

WALTON PARISH COUNCIL minutes

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 7th June 2016

Present: Cllrs: E Fairclough (Chairman), S Birkby, J Carlon, P Lee, H Massey, E Prince and K Shaw.

In attendance: Cllrs: M Cummings, F Heptinstall and A Manifold (WMDC), APS Matthew Jackson, 3 members of the Public & the Clerk to the Council.

24. To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from: Cllrs: C Pearson and T Saunders.

The Clerk announced that Councillor Graham Glenn has resigned from the Council and members asked that a letter of thanks be sent for his contribution to the Council.

25. To receive declarations of interest.

There were none.

26. To approve the minutes of the Annual Council meeting held on 3rd May 2016.

Resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 3rd May 2016 without amendment as a correct record.

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

There were none.

28. 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.

Sandra Carlon, representing Yorkshire Live Music Project C.I.C, gave background information for the agenda item about setting up a village Facebook link. Having lived in the village for 25 years, she is aware of the many activities now happening in the village organised by, amongst others, the Parish Council, the Library, the Churches, the Community Centre and the Working For Walton group. She sees the value of social media and feels that a village Facebook page could flag up all the diverse activities to residents, newcomers and visitors through a single portal.

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

APS Matthew Jackson reported there were 3 crimes in May including house burglary and damage to a shed and 7 calls of anti-social behaviour related to suspicious circumstances, public order and fly-tipping.

17.5 hours were worked in May under the SAFE scheme, 16.5 by Police Officers and 1 by PCSOs.

PC Laybourne submitted many traffic offence reports and issued several verbal warnings for speeding, mainly along Shay Lane. He patrolled Chevet Lane following a road accident and monitored indiscriminate parking along School Lane. He has now retired.

There were other patrols through the village.

Resolved to note the reports.

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30. To receive reports from WMDC Ward 5 Councillors.

Councillor Manifold reported that:

Road maintenance of Shay Lane will be done during the 2016/17 financial year, but there is still no precise date for when this will happen, and he noted that the Parish Council had not had a reply to its request for more information on timing.

WMDC will follow up the comment about ownership of the walls along Common Lane once they have the name of the contact at Network Rail.

In response to the request to remove the mini roundabout at the junction of Shay Lane with Cherry Tree Road, Highways Dept have said that the roundabout is part of traffic calming measures and there are no reports of any accidents associated with the roundabout. Removal of the roundabout would encourage even greater speeding along Shay Lane and would require consequent road repair for which there is nothing in the budget. The solution is to have the road markings around mini roundabouts improved and this has been organised.

Yorkshire Water have accepted their responsibility as one of the riparian owners for the land alongside Drain Beck and will arrange to clear the accumulated debris.

No further progress has been made regarding the dangerous road situation at the Common Lane/Chevet Lane crossroads, and Ward Councillors are going to raise the matter with the newly appointed cabinet member for transport, Cllr Matthew Morley, in light of the recent spate of accidents.

Councillor Cummings reported that:

She has received a response from the Public Rights of Way Manager, Virginia Moulton, to concerns about encroachment onto public land along the canal path. The issue was raised with the Property and Legal Services Dept of WMDC who have replied that the land affected is not in Council ownership. Highway powers only extend to the path itself, not the adjacent land. The matter has been passed to Planning Enforcement for further comment.

Ward Councillors attended a meeting to discuss the closure of Shay lane for sewer works at which it was stated that the works have been planned to take 6 weeks, but that it was hoped that they could be completed in less time. If, for any reason, the works overran the end of school holidays, the road would be re-opened until the next school holiday period. The position of transit buses during the works has still to be clarified.

The Brook Farm situation is still not clear and a solution to the financial and legal issues involved around the proposed scheme is being sought.

Councillors reported that a large branch has fallen in the Brooklands play area which needs removing.

Resolved:

- i to note the reports.
- ii that the Clerk seek clarification of the provision of transit buses during the closure of Shay Lane.

31. Finance & Governance

1. To approve accounts to be paid, already paid under delegated powers and income received May 2016.

The Clerk submitted details (copy attached to minutes) of accounts paid totalling £2,529.41 and income received of £2,017.00 for May.

The account balances at the end of May are:

Current a/c:	£3,919.71
Barclays Business Res a/c:	£28,828.20
HSBC deposit a/c:	<u>£15,053.89</u>
Total	£47,801.80

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Resolved: to approve the financial statements and payments.

32. To consider correspondence received.

Resolved:

- i to suggest to Neil Rodgers a meeting with Councillors to clarify his response that full weight will be given to the policies in the Neighbourhood Plan and the views of the Parish Council fully taken into account for relevant development in Walton Parish.
- ii to recommend to Richard Daley of Mullen Sculley Daly Ltd, who is dealing with the former Junior School site, that he use the Federation of Builders website to find a builder to deal with the wall and fencing.
- iii to implement The National Joint Council for Local Government Services (NJC) agreement to a 1% cost of living increase for clerks to local councils with effect from 01.04.16 and a further 1% increase to scales effective 01.04.17.
- iv to report the lack of visibility around the bend at School Lane to WMDC Highways Dept.
- v to reply to Walton Library that no acknowledgement is needed for the arrangement for free use of the Village Hall for the Open Garden event.
- vi to note other correspondence.

