

# WALTON PARISH COUNCIL minutes

## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> April 2017

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

**In attendance:** Cllr. M Cummings and F Heptinstall (WMDC), APS Matt Jackson, 2 members of the public & the Clerk to the Council.

**188. To receive apologies for absence.**

Apologies were received from Cllrs: C Wagstaff and A Manifold (WMDC).

**189. To receive declarations of interest.**

There were none.

**190. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 7<sup>th</sup> March 2017.**

**Resolved** to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> March 2017 without amendment as a correct record.

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

There were none.

**192. 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.

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

APS Matthew Jackson reported that there were 4 crimes in March involving burglary, fraud and criminal damage. There were 5 calls for anti-social behaviour involving suspicious behaviour.

27 hours were worked in March under the SAFE scheme, 21 by Police Officers and 6 by PCSOs. APS Jackson said he has been able to recruit some new officers to the scheme.

Patrols worked on the SAFE scheme throughout the village reassuring residents about suspicious activity and checking vehicle speeds. APS Jackson is investigating possible links between the burglary and the suspicious activity. There were also patrols along the canal and in the Nature Park to counteract off road motorbikes.

**Resolved** to note the reports.

**194. To receive reports from WMDC Ward 5 Councillors.**

Councillor Cummings reported that WMDC is still trying to liaise with Network Rail about the flooding of water off the land on Shay Lane near the Nine Arches Bridge.

She reported on the meeting about Brook Farm between WMDC and Parish Council representatives where the subject of the provision of allotments was discussed together with the allocation of a capital sum for local sports facilities which will be overseen by the Service Director for Sport and Culture.

Because the area allocated for the allotments is subject to flooding, an alternative of a Community Benefit is being investigated.

Hard standing has been laid at the entrance to the development to meet the criteria that the development needs to start within three years of the application approval. She

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does not anticipate any agreement about the housing development on Walton Lane for some time.

There has been a letter drop on Oakenshaw Lane as part of consultation on the siting of the 2 VMS signs.

**Resolved** to note the reports.

### 195. Finance & Governance

#### 1. To approve accounts to be paid, already paid under delegated powers and income received March 2017.

The Clerk submitted details (copy attached to minutes) of accounts paid totalling £7,513.67 and income received of £5,276.14 (which includes the VAT reclaim) in March. The account balances at the end of March, which is the end of the financial year, are:

Current a/c:	£5,631.42
Barclays Business Res a/c:	£17,338.54
HSBC deposit a/c:	<u>£15,129.36</u>
Total	£38,099.32

**Resolved:** to approve the financial statements and payments.

#### 2. To consider renewal of the subscription to YLCA: £715.00 (last year £697.00).

**Resolved** to continue the subscription to YLCA.

#### 3. To consider the carry over figure and contribution to the SAFE scheme for 2017/18.

WY Police reported that the amount spent on the SAFE scheme in 2016/17 is £4296.00 yielding a carry over figure of £2,204.00.

**Resolved** to contribute £6,000 to the SAFE scheme for 2017/18 and use the carryover figure of £2,204 as part of the contribution.

#### 4. To authorise the Clerk to change the address of the Parish Council on Land Registry records and to be the nominated person to liaise with the Council's banks.

Land Registry need authorisation from the Parish Council and a certificate of identity of the person changing any details.

The Council's Banks will require a mandate that the new Clerk is authorised to act on its behalf.

**Resolved:**

- i to authorise the new Clerk to change the address on Land Registry deeds on behalf of the Parish Council and to provide a certificate of identity.
- ii to authorise the new Clerk to act on behalf of the Parish Council with its banks.

#### 5. To review the system of Internal Control and its effectiveness.

The Clerk circulated with the agenda an updated Statement of Internal Control for Councillors to review in preparation for being able to sign the Annual Governance Statement.

**Resolved:** to approve the circulated Statement of Control with an amendment for reference to be added on the use of a debit card.

#### 6. To receive a draft Budget Monitor for the year 2016/17.

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The Clerk presented a Budget Monitor showing the draft (unaudited) final figures for the year 2016/17 compared with the budget and the forecast figures (as used in preparing the budget for 2017/18). The actual figures for 2015/16 and the budget for 2017/18 were also shown for comparison.

The draft figures show that receipts exceeded payments by £1,200 in the year and explanations of how this varied from the forecast were noted in the monitor.

