

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 4<sup>th</sup> April 2019.**

**Present** Councillor B M Price - Chair  
Councillor Y R Shaikh – Vice Chair  
Councillor S Davies  
Councillor R Hardie  
Councillor D M Karalius  
Councillor G J Greenshields  
Councillor A Jones

**In Attendance** Parish Clerk R J Hallam  
Residents 0

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7.30pm.

**1. Apologies for Absence**

The Clerk reported that apologies for absence had been received from Councillor Bennett (Holiday), Harris (Holiday) and Meacock (Away).

**2. Adjournment**

There was no adjournment.

**3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 7<sup>th</sup> March 2019 were reviewed.

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

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

The report had been issued with the meeting documentation.

The Clerk then covered issues that had come to light since the report had been issued.

**Heskin Bench**

The Clerk confirmed that the bench had been ordered and that work would commence once Lost Art were in receipt of the PCs cheque.

**QEII Jubilee Playground Hedge**

The Clerk confirmed that he had written to the occupants of 135 Walton Road requesting that they replace the hedge with privet as existing. Copy of letter in correspondence.

**Complaint re Two Acre Planning Decision**

WBC requested an extension for response till 12<sup>th</sup> April.

**Banners**

After a discussion on the various options possibly open to the PC, it was agreed that we should continue with the application.

**Action – Clerk to forward application to Councillor Davies for her to take a look at.**

### **Community Fibre Partnership (Superfast Broadband)**

The Clerk had been asked by two further residents for help in improving their broadband speed. Councillor Davies said that all post codes could be pooled and sent to Open Reach who would then be able to advise them on whether they could all be in the same cluster.

**Action – Clerk to approach the two further residents about whether they would be happy to share their details. Angela Hornby’s details at Open Reach could also be provided.**

Councillor Davies said that a Rural Connectivity Scheme was soon to be launched and she would bring information on this to the meeting as soon as it was available.

### **5. Report from Borough Councillor.**

No report.

### **6. 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 No. 001134	payable to Marks with Splendour Catering	Civic Serv Catering	£682.00
Cheque No. 001135	payable to R J Hallam	Clerk’s Salary	£272.47
Cheque No. 001136	payable to HMRC	PAYE/Tax	£68.11
Cheque No. 001137	payable to R J Hallam	Office Expenses	£89.48

The following Accounts had been received following the completion of the Report and the Clerk requested that they be added to the above list.

Cheque No. 001138	payable to R J Hallam	Office Expenses	£13.49
Cheque No. 001139	payable to Lost Art Ltd	Heskin Bench	£1004.75
Cheque No. 001140	payable to Gardenia Gardens Ltd	Warden Work	£360.00

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

The internal auditor had advised that he would collect the books on the 21<sup>st</sup> May at Grappenhall and Thelwall PC offices and return them on 30<sup>th</sup> May.

### **7. Audit and Annual Return**

Councillors agreed that the Clerk should submit an annual return to the external auditor for the year 2018/19.

### **8. Warden/Ranger Update and Contract**

A discussion took place on how Gardenia’s work was being controlled and whether the PC was getting value for money.

The PC had not reviewed the arrangement with Gardenia after a three month probation period had been completed (end of August).

It was agreed that any contract should be for 1 year only then review considered.

**Action – Councillor Shaikh to draft a Contract for Services for Gardenia Gardens Ltd.**

### **9. Planning Matters**

The report that had been issued with the meeting documentation.

Nothing further to add to the report.

#### **10. Report from Donations Advisory Group**

The DAG had recommended a donation of £500 to St. John's Church for refurbishment of the Community Church Hall against a total cost of just under £6000.

Councillor Hardie raised the question of whether there was a limit on donations made to the church.

**Action – Chair to check possible limits in Councillors Guide.**

**Action – Clerk to include proposal on May's agenda subject to qualification on limits.**

#### **11. Local Plan PDO**

*It was resolved that the PC appoint John Groves for a maximum of 6 days at £450 per day, to assist the PC in preparing its response to the WBC Local Plan.*

#### **Update**

- WBC have now approved publication of the plan and consultation will commence on 15<sup>th</sup> April ending on 17<sup>th</sup> June
- The South Warrington Parishes Group are organising presentations on the plan for South Warrington residents as follows:
  - Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April- Lymm High School> 1.30 - 3.00 & 3.30 - 5.00
  - Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> May - Bridgewater High School> 1.30 - 3.30 & 3.30-5.00
  - Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> May - Bridgewater High School> 5.00 -7.00
- A leaflet is being printed outlining the key issues of the plan and advertising the above meetings and this will be distributed to residents during the period 8<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> April
- A video will be made of the initial presentation for posting on web sites
- Halton Borough Council have now published their revised plan and it appears that Moore will now only increase by 20 houses
- This PC will be preparing our own leaflet for distribution to our residents - what input do councillors want to have? Ideally this should be distributed to residents around 22<sup>nd</sup> April
- The Walton PC draft response will be prepared by myself with John Groves providing the detailed planning inputs. How do councillors wish to be involved and how will approval to the final version be obtained?
- Funding of the SW Parishes Group
  - Original budget set was £25,000 with Walton PC paying £398.72

- o To date payments and commitments amount to £28,718 with our contribution rising to £456.62
- o There are potential additional costs associated mainly with the Stobart Planning enquiry which may or may not arise. These could be around an additional £15,500 with our contribution being £246.45

**Action – A Special Meeting will be called on the 10<sup>th</sup> June at 7pm to discuss Walton’s draft response. The agenda for this meeting would need to include a suitable proposal.**

## **12. Report on Parish Matters**

### **Civic Service 2019.**

Councillors all agreed that the event was a great success.

### **Bins on Old Chester Road.**

It was agreed that the two bins were too small to cope with the volume of rubbish.

**Action – Chair to approach Neil Simpson the Walton Estate Manager about the possibility of them providing a large bin for the site in view of the connection with Walton Gardens visitors parking on Old Chester Road. Chair also to discuss siting with Anita.**

### **Creamfields Crime Figures**

Most Councillors did not have possession of the figures. The Clerk advised that they were available on the link in the email provided by John Probyn, which had been forwarded by the Clerk.

**Action – Include again on May’s agenda.**

### **Other Parish Matters**

None.

## **13. Report from Village Betterment Committee**

### **Maintenance of PC’s QEII Jubilee Playground and Street Trees.**

It was felt that these trees were just starting to come to maturity and should be left to grow further. The Street Trees were now the responsibility of Highways.

**Action – Clerk to provide Councillor Shaikh with address of resident in Mertoun Road who had recently emailed and he would make contact.**

### **A56 Chester Road Replacement Trees.**

**Action – Clerk to include proposal on May’s agenda.**

## **14. Reports from Appointed Representatives**

**Church Magazine/Publicity – No magazines.**

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

**Roads/Traffic and Street Lighting – Councillor Bennett – No report.**

## **15. Review of Correspondence**

**2019 Best Kept Village – Decided not to enter.**

**Parked Motorhome on Old Chester Road**

**Action – Clerk to write to Highways.**

**Great British Spring Clean – Decided not to participate.**

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

The next meeting of the next Parish Council will be Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2019 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 21.43 hrs.

DRAFT