33. Planning Working Party.

1. To review planning applications validated and decided May 2016.

5 planning applications were validated and 2 decided since the last meeting.

Resolved:

- i to comment on application 16/01296/FUL at the New Inn that a Heritage Impact Assessment would be helpful because the application is within the Historic Core and the application should conform to Policy 4 (Historic Core) of the Neighbourhood Plan. This assessment should also include the Car Park.
- ii to comment on application 11/01749/SUB02 at The Grove as follows:
 - a. to ask the Planning Authority to write to affected residents of The Balk about the proposal to use The Balk as the access point for construction vehicles.
 - b. to investigate further the impact of the daily events at the Church, which has thriving social activities throughout the week, and of the fact that The Balk is used by parents parking to drop off children at The Academy which already causes blockages at school drop off and pick up time.
 - c. to put as a condition of approval that the current field access will be restored at the end of the construction period and that the road surface should be restored and any damage repaired at the end of the construction period.
 - d. to request that a contact number be provided for liaison to the site manager in the event of any problems during the construction phase.
 - e. to stress that wheel washing facilities are actively used and regular street cleaning takes place.
- iii to make no comment on the other validated applications.

2. To consider continued maintenance of the website and domain name for Neighbourhood Planning.

Resolved to continue maintenance of the website and domain name for three years at the least cost option.

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

1. To consider purchase of a new external Notice Board.

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Resolved to order a Notice Board from Greenbarnes Ltd at a cost of £2061.66 plus VAT and approx £30 for extra magnets and arrange for installation.

2. To consider a request to store room dividers in the Village Hall.

Resolved to allow the storage of room dividers in the Village Hall for the ballet classes.

35. Recreation & Playgrounds Working Party - to receive reports.

1. Report on the Title Deeds.

Councillor Carlon presented the various deeds which transferred title of the Recreation Ground to the Parish Council.

Resolved to contact YLCA with this information.

36. Environmental Improvements Working Party - to receive reports.

1. Dog fouling on paths being used for access to the Jubilee Field and a possible trip hazard.

Councillor Carlon reported on his visit to the Jubilee Field with the owner of adjacent land.

Resolved that the Parish Council has no objection to the end of the spur road being fenced off and marked as private property provided that appropriate assurances have been given to the owner that they have the right to do so and without prejudice to any existing rights of way that may subsequently be discovered.

2. Update on floral displays.

4 extra sponsorships were obtained since the last meeting, making a total of 38 displays in all, 3 more than originally planned. The displays are scheduled to be put up week commencing 13th June. There is an opportunity for still more displays next year.

Resolved to note the report.

37. Tree Working Party - to receive reports.

The diseased elm tree outside the Village Hall is scheduled to be felled during week commencing 13th June and this will require an emergency road closure during the day.

Resolved to note the report.

38. To consider cold calling control zones.

Resolved to advertise, using the Parish Council Facebook link, the ability to install cold calling control zones on a street by street basis and to seek co-ordinators who might follow this up.

39. To consider the installation of a defibrillator in the village.

Resolved not to follow up the suggestion of installing defibrillators because of the number that would be required to give coverage of the village and their cost.

40. To consider how to engage with the Working For Walton group.

Resolved to maintain contact with the Working For Walton group, and agree with their suggestion that a designated member of the Parish Council attend and represent the Council at relevant meetings of the group. Additionally, if there are any issues which

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need discussing by the Parish Council, to add them to the agenda of a forthcoming Council meeting.

41. To consider any involvement in the setting up of a "Walton Village" Facebook page.

The Parish Council, the Library and Working For Walton all have a Facebook link. It was recognised that maintaining a social media site and keeping up to date with all activities is an onerous task.

Resolved to monitor the success of Working For Walton group's Facebook site.

42. To consider grants to be awarded by the Parish Council.

Resolved to advertise the availability of £1000 of grants in the Walton column of the Wakefield Express and on the Parish Council website, with a deadline for applications in time to make decisions on them at the September meeting.

43. To consider the next steps for filling the casual vacancy.

Sandra Hardy, Electoral Services Manager, has advised that a further Notice has to be put up for the most recent vacancy and, providing no request for an election is received within 14 working days, the vacancy can be filled by co-option. This will coincide with the July meeting.

The two casual vacancies can then be advertised in the Wakefield Express with a closing date for applications three weeks later and a selection meeting to coincide with the September meeting.

Resolved to note the report.

44. To receive matters reported directly to the Clerk.

Nothing to report.

Meeting closed at 10.00 p.m.