

Present

Cllr J Carlon (Chair)

Cllr G Newby

Cllr S Baker

Cllr S Leith

Cllr K Nixon

Cllr T Saunders

Cllr C Pearson

Cllr T Earnshaw

In attendance

Mr P Walsh (Clerk)

Cllr M Cummings, Wakefield

8 members of the public

257. To receive apologies for absence and approve reasons for absence

Cllr W Parker

PC Craig Steel, West Yorkshire Police

258. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 1st November 2022

RESOLVED: To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 1 November 2022 as a true and correct record with the following amendments:-

237 delete 'ber 2022' in line 1

242.4 delete 'Total Employment Costs'

242.4 Item 6 That the council's General Power of Competence is valid until 4 May 2023

244 The version of Microsoft 365 purchased was 'Personal'

All matters arising are covered in the meeting's agenda items.

259. To receive declarations of interest

None

260. Following a proposal by Cllr Carlon, it was resolved to suspend standing orders so that an additional agenda item could be added to authorise the terms and conditions of employment of the new Clerk

Cllr Earnshaw proposed that item 10 Planning Committee be moved up the agenda as there were members of the public in attendance for that item.

261. Public forum

A member of the public voiced objections to planning application 22/02182/FU. This is an application to extend a bungalow into a 4/6 bedroom 2-storey property at 62 Oakenshaw Lane and would overlook her parents' property and be a significant detriment to the enjoyment of their own property.

The council was asked for an update on the football pitch at Jubilee Fields. Cllr Carlon responded saying that a report is expected by Feb 2023.

A grant of £795 has been paid to Walton Juniors football and this was confirmed by Cllr Baker.

A member of the public & near neighbour asked about the New Inn and stated that their recent application to play music at outside events on Sundays had now been expanded to include 'everything'. Chair & council advised that a greater assessment of the impact needed to be explored.

262. SAFE scheme

This report had not arrived at the time of the meeting.

263. To receive a report from the Wakefield MDC Ward councillors

- Cllr Carlon asked for an update on VMS. Cllr Cummings advised (& subsequently by email) that installation of the VMS was due to start by 22 December 2022
- Cllr Cummings advised that Martin Barnes had now taken on the Highways officer role at WMDC previously held by Graham West
- Cllr Carlon asked about tipping in the field entrance at Oakenshaw Lane near the Country Park car park & if the council enforcement team could investigate. Cllr Cummings to respond at the next meeting

264. To receive reports and consider recommendations from working parties

Updates from working parties provided:-

Floral Display – The amount of sponsorship to be requested for 2023 needs to be determined. The Florals working party were asked to draw up a proposal based on the forecast costs from First Impressions. Proposal expected by January 2023

Communications – Articles for publication needed including introductions to Cllr Earnshaw & the new Clerk, results of the tennis court consultation, response to Xmas trees/Florals & a summary of the council's 2023/24 financial plan. Additional content was invited.

Tennis Club – Cllr Saunders to arrange a working party to review the results of the consultation & report to the council

Village Hall & Coronation Cottage – Cllr Carlon to update risk assessment. Clerk to speak to Caretaker about fixing dripping tap & any other remedial work to be addressed e.g. steps at rear emergency door, render at entrance & faulty gas heater in committee room. Following the meeting, Caretaker fixed the gas heater by clearing the flue

Staffing Committee – With the appointment of the new Clerk, this item was deleted

265. To consider planning applications validated and decided in November 2022

See earlier under 256.

Council has provided written responses to 22/02182/FU re 62 Oakenshaw Lane & Planning Reference Number 20/01369 – New Inn Walton.

In the case of 22/02182/FU, Walton Parish council supported the objections raised.

In the case of 20/01369, Walton Parish Council raised concerns about the plans (and had done previously in October 2022) and had now asked the planning committee for clarification of the exact area available for live music.

Members of the Public left at 8pm

266. Finance

October 2022 bank reconciliation

Accounts paid totalled £12,252.99 and income received totalled £4,457.80. The account balances at the end of October 2022 were: -

Current a/c:	£8,223.48
Barclays Business Res a/c:	£13,851.69
HSBC & Nationwide deposit a/cs:	£101,511.56
Total	£123,586.73

Cllr Baker advised that invoices outstanding were almost up to date. The forthcoming budget document is in 1st draft and is available for councillors to discuss and respond.

RESOLVED: To add Cllr Baker & Mr P Walsh to the Barclays Bank mandate

267. Parish Environment

Bench on Shay Lane – Cllr Nixon to forward correspondence for Clerk to investigate

4 fingered post – Cllr Carlon to speak to Dave Penny to establish a costing

To discuss the possibility of a food truck (Fish & Chip Van) on the new Waterton Green estate

The Waterton Green Manager had asked if Parish Council has a view

RESOLVED: To reply that we have no policy as such

268. To appoint vacancies on committees, working parties & representative's arising from the resignation of Cllr Birkby

It was resolved to make the following appointments:

Village Hall & Coronation Cottage Working Party – Cllr Pearson with Cllr Leith appointed as leader of the working party

Appeals committee – Cllr Baker

Walton library representative – Cllr Newby

Person responsible for Village Hall – following the appointment of the new Clerk, it was not felt necessary to appoint a councillor for this role

Representative to attend WMDC Town & Parish Council Liaison Meeting 14th March – Clerk nominated

269. To agree Parish Council Meeting Dates 2023

RESOLVED: In accordance with Standing Orders, the Parish Council will meet on the first Tuesday of the month (excluding August) except for the January meeting which will be on 10th January 2023 and the May meeting will be changed to 16th May 2023.

RESOLVED: That the annual Parish Meeting will be held on Tuesday 18th April 2023

270. To consider correspondence received

Cllr Saunders read out the draft of a response which was agreed as acceptable and was subsequently emailed by the Clerk to the resident (about Tennis Club trees).

Cllr Nixon suggested a draft format for a response which was subsequently composed and emailed to the enquirer by the Clerk (prospective new resident).

Working for Walton have withdrawn their request for a financial contribution towards the Walton Christmas Light Switch On.

271. To authorise the Training Plan for the new Clerk

The structured plan through to March 2023 was reviewed.

RESOLVED: That the Parish Council approve it and authorise the training costs

272. 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 remuneration of the Groundskeeper/Caretaker and terms and conditions of the Clerk's employment

RESOLVED: That the Parish Council pay the Caretaker a Christmas cash bonus pre-Xmas in line with HMRC guidance

RESOLVED: To approve the terms and conditions of the Clerk's employment as documented and signed by Peter Walsh and Cllr Carlon at the Parish council meeting 6th December 2022

273. To review the Village Hall charging structure & charging process

Deferred to January 2023 meeting