

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 6th June 2019.

Present

- Councillor D M Karalius - Chair
- Councillor Y R Shaikh – Vice Chair
- Councillor B M Price
- Councillor G J Greenshields
- Councillor R Hardie
- Councillor R D Bennett
- Councillor S A Harris
- Councillor A Jones
- Councillor S Davies
- Councillor D A Meacock
- Councillor S H Taylor

In Attendance

- Parish Clerk R J Hallam
- Residents 1
- Guest James Atkinson of Countryside

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7.30pm and welcomed everybody.

39. Apologies for Absence

None.

40. Adjournment

Malcolm Eldridge (ME) a resident and former parish councillor explained how he had the idea of an information board for the Parish, going back a number of years, but did not possess the skills to be able to put this into practice. He introduced James Atkinson (JA) of Countryside who had been commissioned to provide six of these boards for the Walton Estate. JA explained what he was doing for Walton Estate and provided the meeting with handouts to demonstrate this. He provided a costing for one A1 sized board (£1450) and the possibility of boards for both Higher and Lower Walton was touched upon. It was suggested that we take a look at the boards on the Estate once they are in place. It was agreed that consideration for Information boards should be included as an agenda item for July's meeting.

Action – Clerk to include as an agenda item for July.

ME then raised the issue of the dilapidated state of the fence on Walton Lea Road, residents had asked him to raise the matter with the PC.

Action – Clerk to raise matter with WBC.

ME referred to the overgrown state of the trees/bushes, sweet chestnut and hawthorn on Old Chester Road, which were blocking the path.

Action – Clerk to take up with WBC.

41. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 2nd May 2019 were reviewed.
It was resolved that the minutes be accepted as a true record.

42. Reports on Matters Arising from the previous minutes

The report had been issued with the meeting documentation. The Clerk advised that all of the sections in the Matters Arising Report had been updated with the latest actions.

Hedge at Walton Arms.

Action – Clerk to draft an email to Mitchells & Butlers asking them to reconsider the idea of planting a new hedge.

Two Acre.

Action- As there had still not been a response from Gary Earnshaw the Clerk was asked to escalate the matter by writing to the CEO of WBC and copy in David Boyer.

43. Report from Borough Councillor.

Councillor Harris (SAH) advised that Stockton Heath Library was now closed for alterations and would reopen again at the beginning of September. The contribution required had now been reduced to about £3K.

Action - SAH to email Clerk with suitably worded proposal for July's agenda.

44. 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 001149	payable to R J Hallam	Clerk's Salary	£272.47
Cheque number 001150	payable to HMRC	PAYE/Tax	£68.11
Cheque number 001151	payable to St John's PCC	Hire Community Church Hall	£220.00
Cheque number 001152	payable to R J Hallam	Office Expenses (Instant Ink)	£7.99
Cheque number 001153	payable to JDH Business Serv Ltd	Internal Audit	£146.88
Cheque number 001154	payable to Gardenia Gardens Ltd	Ranger Work	£360.00

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

Cheque number 001155	payable to G J Greenshields	Printing of Leaflet & Letter	£135.00
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It was resolved that the Financial Report and the Accounts for Payment be approved. The cheques were signed by Councillors Shaikh and Hardie.

Internal Audit Report.

The Clerk went through Issues 1 and 2 of the report along with the Important Guidance Note.

The Clerk advised that he had now submitted the VAT reclaim for 2017/18. The reclaim for 2018/19 would be submitted prior to the July 2019 meeting.

Action – The Clerk would address the Recommendation in respect of Issue 1.

Action – The new Audit Advisory Group would review the existing Risk Management Document and report back to the full PC.

Audit of the Receipts & Payments (April 2018 – March 2019)

The report compiled by Councillor Shaikh included his findings and recommendations and focused on whether the Accounts tally with what the minutes say.

Action – The Clerk would carry out some of the recommendations after consultation with Councillor Shaikh.

Action – The new Audit Advisory Group would also consider further the recommendations in the document.

