

Clerk to the Council: -
Mr. R. J. Hallam
31 Farnham Close
Appleton
Warrington
WA4 3BG
01925-264201
07801 472083

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 5th October 2017.

Present

- Councillor B M Price - Chairman
- Councillor D A Meacock – Vice Chairman
- Councillor A Jones
- Councillor R Hardie
- Councillor G J Greenshields
- Councillor D Karalius
- Councillor R D Bennett
- Councillor Y R Shaikh

In Attendance

- Parish Clerk R J Hallam
- Residents 2
- Borough Councillor S Harris (BCSH)

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7.30pm.

82. Apologies for Absence

The Chairman reported that apologies for absence had been received from Councillors A Hardie (illness) and Taylor (business).

83. Adjournment

The Chairman asked for an adjournment so that residents could address the meeting.

It was resolved that the meeting go into adjournment. Time 7.31pm.

Mrs Tress reported that during Creamfields they had an intruder in their garden. She had emailed the Chair about this. Councillor Karalius was advised and she will report this to Live Nation.

84. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Councillor R Hardie queried whether there was such a thing as an extraordinary meeting, he recalled that advice had been taken from ChALC on a previous occasion and he thought they had said that there were only ordinary meetings. He also asked whether the page numbers and paragraphs should be in sequence with the other meetings rather than as standalone meetings.

It was pointed out that the Standing Orders do refer to the proceedings for extraordinary meetings.

Action – Clerk to check with SoLCC and include the extraordinary meetings within the normal numbering sequence.

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 7th September 2017 were reviewed.

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

The minutes of the Parish Council extraordinary meeting held on the 31st August were reviewed.

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

The minutes of the Parish Council extraordinary meeting held on the 27th September 2017 were reviewed. Councillor Greenshields stated that on the 3rd line of paragraph 4, 4th should read 2nd.

It was resolved that subject to the amendment the minutes be accepted as a true record.

85. Reports on Matters Arising from the previous minutes

The report had been issued with the meeting documentation.

Boundary Commission – The Clerk advised that since the report had been circulated the PC had received an email from Alison McDonald explaining that in view of the unlikely acceptance, WBC did not have the resources required to undertake the process.

Councillor R Hardie said that WBC should be a bit more forward thinking and other views were voiced, but in the end, it was decided to drop the matter.

Action – Clerk to advise Hatton and Stretton Parish Councils.

86. Report from Borough Councillor.

The HCA (Homes and Communities Agency) meeting for outline planning applications for homes at Appleton Cross and Grappenhall Heyes will take place at the Parr Hall on Tuesday 10th October. The Development Management Committee is set to vote on this. It's recommended for approval.

At the full Council meeting on the 16th October, residents will be demonstrating against the Local Plan.

87. 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 001038	payable to R J Hallam	Clerk's Salary	£258.31
Cheque number 001039	payable to HMRC	PAYE/Tax	£64.60
Cheque number 001040	payable to ChALC	Training (DK)	£60.00
Cheque number 001041	payable to R J Hallam	Office Expenses	£80.16

Since preparing the report the Clerk had received the account from Berrys Planning Consultants and requested that this be added to the above list. The details are indicated below.

Cheque number 001042	payable to Berrys	Planning Consultants	£1490.40
----------------------	-------------------	----------------------	----------

It was resolved that the Financial Report and the Accounts for Payment be approved. The cheques 001038-41 were signed by Cllrs. R Hardie and Bennett. Cheque 001042 was signed by Councillors Shaikh and Meacock.

88. Planning Matters.

Two Acre Caravan Site

There was considerable disappointment expressed by councillors at the approval of the planning application.

Councillor Greenshields said that the decision totally undermined the validity of a consultation process, they have made a decision on something that was out for general consultation. How can councillors make a decision on that basis. It is totally inappropriate and not good governance. He felt that the whole democratic process had been undermined.

He also felt that the PC should make a formal complaint to the WBC CEO, as to why he didn't advise councillors, that while out for consultation it was inappropriate for a decision to be made.

Borough Councillor Harris pointed out that there had been no sense as to why a decision on the application was being delayed, but that it now seemed clear that they were waiting for the Local Plan.

It was agreed that the PC would establish the formal complaints process about making a complaint to the CEO and also inform the Warrington Guardian that it was formally protesting at the process followed.

Action – Clerk to enquire about the complaints process and contact the Guardian.

Councillor R Hardie updated councillors on the applications of Woodbridge (application scaled down), semis at Pool Lane (sees no reason to object) and Walton Hall Riding School (no comment).

89. Local Plan PDO.

Jointly Employing Planning Consultants (Letter from Appleton Parish Council)

Councillors expressed varying views on the matter, which mainly revolved around, the sharing of knowledge and whether our interests were the same and coming up with options that are not South Warrington. It was important that parishes try and agree a common agenda.

It was eventually agreed that the Chair should contact Appleton's chair with a view to seeing what potential there might be.

