

Clerk to the Council: -  
Mr. R. J. Hallam  
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**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting of Walton Parish Council held at St. John's Community Church Hall, Old Chester Road, Walton, on Thursday the 1<sup>st</sup> February 2018.**

**Present**  
Councillor B M Price – Chairman  
Councillor D A Meacock – Vice Chairman  
Councillor A Jones  
Councillor R Hardie  
Councillor G J Greenshields  
Councillor R D Bennett  
Councillor D M Karalius  
Councillor R D Bennett  
Councillor S H Taylor

**In Attendance**  
Parish Clerk R J Hallam  
Residents 0  
Borough Councillor S Harris (SH)

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7.30pm.

**138. Apologies for Absence**

There were no apologies for absence.

**139. Adjournment**

There was no adjournment.

**140. Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 4<sup>th</sup> January 2018 were reviewed.

***It was resolved that the minutes be accepted as a true record.***

**141. Reports on Matters Arising from the previous minutes**

The report had been issued with the meeting documentation. The Clerk then updated councillors on matters that had taken place since the report had been issued.

**Walton Towpath** – The Clerk reported that he received an email from Peter Parkinson stating that the Chair of Bridgewater Trust had written to the CEO of WBC to arrange a meeting to discuss WBC's involvement in Bridgewater Way. Borough Councillor Harris said she would attempt to become involved in this meeting.

**Community Governance Review** – Gillian Lett the Clerk at Stretton had emailed to advise that the PC had diarised to raise the issue again in 2020, with a view to revisiting prior to the 5 year time period in 2021. They felt that nothing more could be done at this time.

**South Parishes Joint Working Group** – The Clerk had advised the Clerk at Grappenhall & Thelwall that it was Walton PC and Moore PC who had hired Berrys as there planning consultant, following a query.

**Action – Clerk to request a copy of agenda prior to next week's meeting**

**142. Report from Borough Councillor S Harris (SH).**

She said that not much had been discussed about the Local Plan PDO at the meeting with our MP. But there was concern that he did not know anything about the Draft Housing Strategy Consultation and he was concerned that the public had not been given the opportunity to comment.

The damage to the grass verges through parking in Worsley and Wardley roads was raised at the meeting and he resolved to try and get something done about this.

The Libraries have now got advanced business plans and money will be forthcoming.

**143. Casual Vacancies/Parish Election 15<sup>th</sup> March 2015**

The Clerk explained the process involved with 10 parishioners having come forward to call for an election to fill the two vacancies. He said that the election would cost approximately £4166 including polling cards (£700), although polling cards are optional.

A full discussion took place on the ramifications of having an election called for. Nominations had to be in between the 9<sup>th</sup> -16<sup>th</sup> February (4pm). Electoral Services will issue the Notice of Election to the PC and the media. Candidates would be expected to promote the date in any literature.

***It was resolved that the PC would not request Electoral Services to have polling cards printed and would instead use a newsletter which would be distributed to Parishioners.***

**Action – Clerk to advise Electoral Services that polling cards will not be required.**

**144. Clerk's Salary**

***It was resolved that the Clerk will be granted a 2.4% salary increase with effect from the anniversary of the last annual increase.***

**145. To receive and accept the report from the Clerk on the Parish Accounts and to formally approve the accounts for payment.**

The Clerk had issued with the Agenda the Financial Report (FR) and a copy of the Receipts and Payments Account for the current year to date, a copy of which is attached to these minutes.

The Clerk presented: -

Cheque number 001061	payable to R J Hallam	Clerk's Salary	£258.31
Cheque number 001062	payable to HMRC	PAYE/Tax	£64.60
Cheque number 001063	payable to R J Hallam	Office Expenses	£3.99
Cheque number 001064	payable to Chris Ardern	Christmas Tree & lights (Whitefield Rd)	£83.00
Cheque number 001065	payable to Creative Signs	Six banners	£864.00

***It was resolved that the Financial Report and the Accounts for Payment be approved. The cheques were signed by Cllrs. Hardie and Shaikh.***

**Optional New Audit Arrangements**

A full discussion took place on the PC's option to certify as having exempt status. As both the PC's income and expenditure turnover is less than £25K it can opt not to have its completed Annual Return externally audited.

**Action – Clerk to look up the Terms of Reference for the Internal Audit.**

**Action – The Clerk to include a suitable proposal on the agenda for the first meeting after the year end.**

**146. Planning Matters.**

The Advisory Group report had been issued with the meeting documentation.

Councillor Hardie talked through the issues involved with some of the recent applications.

**147. Donations Advisory Group Report.**

***It was resolved that the PC would donate the sum of £350 in support of the 2018 Stockton Heath Festival.***

**Action – Clerk to request a copy of the Festival’s Accounts.**

**148. Creamfields**

**Spending Plans**

Councillor Bennett left the room.

Councillor Karalius had circulated by email to all councillors photos of possible fence options along with a quote for fence and fitting.

**Action – Councillor Karalius to prepare a more detailed scheme for her idea to fence the QEII Walton Jubilee Playground and present to March’s meeting.**

**Action- Councillor Karalius to prepare a quotation for bin storage for the Community Church Hall bins.**

**Special Projects**

Creamfields do have money to undertake community projects.

