

WALTON PARISH COUNCIL minutes

Minutes of the Parish Council Extraordinary Meeting held on 12th January 2018

Present: Cllrs: E Fairclough (Chair), K Shaw, H Massey, P Lee, C Pearson, K Rolinson, C Wagstaff and T Saunders.

In attendance: Clerk to the Council.

01. To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Cllr J Carlon.

02. To receive declarations of interest.

None.

03. To consider a proposal by Berkeley Deveer Ltd to erect two permanent fences on either side of the boundary walls to the School Lane development.

Councillors undertook a site visit on the recreation ground to view the boundary walls between the recreation ground and the School Lane development then returned to resume the meeting at the Village Hall. Cllr Massey confirmed the developer was proposing to erect a 4-metre timber fence on their side of the boundary walls and an additional 1.8m green wire fence be erected on our side of the boundary.

The office copy relating to the recreation ground shows the boundary line but makes no reference to the brick walls. Cllr Massey informed the Parish Council the developers contracts manager was of the view the brick wall adjacent to the basketball pitch belonged to the Parish Council. Cllrs believed the wall transferred ownership to the developer when WMDC sold the former junior school site. The type of brick and style of the wall, which follows around the corner and formed part of the junior school building supports this together with the fact that when the mural was painted on the wall facing towards the playground, the Parish Council had to obtain consent from WMDC.

Concern was expressed any movement to erect a fence could displace the brick wall which appeared to be holding up our land. Cllr P Lee suggested any new fence would need to be ½ metre before the brick wall essentially conceding a foot of land to the new residents. Cllr H Massey commented this would be the better option for the Parish Council going forwards whilst obtaining a new free fence. Concerns were expressed that new residents could take down a timber fence on their side to access the recreation ground directly from their land, which has been a significant problem in the past. A 1.8 metre metal fence on the recreation ground would make the Parish Council's land more secure.

Cllr P Lee commented the brick wall adjacent to the basketball pitch appeared to be shifting and needs to be taken off ½ metre from the top. It was agreed the stability and repair of the brick wall adjacent to the basketball pitch was more pressing and a request would be made in writing for the developer to fully repair this brick wall.

Cllr H Massey proposed if the developer agreed to repair the wall, the Parish Council should accept the proposal as offered with the Parish Council being responsible for maintenance, so the site could be secured. A councillor expressed concern regarding the Parish Council being responsible maintenance of the fence going forward. A vote took place with 5 votes in favour of the proposal, 3 against and 1 abstain.

Discussions ensued regarding the request for access via the gate on 'The Stables'. It was agreed access will be granted for small vans, not wagons, to deliver materials for the fence and filling in the stairwell only on the grounds they rectify any damage caused to the ground.

The Chair raised the request for parking at the Village Hall. The developer has requested 5/10 carpark spaces for contractors to park from 7.30am to 4.30pm Monday to Friday in return for a donation. It was agreed this could not be offered as the hall's carpark only has limited spaces for use by the hirers of the hall.

Resolved

- (i) to write to the developer requesting confirmation they will fully repair the brick wall adjacent to the basketball pitch;

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- (ii) if the brick wall is to be repaired in a manner reached by mutual agreement, to agree to the proposal to erect a 1.8m green wire fence along the boundary walls between the two sites;
- (iii) to allow access via the recreation ground gate off 'The Stables' for deliveries for the erection of the fence and filling the stairwell between the basketball pitch and the developer's site;
- (iv) to decline the request for carpark spaces at the Village hall on the grounds these were to be made available to hirers of the hall.

Meeting closed at 12.05 p.m.