

WALTON PARISH COUNCIL minutes

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 6th February 2018

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

In attendance: Cllrs: M Cummings, Sgt Matt Jackson, five members of the public & the Clerk to the Council.

140. To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Cllrs: C Wagstaff, T Saunders, F Heptinstall and A Manifold (WMDC)

141. To receive declarations of interest.

Cllrs K Rolinson, H Massey and E Fairclough declared an interest in agenda item 17.1 as the contractors are known to them.

142. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 2nd January 2018.

Resolved to approve the minutes of both parts of the meeting held on 2 January 2018 without amendment as a correct record.

143. Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 s1(2) – In view of the confidential nature of the business concerned, to resolve to exclude the Press and Public to approve the minutes of the meetings held on 12th January 2018.

Resolved:

- (i) to approve the minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on 12th January 2018
- (ii) to move the agenda item to number 19 if members of the public were still present.

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

None.

145. 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.

None.

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

Sgt Matthew Jackson reported 5 hours were worked in January 2018. There was 1 burglary and 1 deception crime reported, 3 vehicle nuisance incidents but 2 of these were by the same person(s).

The burglary relates to suspect(s) breaking a vehicle window parked within a garage and taking selected items. Incident appears to be isolated.

The deception crime relates to a bogus caller who offered to do work for a resident which was never completed. The suspects return to request more money to be paid upfront with no intention of completing the work.

The vehicle nuisance incidents relate to individuals on motorbikes with no helmets and probably no licences riding around the park and on pavements. A description of the young males has been given. The third vehicle nuisance incident relates to a group of individuals playing loud music late at night on Walton Lane. Remainder issues relate to dog fouling at various locations and fly tipping on Shay Lane and Oakenshaw Lane.

The Chair conveyed a residents' concerns about the number of vehicles parking on footpaths on Greenside and School Lane which is blocking access for pedestrians with pushchairs.

Resolved to note the reports.

147. To receive an update on Walton Community Library (WCL).

WALTON PARISH COUNCIL minutes

Cllr J Carlon reported the School/WAT have offered a 5-year lease for a modular building to be erected on their land which is not viable for WCL's purposes. The Chair of WCL is continuing to meet with the CEO of the WAT and hoping to meet with the Headteacher to progress matters however WCL feel they are now at an impasse.

Discussions ensued as to whether WMDC can press the WAT/School to provide an area of land to WMDC to lease direct to WCL. A Councillor noted WMDC received a significant sum of capital when the School was leased by WMDC and one of the conditions was for the library to be accommodated. The Chair to WCL confirmed enquiries are being made to obtain information about the transfer of land from WMDC to the School. Discussions took place on whether the Department of Education could intervene, however this has already been investigated by one of the trustees to WCL who was referred to the School Funding agency although they appear reluctant to get involved given this is a civil matter.

The Chair of WCL reported a public meeting had been scheduled but this was postponed and a new date to be arranged pending availability from Jon Trickett. Cllr Cummings informed any public meeting will need to be held before 26 March 2018 due to the forthcoming elections.

Resolved for the Parish Council to seek a meeting with the Chair of the WAT and the Chair of Governors to discuss their offer of the 5-year lease.

148. To receive reports from WMDC Ward 5 Councillors.

Cllr M Cummings of WMDC reported: -

- she will make enquiries with WMDC on the possibility of offering a lease direct to WCL;
- the Parish Council had a positive meeting with Jane Hunt and Cllr Les Shaw;
- one VMS was now working but the other is not which she will chase;
- she was aware of an issue with cars parking on footpaths on Greenside and School Lane which she will investigate.

Resolved to note the reports.

149. To receive update on the Brook Farm development following meeting with Cllr Les Shaw and Jane Hunt of WMDC.

The Chair conveyed a resident's concerns that the footpath on Greenside leading to the bus shelter was untidy due to moles digging holes, naturally subsiding and the curb edge was missing. The Clerk reported a resident had raised concerns that HGV's carrying loads more than the limits specified were using Oakenshaw Lane. Cllr Cummings noted the concerns to investigate.