The QEII Jubilee Playground project could be a good community project for Creamfields to take on board. Councillor Hardie asked whether we should ask Creamfields for a large sum of money and if councillors agree then we should decide what sort of things we would like done. The things he had put forward at earlier meetings were only ideas and not suggestions and he felt we need to think a bit more widely than those ideas he had come forward with.

**149. Parish Warden**

Councillor Taylor had prepared a specimen job description and this had been issued to all councillors by the Clerk.

**Action – Councillors to review the document and send comments in to Councillor Taylor.**

It was agreed to refer the matter to the VBC who will then make recommendations to the full PC.

Councillor Taylor to join the VBC group for this discussion.

Meeting to be held at Chair’s house on the 12<sup>th</sup> February 7pm.

**150. Local Plan PDO.**

**Banners Update** – Photos were taken by the Warrington Guardian of the Chair alongside one of the banners. Aran Dhillon from the Guardian had expressed concern that the field in the picture was not one of the fields that would be built on.

**Action – Chair to email Aran and explain that the banners are there to draw the attention of motorists to the threat to the green belt in general not this particular field.**

**Joint Working Group (JWG)** – The first meeting has been set for Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February at the Grappenhall Community Centre.

**Berrys Planning Consultants** – It was generally agreed that Helen Howie had done a good job with the consultation response. It was a case of wait and see as to whether the JWG would consider Berrys to represent the South Warrington Parishes.

**151. Report on Parish Matters**

**Phone Box**

Nothing done yet.

**Civic Service**

This has been set for the 25<sup>th</sup> March.

**Action – The Clerk and Chair to progress with all arrangements.**

**Parish Planning**

**Action – Councillor Greenshields to prepare Parish Planning headings for the next meeting**

**Two Acre**

**Action – Councillor Greenshields to draft response to Andy Farrall over coming weekend.**

**Other Parish Matters**

**Christmas Tree at Junction of Whitefield Road/Hill Cliffe Road (Chris Ardern email)**

**Action – Clerk to obtain quote from WBC for permanent electricity supply.**

**Live Christmas Tree Planting QEII Jubilee Playground and Village Triangle – Councillor Bennett had brought a sample of the tree to be used to the meeting.**

**Action – Councillor Bennett to complete planting over next couple of weeks**

**152. Report from Village Betterment Committee.**

Meeting arranged for the 12<sup>th</sup> February 7pm at Chair's house.

**153. Reports from Appointed Representatives**

**Church Magazine/Publicity – Councillor Karalius –** Latest magazine issued.

**Footpaths – Councillor Price –** Nothing to report.

**Roads/Traffic and Street Lighting – Councillor Bennett –** Vegetation still accumulating around golf course boundary – Clerk reported 15/01/18.

Litter on verges of A56 – Clerk reported 15/01/18.

Street lights – No. 20 not working – lights 15 and 23 have been turned and are now dazzling traffic

**Action – Clerk to advise WBC.**

**Action- Councillor Greenshields to approach Simon Twigg who looks after trees with TPOs about the horsechestnut trees that appear to be diseased and need looking at as they are dangerous. These are trees which run from Hill Cliffe Road to the back of Brookwood Close.**

**Walton Hall Estate (WHE) – Cllr. Hardie -** The Clerk reported that there had not been a response from Rachel Brownbill about future WLG meetings.

Borough Cllr Harris had written to Peter Carey on the same matter. She advised that the structure of the meetings may be changing in that they may be not as frequent and in the main will be held with working partners, now that work is starting on the various projects.

**154. Review of Correspondence**

**Best Kept Village Competition –** Decision not to enter.

**Funding for your Police Service –** No response to survey

**Draft Housing Strategy Consultation –** New deadline for comments 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2018. Councillor Greenshields obtained copy from Chair.

**Action – Clerk to obtain copy for Councillor Shaikh**

**Chester Road Swing Bridge email Kristin Tunley-Smith –** Kristin was very concerned about heavy vehicles leaving their engines running whilst waiting at bridge and the effect this was having on the atmosphere in general and fumes entering nearby houses. Only a very small sign indicating that drivers should turn off their engines. Something more prominent required.

**Action – Clerk to forward email to environmental services at WBC and ask whether they have temporary equipment that could be used to measure the air pollution at this site.**

**Email from Peter Priestner asking for outcomes of issues he had raised at earlier PC meetings.**

The Clerk read out the email to councillors.

The live Christmas trees for the QEII Jubilee Playground and the Village Triangle are to be planted over the next couple of weeks.

Borough Councillor Harris said that she had received an email to say that the A56 cycle/footpath had recently been brushed.

Councillor Bennett said that if the HGV restriction sign would have to stay where it was, as horses do come out of that gateway and a big sign would block their view coming down the Lane.

**Action – Clerk to look into the issue of replacement trees for the A56 and brushing of the A56 cycle/pedestrian path and respond to Mr. Priestner.**

**155. Date and time of next meeting**

The next meeting of the next Parish Council will be **Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2018** at St. John's Community Church Hall, Old Chester Road, Walton, **commencing at 7.30pm.**

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the meeting. The meeting closed at 22.00 hrs.

DRAFT