45. Planning Matters

The report had been issued with the meeting documentation.

Action – Councillor Hardie to look into the Enforcement Notice in respect of Two Acre.

Action – Councillor Hardie to draft a response in respect of the detail with the TPO in Application 2019/35007.

46. Local Plan Proposed Submission Version.

Councillor Greenshields (GJG) had had a positive response to the Leaflet and Specimen Letter for residents. Some residents were even prepared to knock on doors to make residents aware.

The response from the South Warrington PC Group would be ready for the end of next week. GJG would attempt to get our response out to councillors by Saturday to give councillors the chance to digest prior to our extra meeting on Monday 10th June.

Councillors gave information to GJG on businesses situated within the Parish, which was to be used as part of the Parish background included within the Parish's response.

The final WBC run meeting will take place at the Parr Hall on Saturday 8th June.

Councillor Harris said she would ask Judith Wheeler if the Focus distribution list could be made available, which will aid any future deliveries to residents by the PC.

47. Warden/Ranger Contract.

The Chair and Clerk reported that Gardenia Gardens Ltd had agreed and signed the new contract.

48. Report from the Donations Advisory Group.

Councillor Harris stated that St John's Community Church Hall was a community asset and used by several groups within the community.

It was resolved that the PC as recommended by the DAG would donate the sum of £500 to St. John's Church towards the cost of refurbishing the Community Church Hall.

Councillor Greenshields asked for it to be noted that he voted against the proposal and Councillor Bennett asked that it be noted that he abstained.

49. Report on Parish Matters

Erosion of Land on Park Lane Walton.

The Clerk updated councillors on the lack of response from Dave Vasey/John Ansell and reminded councillors of the comments made by the Highways Inspector and Simon Duggan the Highway Maintenance Principal Engineer.

Councillor Harris said that the area in question was private land and there was a fully constituted management group who looked after this. It was decided that the PC could not set a precedent by providing financial assistance with this case.

Action – Clerk to advise Stuart Gwilliam.

Walton Towpath.

As an update Councillor Harris went through the December 2018 email from Peter Parkinson (PP) of Peel. He had laid much emphasis on the cooperation with WBC as part of the bigger project. Councillors pointed out that the Walton Towpath was a local issue and needed to be dealt with by Peel on that basis, as clearly WBC did not have funds for any kind of joint venture.

Action – Clerk to write to PP and copy in John Nicol.

Other Parish Matters

Superfast Broadband Community Fibre Partnership – Councillor Davies reported that the group of three in Hough's Lane had had a quote of £4K plus, which was probably down to the small size of the group. They had yet to establish whether there were any vouchers available to offset this cost. The Walton Arms group had submitted their postcodes and were awaiting a quotation. They will need to see what quote comes back prior to looking into the possibility of vouchers and grants. Councillor Davies wondered whether the PC had now gone as far as it could in facilitating this process.

Warrington Town Centre/Disabled Visitors – Councillor Harris advised councillors of the work going on to improve access and facilities in Warrington Town Centre for disabled visitors.

50. Report from Village Betterment Advisory Group

The Chair advised that a meeting would be arranged shortly. Some members of the VBAG inspected the tubs and generally found the Parish to be looking neat and tidy. Councillor Hardie to repair one of the tubs.

51. Reports from Appointed Representatives

Church Magazine/Publicity – Cllr Bennett – Magazine issued.

Footpaths – Councillor Price – Nothing to report.

Roads/Traffic and Street Lighting – **Councillor Bennett** – Gullies on A56 still full of rubbish. Trash still deposited at the roadsides near Walton traffic lights. The lights on the central reservation of A56, from Walton traffic lights to Mill Lane have been twisted and are now facing on coming traffic. Underbridge Lane now completely swamped with overgrown vegetation.

Action – Clerk to notify WBC.

Walton Hall Estate – Cllr. Price – Nothing to report.

52. Review of Correspondence

None.

53. Date and time of next meeting

The next meeting of the next Parish Council will be **Thursday 4th July 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 21.45 hrs.