

WALTON PARISH COUNCIL minutes

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 5th July 2016

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

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

45. To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from: Cllrs: S Birkby and T Saunders & F Heptinstall (WMDC).

46. To receive declarations of interest.

There were none.

47. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 7th June 2016.

Resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 7th June 2016 without amendment as a correct record.

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

There have been complaints via Facebook about uncut grass for example in the Nine Arches Bridge area. Councillor Cummings said that grass cuts have been reduced from 12 to 9 in the season.

A resident of Cherry Tree Crescent complained via Facebook that she cannot access a footpath because a car is parked on it. The matter was passed to Sgt Jackson to follow up.

49. 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.

A resident of Cherry Tree Road, who has lived there for 45 years, gave background information to his objection to application 16/01502/FUL pointing out the problems of overflowing sewerage during heavy rainfalls which would be exacerbated by more properties in the vicinity and that he believes the application contravenes the Walton Neighbourhood Plan.

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

APS Matthew Jackson reported there were no crimes in June and there were 2 calls of anti-social behaviour related to suspicious circumstances and fly-tipping.

7 hours were worked in June under the SAFE scheme, 4 by Police Officers and 3 by PCSOs.

Sgt Jackson explained that the low number of hours worked in June were due to the lack of availability of officers and he is actively trying to source new recruits to the scheme.

Resolved to note the reports.

51. To receive reports from WMDC Ward 5 Councillors.

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Councillor Cummings said that the Ward Councillors will object to application 16/01502/FUL and will request that the application goes to Planning Committee which would mean that Committee members will actually visit the site.

She reported that various issues raised by Councillor Birkby have all been resolved.

Councillor Cummings reported that Ward Councillors had a meeting with Kevin Fisher (Service Manager, Property & Facilities Services) about the Brook Farm development and registered their, and the Parish Council's, unhappiness about the way it is being dealt with. She believes a meeting will be arranged in the next two weeks with representatives of the Parish Council.

Councillor Cummings reported that Shay Lane will be closed from 20th July for six weeks for sewer works. Shuttle buses will be running.

Councillor Carlon arrived at this point in the meeting.

Councillors reported that fly tipping has occurred at the entrance to the Nature Park. Despite assurances that WMDC are taking enforcement action to cease the use of land at the caravan site on Oakenshaw Lane, people have still been seen sitting in the caravan on various occasions.

Councillor Manifold reported that WMDC have the information to follow up with Network Rail the comment about ownership of the walls along Common Lane and news is awaited.

He reported on a meeting with Andrew Skelton (WMDC Highways Dept) at which the dangerous road situation at the Common Lane/Chevet Lane crossroads was discussed. It appears that the number of accidents recorded is far fewer than the number known to have taken place.

The farmer responsible for the land alongside the road has been spoken to about removing hedges and trees to give better visibility and the situation will be monitored. A special road surface is also being investigated.

Discussions were held with Andrew Skelton about the development at The Grove and mention was made about permits and the access for construction vehicles along The Balk which Ward Councillors were unaware of.

Councillor Manifold reported that WMDC is chasing Yorkshire Water to clear the accumulated debris in Drain Beck alongside the land for which they have responsibility.

Resolved to note the reports.

52. Finance & Governance

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

The Clerk submitted details (copy attached to minutes) of accounts paid totalling £3,596.28 and income received of £3,305.90 for June.

The account balances at the end of June are:

Current a/c:	£3,626.21
Barclays Business Res a/c:	£28,831.32
HSBC deposit a/c:	<u>£15,053.89</u>
Total	£47,511.42

Resolved: to approve the financial statements and payments.

2. To consider re-investing current funds on deposit when the term expires.

Resolved to re-invest with HSBS the deposit and accumulated interest for a further year.

53. To consider correspondence received.

Resolved:

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- i to invite a representative of the Yorkshire Ambulance Service to come to the next meeting to give more information and answer questions about a defibrillator.
- ii to seek further information about a complaint concerning the potential closure of a footpath from the Manor Estate to the Jubilee Field.
- iii to note other correspondence.