**Resolved** to receive the Budget Monitor.

### 196. To consider correspondence received.

**Resolved:**

- i to respond to the person complaining about traffic and parking problems on The Grove, copying in the Ward Councillors, SAFE scheme police officers and the Head Teacher and combining this with a request to the Head Teacher to remind parents to use the Walking Bus Scheme.
- ii to note other correspondence.

Councillor K Rolinson left the meeting at this point.

### 197. Planning Working Party.

#### 1. To consider planning applications validated and decided March 2017.

5 applications have been validated and 1 decided since the last meeting.

**Resolved:**

- i to comment on application 17/00653/TPO that the existing boundary fence stands back from the public footpath to create a sightline enabling vehicles to safely exit Oaklands Croft on to The Balk and that the Parish Council believes this was a condition of the planning consent for the construction of the 7 houses and bungalows in Oaklands Croft.

This sightline is mirrored on the opposite side of the Oaklands Croft exit, adjacent to the side garden of No1 Oaklands Croft and the Parish Council is concerned that the building of a new boundary wall closer to The Balk will have adverse highways safety implications.

- ii not to comment on the other applications.

#### 2. To receive reports on the Brook Farm development.

Councillor Lee reported on the meeting with WMDC, re-iterating Councillor Cummings' earlier report (min 194) at which it was agreed that any money earmarked for local sports clubs will be apportioned appropriately to Walton, so an impact assessment and statement needs to be formulated accordingly. He also reported that because the demand for allotments may be satisfied by the development at The Grove, and because the area allocated for the allotments at Brook Farm is subject to flooding, an alternative to the provision of allotments at Brook Farm by means of a Community Benefit is being investigated.

There is tension between WMDC's policy on affordable housing for the Walton Lane site and their aim of maximising revenue, so it is likely it will be some time before anything happens.

**Resolved** to note the report.

#### 3. To receive reports on the planning application at The Grove.

Councillor Lee reported he and Councillors Fairclough and Shaw attended a meeting with a representative of Keepmoat who is minded to sponsor a scheme for pupils at the school to name the streets in the development. There will hopefully be a prize for the

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successful pupils and thought needs to be given to the sort of event at which the prizes might be presented.

Councillor Lee reported he has received the names of two people he can liaise with on the development project.

**Resolved** to note the report.

#### **4. To consider projects listed in the Neighbourhood Plan.**

**Resolved** to defer the topic to a future meeting.

#### **198. Village Hall and Coronation Cottage Working Party - to receive reports.**

The two defective gas heaters in the Hall have been replaced.

**Resolved:**

- i to purchase a platform for the Groundsman to use while cutting hedges
- ii to risk assess the operation of hedge cutting.

#### **199. Recreation & Playgrounds Working Party.**

##### **1. To receive a report on Risk Assessments.**

The Risk Assessment of the Recreation Ground, Playground and Tennis Club area has been carried out with some minor actions required.

**Resolved** to implement the actions identified.

##### **2. To consider an offer to upgrade the older basketball hoop.**

A resident has offered to contribute to making the old basketball post conform to appropriate training standards.

**Resolved** to consider the situation once costs for repair and possible alteration of the newer basketball post are known.

#### **200. Environmental Improvements Working Party - to receive reports.**

##### **1. Update on licensing of floral basket displays for 2017.**

WMDC have issued more stringent requirements for the hanging of the floral baskets, and some previously allocated lampposts have been designated as 'unapproved'.

**Resolved** Councillors Fairclough and Shaw will review the allocation of the lampposts.

#### **201. Tree Working Party - to receive reports.**

The Working party has met to discuss the tree survey carried out in November.

**Resolved:**

- i that the Groundsman be asked to clear some branches around the Recreation Ground that are impeding walkers.
- ii to arrange a meeting with Altofts to discuss the report.

#### **202. To review the draft minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting April 2016.**

The draft minutes were circulated with the agenda in preparation for the Annual Parish Meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2017.

**Resolved** to note the contents of the minutes.

#### **203. To receive matters reported directly to the Clerk.**

The Clerk reported receiving a complaint about fires being started on the School Lane allotments just after washing had been hung out to dry. The Clerk passed this complaint

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to the Chairman of the Allotment Society who has met with the person complaining.

**204. Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 s 1(2).**

**In view of the confidential nature of the business concerned, to resolve to exclude Press and Public to consider staffing matters.**

**Resolved** to appoint the new Clerk to take up the position from 6<sup>th</sup> April 2017 and so provide a hand over period with the current Clerk.

Meeting closed at 9.50 p.m.