

WALTON PARISH COUNCIL minutes

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 4th October 2016

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

In attendance: Cllr M Cummings (WMDC), APS M Jackson & the Clerk to the Council.

The Chair welcomed Councillors Karen Rolinson and Chris Wagstaff onto the Council.

87. To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from: Cllrs: C Pearson & F Heptinstall and A Manifold (WMDC).

88. To receive declarations of interest.

There were none.

89. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 6th September 2016.

Resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 6th September 2016 without amendment as a correct record.

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

There were none.

91. 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.

There were none.

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

APS Matthew Jackson reported 1 crime in September involving burglary and 4 calls of anti-social behaviour involving motor vehicles, fly tipping and dog fouling.

8 hours were worked in September under the SAFE scheme, 5 by Police Officers and 3 by PCSOs. APS Matt Jackson was aware that not many hours were worked on the SAFE scheme in September and he is addressing the issue.

The burglary, and some of the anti-social behaviour, involved people taking motor scooters or motor bikes. There appears to be a gang working in the area. Unfortunately, the police are unable to chase suspects because doing so might cause them to have an accident which could become the police's responsibility. APS Jackson alerted Councillors to the issue and asked for any sightings of bikes being taken, or bikes being hidden, to be reported.

Councillors reported a possible vagrant living rough on the public footpath near Common Lane accessed by the 'Tin Bridge'.

Resolved to note the reports.

93. To receive reports from WMDC Ward 5 Councillors.

Councillor Cummings reported that WMDC would not consider removing the mini roundabout at the junction of Cherry Tree Road with Shay Lane because this would encourage speeding.

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She reported that a new timetable has been issued for the 193 bus service which impacts on people travelling to work in Barnsley, or for those south of Ryhill wanting to get into Wakefield.

Some of the overhanging vegetation has been cleared both on Oakenshaw Lane and on Shay Lane near Nine Arches Bridge but Councillor Cummings feels this has not been done satisfactorily and will follow up further.

She will also follow up the loss of the footpath sign and the bin at the bend on School Lane.

Councillor Cummings congratulated those involved in organising the Scarecrow Festival, which she said was excellent.

She said that there is a capital sum available from WMDC for allocation to each Ward and she would welcome suggestions of what to spend it on in Walton, for example on variable message traffic signs (VMS), but would need to know very quickly.

Councillors reported parking problems at Crofton School and that the posts carrying the road sign for High Meadows have rotted and the sign is leaning over.

Resolved:

- i to send a photo of the rotting signpost to Councillor Cummings.
- ii to note the reports.

94. Finance & Governance

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

The Clerk reported he has been notified by Barclays Bank that from 5th December, no interest will be earned on the Premium Account (currently 0.05%).

The Clerk submitted details (copy attached to minutes) of accounts paid totalling £2,492.38 and income received of £17,701.42 (including a precept amount of £17,000) for September.

The account balances at the end of September are:

Current a/c:	£2,233.24
Barclays Business Res a/c:	£35,834.52
HSBC deposit a/c:	<u>£15,129.36</u>
Total	£53,197.12

Resolved: to approve the financial statements and payments.

95. To consider correspondence received.

Resolved:

- i that the Clerk make an appropriate response to the proposals regarding council tax referendum principles in the consultation on the Local Government Finance Settlement.
- ii to note other correspondence.

96. Planning Working Party.

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

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

Resolved to make no comment on the validated applications.

2. To receive a report on a meeting with WMDC Planning Officers.

Councillor Lee reported that he, Councillor Carlon and the Clerk met with the planning team leader dealing with Walton planning applications and two conservation officers to discuss how they take the policies of the Neighbourhood Plan into account.

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Councillor Lee used recent examples of applications in the Historic Core and Councillor Carlton used an example of the discharge of conditions for the application at The Grove as illustrations. Conservation Officers will be involved if the application is adjacent to a listed building or involves a listed building. In other cases, they will be consulted at the discretion of the planning officer concerned.

Resolved that the Clerk seek clarification of which category of planning applications the Parish Council will be asked to respond to as a consultee.

97. **Village Hall and Coronation Cottage Working Party.**

A survey of the roofs of the Village Hall, Coronation Cottage and Tennis Pavilion has been carried out with an estimate of £320 for re-bedding of ridge tiles and replacement of broken tiles and pointing.

The area in front of the Village Hall has been sprayed for weeds and steam cleaned.

Redundant stuff in the cellar has been cleared out and the Caretaker put some of it on a skip he had ordered for his own purposes.

Resolved:

- i to instruct the roofing work.
- ii to contribute 50% to the cost of the skip.

98. **Recreation & Playgrounds Working Party - to receive reports.**

Refurbishment of the roundabout by WMDC is still awaited. The annual inspection was due to be carried out in the last two weeks of September and a report is awaited.

1. **To consider further advice about the boundary of the Recreation Ground.**

An estimate of £700 from Jordans solicitors has been received for advice on various questions regarding the Recreation Ground boundary situation.

Resolved to proceed with getting answers to the questions raised and, additionally, to request a letter which can be used to demonstrate the definitive position.

99. **Environmental Improvements Working Party - to receive reports.**

1. **To receive an update on Risk Assessments.**

Resolved that Councillors Saunders and Carlton will arrange to carry out the risk assessments between them.

2. **Capital sum offered by Ward Councillors.**

The Parish Council discussed the offer of a capital sum for projects in Walton.

Resolved to request two VMS signs:

- 1) on Shay Lane coming into Walton from Crofton. Sign to be sited near the entrance to Brook Farm.
- 2) on Common Lane, going north. Sign to be sited before the junction with Shay Lane.

100. **Tree Working Party - to receive reports.**

There were none.

101. **To consider acquiring a defibrillator for the village.**

Resolved not to proceed at this time.

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102. To receive a report from Working for Walton.

Councillor Rolinson reported that the Scarecrow Festival worked better than was expected with over 60 exhibitors and is expected to raise in the region of £3,000. The intention is to repeat the event next year and to learn from any mistakes that might have been made.

Two Christmas trees have been donated one of which would be installed outside the Village Hall with an offer of free electrical work to connect the Christmas lights. A switching on ceremony is planned for 1st December with a road closure proposed for the event. Public liability insurance will be covered.

There will also be a Craft Fair and a Beer Festival with accompanying brass band. Other projects are being considered, for example buying a set of goalposts for the Brooklands area.

The Working for Walton group recognise that the relationship with the Parish Council is key and banners will state events are supported by Walton Parish Council.

Resolved to allow Working for Walton the use of the Village Hall free of charge on four weekends in the year.

103. To receive matters reported directly to the Clerk.

There were none.

Meeting closed at 9.20 p.m.