Council resolved to bring forward agenda item 12.1 for discussion at this point.

54. Recreation & Playgrounds Working Party. To consider the response from YLCA concerning the Deeds.

Resolved to obtain quotes from various solicitors for drafting a letter which can be sent to all neighbours of the Recreation Ground regarding the restrictions to access it.

Councillor Carlon left the meeting at this point.

55. Planning Working Party. 1. To review planning applications validated and decided June 2016.

4 planning applications were validated and 1 decided since the last meeting.

Resolved:

- i to make the following comments on application 16/01502/FUL:
 - a) that there is local knowledge of problems with sewerage in the vicinity of 8, Cherry Tree Road. During heavy rainfalls, effluent overflows drains in the gardens and the drives of nearby properties and even back fills the toilets on the ground floors. Yorkshire Water are frequently having to be involved when these problems occur.
 - b) the Design and Access Statement included in the application does not provide the expected level of information and is felt to be inadequate in such matters as making reference to national and local planning policies and to the policies of the Walton Neighbourhood Plan.
 - c) the vernacular in the vicinity of 8, Cherry Tree Road is one of single storey dwellings and therefore ridge heights should be consistent with the immediate surrounding dwellings.
- iii to make no comment on the other validated applications.

2. To receive information about application 11/01749/SUB02 at The Grove and the arrangement of a meeting with Neil Rogers.

Resolved:

- i to write to Andrew Skelton (WMDC Highways dept) with the comments made at the June meeting to ensure he is aware of the concern of local residents and to seek his response.
- ii that Councillors Carlon, Lee and Massey and the Clerk attend a meeting with Neil Rogers on 22nd July about the implications of the adoption of the Neighbourhood Plan.

56. Village Hall and Coronation Cottage Working Party.

1. To consider purchasing shelving for the storage cupboard in the Village Hall.

Resolved to fully shelve the space and to purchase 2 x 3 bay shelving and 1 x 2 bay shelving from Tufferman at a total cost of £277.94 ex VAT.

2. To receive reports.

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The fire exit door, and its frame, at the north end of the Hall has been replaced. Now that the elm has been removed, work can be done on levelling the flagging outside the entrance to the Village Hall.

Resolved to order the replacement front door once the flagging has been levelled and to provide a list of current key holders for Council to determine the number of keys that should be ordered.

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

The goalmouth renovations of all sports pitches throughout the district will commence w/c 4th July and the WMDC team will cut back the overgrowing vegetation along the boundary with The Stables w/c 4th July.

Resolved to note the report.

58. Environmental Improvements Working Party - to receive reports.

1. To receive an update on the floral displays and sponsorship.

There is still a shortfall of three displays against the increased order for baskets and alternatives to the use of wrap around baskets by using hanging baskets with more than one plaque per lamp post will be suggested.

Resolved to note the report.

59. Tree Working Party - to receive reports.

The diseased elm tree outside the Village Hall was felled on 16th June.

Resolved to plant another oak tree in the Recreation Ground as a replacement.

60. To receive an update on Working for Walton.

The Chair reported on her attendance at the well attended AGM of Working for Walton. There are exciting plans being laid including a scarecrow festival and putting on events to fund the placing of a Christmas tree in the village.

Resolved to note the reports.

61. To consider the next steps for filling the two casual vacancies on the Council.

Resolved:

- i to place advertising posters around the village.
- ii to place advertisements in the Walton column of the Wakefield Express, on the Parish Council website and Facebook page.
- iii to ensure consistency of applications by having an application form with relevant questions and which requests confirmation of qualification to stand as a Councillor.
- iv to aim for a selection meeting at a time that allows prospective candidates to attend the Council meeting in September.

62. To receive matters reported directly to the Clerk.

It was reported that the War Memorial was recently steam cleaned, possibly as part of centenary commemorations, but it was not known by whom this was organised.

WMDC have been asked to replace the footpath sign, and the bin which was attached to it, at the entrance to 'Chippie Lane'.

Resolved to note the reports.

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Meeting closed at 9.10 p.m.