The Chair reported following the meeting with Cllr Les Shaw at WMDC the sum of money available to the Parish Council instead of any proposed allotments at Brook Farm appeared to be in the region of £50,000 to £60,000. It was indicated the monies should be allocated to projects listed within the Neighbourhood Plan with a preference on outdoor/sporting pursuits.

One of the projects listed on the Neighbourhood Plan was the footpath link up to the colliery site, which the Parish Council intended to move to make it safer and more accessible for walkers and cyclists with a trail finders board. Cllr Lee noted the requirement to spend monies on outdoor pursuits was more prescriptive than previously indicated and said that the Parish Council should collectively consider its priorities in relation to spending the money allocated by WMDC. The Chair noted planning permission will be required and Cllr Les Shaw of WMDC expressed the cost of this should be met by the monies from Brook Farm rather than the precept in the event it was refused. The Chair advised a sub-committee to be formed to cost the project but that the sum would not be spent entirely on this project. Cllr K Shaw commented that Cllr Les Shaw would be on the committee deciding how much money was allocated to the Parish Council and he was more favourable to projects with an outdoor and sporting element. The Chair raised the playground as another potential project which required funding.

Cllr J Carlon reported Walton Sports Club has prepared an impact assessment but a few changes are required. The Chair reported Persimmon are due to agree and finalise matters by October 2018.

WALTON PARISH COUNCIL minutes

Resolved to form a sub-committee to include Cllrs E Fairclough, K Shaw and K Rolinson to obtain costings from a Highway Consultant on moving the footpath.

150. Finance & Governance

1. To approve accounts to be paid, already paid under delegated powers and income received January 2018.

The Clerk submitted details (copy attached to minutes) of accounts paid totalling £8,724.09 and income received of £1,003.75 in January 2018.

The account balances at the end of January are:

Current a/c:	£3,338.65
Barclays Business Res a/c:	£14,197.43
HSBC deposit a/c:	<u>£40,145.02</u>
Total	£57,681.10

Resolved: to approve the financial statements and payments.

2. To receive an asset register with valuations and insurance renewal quotations for review and consideration.

The Clerk reported the issue of adding the stone bus shelter to the Parish Council's insurance policy with a reinstatement value of £30,000 was deferred until it was time for the policy renewal. A quote has now been obtained for annual renewal to include the bus shelter and one excluding it.

Resolved

- (i) to add the bus shelter when the insurance policy is renewed;
- (ii) approve the quote of £1,754.68 under the three-year long-term agreement;
- (iii) to approve the asset register pending confirmation the values will be index-linked.

151. To consider correspondence received.

Resolved:

- (i) To decline a request for hire of the hall by a regular hirer over the weekend for children's cookery workshops for financial reasons, potential damage to the hall, increased risk of injury to children and to allow the Caretaker to have a day off;
- (ii) To reinforce to regular hirers that the Committee Room is to be kept tidy;
- (iii) For the Clerk to enquire about the cost of introducing a No Cold Calling Zone around School Lane following the recent bogus caller crime reported and to forward to Cllr S Birkby to discuss with residents;
- (iv) To respond to a resident who has raised concerns regarding an overhanging tree, on the Recreation ground over her property, to refrain from taking any action given the tree is subject to a Tree Preservation Order pending a tree survey which is awaited;
- (v) to note other correspondence.

152. Planning Working Party.

1. To consider planning applications validated and decided January 2018.

There have been 4 applications for Walton validated and 1 application decided since the last meeting.

Resolved:

- (i) To comment on application 17/03070/FUL – 9 The Balk
The Parish Council has noted a Heritage Impact Statement has been submitted but this makes no reference to Policy 4 of the Neighbourhood Plan. The Parish Council requests confirmation that all requirements within Policy 4 will be complied with. Furthermore, the Parish Council's preference for all elevations to be in stone.
- (ii) To object to application 18/00095/FUL – 6 Woodyard Cottages on the following grounds: -
 - The proposed plans are an overdevelopment of the site

WALTON PARISH COUNCIL minutes

- The proposed front and rear dormer windows are visually imposing and over dominant on the street scene. The dormers disturb the regular form and uniform rooflines of Walton Woodyard Cottages and the other dwellings on the street.
- (iii) To note the remaining validated and decided applications.

