

Present:

Cllrs:- K Nixon, C Pearson (Chair), T Saunders, D Brooke, B Kaushiva (from 7.30pm), G Newby, T Earnshaw, S Baker & J Sutcliffe

In attendance:

Mr P Walsh (Clerk), Cllr M Cummings, 1 member of the public

119 To receive apologies for absence – Cllr C Carlon (Institute of Quarrying meeting). The reasons for absence were **approved**. Cllr U Ali & PC Craig Steel, West Yorkshire Police.

120 To approve the minutes of the council meeting held on 5th March 2024

RESOLVED The minutes of the Parish Council meeting 5th March 2024 were **approved** as a correct record.

121 To receive declarations of interest – Cllr Saunders declared an interest in item 8, YLCA annual membership renewal (as vice chair of YLCA). This was noted.

122 To be advised of matters achieved or arisen since the last meeting not included elsewhere on the agenda

Two quotes have now been received from local legal firms for the preparation and execution of the lease of Jubilee Field to WUJFC. **RESOLVED** – to instruct the firm presenting the lower quote - Catteralls.

123 To receive a report from the Wakefield MDC Ward 5 councillors

- A member of public raised a question to Cllr Cummings about the future of Brook Farm now that the planning application on the site of Sandal's West Yorkshire Sports and Social Club has been withdrawn. Cllr Cummings reiterated that the land at Brook Farm is green belt and had been agricultural use. Recent considerations for future use were solar power and a football ground for Wakefield AFC but there is no intention for it to be used for residential development.
- Cllr Cummings was asked about the potential for traffic calming on The Balk and whether the data that Martin Barnes (Highways Manager, WMDC) promised in June 2023 can be interrogated to provide average speeds and traffic volume to support any claims for Highways involvement. Cllr Cummings promised to follow up directly with Mr Barnes for an answer
- Subject also to the response from Mr Barnes, Cllr Cummings recommended a 'Golden River' automatic traffic counter survey of the Balk and Walton and would also revisit the 20s Plenty speed limit protocol
- Cllr Cummings highlighted the use of 'Smiley Sids', a speed-indicating radar sign which some parish councils have used to record traffic speeds and suggested that these may be available through PC Steel

124 SAFE Scheme & Police matters - The latest report was reviewed. **RESOLVED** – To publish the report on the Parish Council website and Facebook

125 Public Forum – see 123 above

126 Finance & Governance

Accounts paid and already paid under delegated authority and income received in February 2024 were approved.

The Clerk submitted details for February 2024 of accounts paid totalling £5,792.10 and income received of £1,172.70.

The account balances at the end of February 2024 were: -

Barclays current	£11,015.18
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Barclays premium	£62.41
HSBC deposit	£1,008.57
Nationwide savings	<u>£104,938.59</u>
Total	<u>£117,024.75</u>

RESOLVED

To approve the renewal of the Parish Council insurance policies with Clear Insurance brokers as presented.

To progress the move to a .gov.uk domain to include Wakefield within the address to distinguish us from other Waltons.

To approve the SAFE Scheme funding for 2024-25 at £6,100.

To approve the Florals budget for 2024-25 at £6,720.

To amend Walton Parish Council Standing Orders to limit the length of full council meetings to 2.5 hours.

To approve the grass cutting and white lining SLA with WMDC back to 12 cuts for Walton Park for 2024-25.

To approve & pay the annual membership to YLCA of £829 for 2024-25.

To approve a grant in principle, if needed, for The Eco Council at Walton Primary Academy for litter picking kits subject to submission of the proper paperwork expected for a grant application.

(Cllr Nixon advised that free litter picking kits may be available from WMDC and would co-ordinate this).

127 Planning Committee Working Party

Recent planning applications were considered and noted.

24/00329/FUL 1no Dwelling & Assoc works – Land off School Lane, Walton – the Council had objected to this application in a previous format on the basis that there were both suitability and access issues. It will object again on the same terms

128 To receive reports and consider recommendations from working parties & any correspondence received

Village Hall & Coronation Cottage

Chair advised at the last meeting that two local contractors are to be engaged for the works needed to the village hall and Coronation Cottage roofs & the reported damp at Coronation Cottage. However, no further report on any action taken has been received by the clerk.

Clerk advised that the conifer in the front of Coronation Cottage has been felled.

Park & Jubilee Field

Tree WP confirmed that there is no opportunity for any pruning of the Stables line of trees in accordance with the last TPO instructions from WMDC.

RESOLVED

Iain Foster to be instructed to refurbish the Millenium Landmark benches as per his quote.

Parish environment

A structural engineer from WMDC has inspected Chippy Lane bridge and given it the all-clear.

Bus shelter needs a gutter and beam inspection and Iain Foster will be asked to quote. Woodwork to be painted.

Floral displays - 20 sponsors have paid to date

Communications

Clerk to write to Friends of Waterton’s Wall to congratulate them on their Historic England award of the wall grade II listed building status and the parkland (Waterton Park) added to the Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest (Grade II).

Tennis club refurbishment

No further news.

Correspondence Received

Clerk to respond to Heritage of Walton enquiry in line with engineers' report on Chippy Lane Bridge status.

In response to a query from a resident, the Clerk is to write to WMDC planning department to establish if the recent 'canopy' development in the courtyard of Charlie's Bar at Walton Hall is permitted/approved.

The meeting ended at 9.30pm.