- Cllr Ali advised that Highways had now inspected the footpath opposite the New Inn and Sports and Social Club that runs to the bridge along the canal and found no visible defects in the section adjacent to the Soap House Yard

With our Highways experts present and with the permission of the Chair, an open discussion ensued initially debating the physical measures in Walton to calm speed and why '20s plenty' had not yet featured in the village.

Martin Barnes summarised the council view, that: -

- Physical, factual evidence would always be needed to support any claim for Highways engagement
- '20s plenty' is supported and will be implemented
- Education and enforcement are the first place before engineering
- Priorities exist where there are KSI stats (Killed or Seriously Injured) and Police support

Mr Barnes confirmed that data will be available shortly which will provide average speeds and traffic volume on any given road and this may be helpful to support any claims for Highways involvement.

CLlr Carlon (supported by Cllr Cummings) stated that the 60 mph limit on Oakenshaw Lane was dangerous and asked if there were plans to reduce it to 30 or 40 mph. Mr Barnes replied none, without physical evidence.

Regarding the condition survey on The Balk – the developer has now left without repairing the road as promised. Mr Barnes said it will be repaired by Highways WMDC at ratepayers expense. It is currently marked out for repair, not in entirety but in patches. The Council asked WMDC to take note that there should be enforcement of the developer’s obligations arising from the lapse of the temporary access off The Balk.

24 Finance & Governance

RESOLVED

- Accounts paid and already paid under delegated authority & income received in April 2023 were approved
- The Clerk submitted details of accounts paid totalling £15,714.27 and income received of £48,371.96.

The account balances at the end of April 2023 are: -

Barclays current	£15,269.35
Barclays premium	£28,875.05
HSBC deposit	£993.54
Nationwide savings	<u>£101,976.03</u>
Total	<u>£147,113.97</u>

The bank reconciliation was checked by Cllr Earnshaw, a non-bank account signatory.

- The Annual Internal Audit Report had been circulated prior to the meeting and no issues were raised. It was **resolved** to receive the report as presented, adopt the recommendations and to re-appoint Yorkshire Internal Audit as the internal auditor for 2023-24
- The Parish Council Accounts for 2022-23 had been circulated prior to the meeting and it was **resolved** to approve the accounts as presented
- To consider agreement to the nine statements of the Annual Governance Statement 2022-23 (Section 1 of the Annual Return). **Resolved** to agree the nine statements of the Annual Governance Statement 2022-23
- To approve the Accounting Statements 2022-23 (Section 2 of the Annual Return). It was **resolved** to approve the Accounting Statements 2022-23
- It was further **resolved** that the period of public examination of the accounts 2022-23 would include the first 10 days of July 2023

25 Planning Committee Working Party

- No new planning applications were received in May 2023
- Cllr Carlon, for the working party, raised the following objection (summarised below) regarding the application to Raise the Roof Height to Create Part Two Storey Dwelling to form a Four Bedroom House at 62 Oakenshaw Lane, Walton WF2 6NH under Planning Reference Number 22/02182/FUL and a full written objection was presented to the Planning Department

“We have read the judgement on the case of King (Marsh) v the Council in relation to the concerns that were raised by the neighbour and not given true consideration by the Planning Department in regards to the proposed raising of the roof at number 62 that will overshadow number 60. We see that the judgement is dated the 17th May 2023 and that some of the concerns raised by the neighbour were not addressed by the planning department and therefore the Judge quashed the planning permission.

We have examined the plans for the raising of the roof at number 62 and see that the plans are the same as were considered prior to the neighbour applying to the Court for a Judicial Review. Our concerns are still valid in our objection to the proposal submitted on the 3rd January 2023. We would urge the planning department to request that the applicant reviews the design and moves the

upper storey to the left hand side abutting the gable end of number 64, thereby reducing the overshadowing of number 60.”

26 To receive reports and consider recommendations from working parties

- **Village Hall & Coronation Cottage – RESOLVED** to purchase a petrol strimmer and battery hedge trimmer to enable the caretaker to work extension lead-free and eliminate an unsafe working condition
- **Park & Jubilee Field** – business plan from Walton Juniors awaited
- **Parish environment** – risk assessments needed
- **Floral displays** – the majority of the hanging baskets were now up and 40/47 sponsors had paid
- **Communications** – content for the next newsletter is sought
- **Tennis club refurbishment** – Cllr Saunders advised that the initial specifications had been submitted to Leeds Beckett University.

The meeting ended at 9.45pm.