Councillor R Hardie asked Borough Councillor Harris what were the drivers in WBC for Warrington becoming a city. She said that she had been to a Cheshire meeting which involved developers and the economic drivers were, the relaxation of the planning laws, government driving for extra houses, HS2/3 and Peel Ports influence.

Action – Clerk to acknowledge letter and explain that our Chair would contact their Chair.

Halton BC Local Plan

Councillor Bennett suggested that once Halton BC's plan came out then a councillor from Walton Parish Council should attend the meetings at Daresbury and Moore. This was agreed.

Neighbourhood Plans (NP)

Councillor Greenshields said that the government were pushing the idea of parishes developing NPs, which is about, where housing should go and we should be pushing to do this. Funding has been made available. BCSH referred to Appleton Thorn's plan saying that it can be a two year process and you need a very committed group of residents to carry it off. This could be the stumbling block for Walton and that was the experience when this was last discussed by Walton PC.

Banners

It was agreed that Councillors Bennett would pursue the making of up to 9 banners (green on white) for display on gates along the A56. The wording suggested was, 'SAVE WALTON'S GREEN BELT'.

90. Creamfields

Spending Ideas.

Broadband for Community Church Hall.

Councillors R Hardie (RH) and Karalius (DK) had sent in their ideas on spending the Cream donation to the Clerk last month and the Clerk had emailed the report to councillors.

DK thinks we should provide Broadband to the Community Church. £135 for installation and £28.90 plus VAT per month for unlimited broadband. She will confirm figures by email to the Clerk.

Railings around perimeter of QEII Walton Jubilee Playground.

She would also like to see a railing around the QEII Walton Jubilee Playground, to make it a more inviting place, with two extra benches and re-siting of litter bins. This would be a metal railing on the perimeter with a bottom kick board and would be £6k for supply and fitting.

War Memorial Rendering

Councillor Greenshields suggested possible rendering of the War Memorial, this can be done in a self-cleaning material, which would help the ongoing appearance of the monument.

Noise Issues

Councillor R Hardie stated that one of the nights was atrocious and doubted whether at times they were actually working within regulations.

Action – Clerk to write to WBC, HBC and Creamfields to ask what observations they had on noise levels can they share them with us and whether the organisers were using real time recordings.

91. Report on Parish Matters

War Memorial

Unfortunately, the contractor, who Councillor Meacock had contacted last month, was unable to clean the War Memorial, owing to the timescales involved.

Action – Councillor Meacock to approach contact and see whether she could take on this type of work.

Action – The Chairman and Councillor Karalius will look at the plants around the memorial and replant where necessary.

Remembrance Sunday

Action – Clerk to confirm arrangements with Anita Raggett.

Action – Councillor Meacock to approach the Stag about refreshments.

Action – Councillor R Hardie to organise the wreath.

Phone Box.

This matter to be carried over.

Other Parish Matters

Stockton Heath Library

The proposal was reviewed.

Borough Councillor Harris explained that from April 2018 any donation would only be for 4 years and it was likely that the contribution required would decrease over the last two years.

The Chairman proposed an amendment to the proposal to reflect these changes.

It was resolved that the PC agree to donate up to £900 for 4 years commencing April 2018 to the South Warrington Libraries Group in order to help with keeping Stockton Heath Library open.

Councillor Greenshields felt that the PC should up its precept money for this and not use Creamfields money. This will be further discussed when next year's budget is set.

92. Report from Village Betterment Committee.

There had not been a meeting.

Village Triangle grass cutting.

Borough Councillor Sharon Harris has a contact James Kitchen and she will forward his details.

The contractor is to give us a price for the work and a budget up to £100 was agreed.

Action – Councillor Meacock to organise Village Triangle grass cutting and strimming, using the above budget.

Councillor Meacock has spoken to Councillor Ward, who said he would get on with the tree maintenance work.

93. Reports from Appointed Representatives

Church Magazine/Publicity – Councillor Karalius – The October and November issues of the magazine

Footpaths – Councillor Price – There is no path across the field at Walton.

Roads/Traffic and Street Lighting – Councillor Bennett – Nothing further to report.

South Neighbourhood Board – Councillor R. Hardie – Now defunct

Action – Clerk to remove from future agendas.

Walton Hall Estate (WHE) – Cllr. R. Hardie (RH) – No meeting.

Councillor Karalius advised that the Christmas Tree light switch on at QEII Walton Jubilee Playground would be on the 3rd December between 5pm – 6pm.

94. Review of Correspondence

Runcorn Road Resurfacing – commences on 13th November for up to 5 weeks.

Police & Crime Commissioner meeting with Parish Council representatives – Thursday 12th October at 6.30pm in the Tea Room at Town Hall.

St. John's Harvest Festival – Sunday 8th October at 10am.

95. Date and time of next meeting

The next meeting of the next Parish Council will be Thursday 2nd November 2017 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 21.40 hrs.