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

1. To arrange risk assessments of the Village Hall and car park.

Cllr J Carlon commented the gullies at the Village Hall were blocked.

Resolved to request the Caretaker to clean the gullies at the Hall out and to arrange the risk assessment with the working party.

2. To agree the date of holiday closures of the Village Hall.

Resolved to close the hall from Saturday 28th July to Friday 3rd August 2018 to allow for caretakers' holiday and any works to be completed.

3. To receive quotes for schedule of works identified following the risk assessment of Coronation Cottage.

The Clerk conveyed a quote was obtained for £400 plus VAT for the re-flagging and pointing of brickwork.

Resolved: to approve the quote and to progress the work to be completed.

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

1. **Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 s1(2) – In view of the confidential nature of the business concerned, to resolve to exclude the Press and Public to consider correspondence received about the Recreation Ground boundary walls to the School Lane development.**

Resolved:

- (i) To write to the developer in response to matters raised regarding the boundary walls.
- (ii) To write to WMDC with enquires on boundary walls.
- (iii) To write to Land Registry regarding the boundary walls.

2. **To receive the Annual Inspection report regarding the playground equipment, consider a quote by Kompan for the replacement of the playground equipment and to consider funding options.**

The Clerk reported the Annual Playground inspection has been received from WMDC identifying some work was required to repair the surfacing and the yellow slide. Enquiries have been made with WMDC as to whether they can complete the work to the slide. Councillor Shaw suggested we request a meeting with the Street Scene Manager on site to discuss the remainder issues identified.

A councillor commented the Parish Council has money in reserves for replacing playground equipment and this should now be considered as the equipment is not in satisfactory condition. The key pieces that require immediate attention are the slides, rockers, seesaw and yellow slide. It is believed these could not be claimed under insurance as they are the subject of wear and tear.

The Clerk advised an application can be submitted to WREN for grant funding in the first instance as the Parish Council are eligible to apply for a full refurbishment and four quotes have been obtained. The Parish Council would not be eligible for partial projects and sought funding to complete in stages. The Clerk noted a Contributory Third Party (CTP) was required to provide funding of 10.75% shortfall as WREN would only fund 89.25%. This could be the local authority.

WALTON PARISH COUNCIL minutes

Resolved:

- (i) The Clerk to apply to WREN for grant funding;
- (ii) To ask WMDC if they will provide 10.75% funding.

155. Environmental Improvements Working Party - to receive reports.

The Clerk noted the new bench has now been installed opposite the golf club and is being advertised on the website for sponsorship.

The Clerk put forward a quote of £80 plus VAT to replace each of the four metal village signs with a stone cast bearing the name of the village laser-cut within it.

Resolved: to approve the cost of £80 plus VAT for each of the four signs.

156. Tree Working Party - to receive reports.

The Clerk commented the tree survey is still awaited which has been promised next week.

Resolved to chase the report until received.

157. New website working party – to receive reports.

1.To consider quotes and recommendation for supplier for a new website.

The working party met to discuss the quotes and whilst the cheapest quote is £900 plus VAT, Shackleton Rollin who were the designers for the Neighbourhood Plan website have reduced their quote to £1,000 plus VAT. This supplier already has access to a great deal of the content and images as they host the WNP website which will need to be added to the new website. It is therefore recommended the Parish Council engage this supplier for the redesign of the new website. Mock-ups will be provided however it is envisaged the website will be similar to WNP site.

Resolved: to engage Shackleton Rollin to re-design the website at a cost of £1,000 plus VAT.

158. To consider the format of the Annual Parish Meeting.

To adopt the same format as last year for the Annual Parish Meeting except for an update on the Neighbourhood Plan which can be incorporated as part of the Chairman's Statement.

Resolved: to approve the same agenda except for an update on the Neighbourhood Plan.

159. To receive matters reported directly to the Clerk.

None.

Meeting closed at 10.30 p.m.