

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 3rd October 2019.

Present Councillor D M Karalius - Chair
Councillor B M Price
Councillor R Hardie
Councillor S Davies
Councillor S A Harris
Councillor R D Bennett

Residents 0
Guests 2

The Chair opened the meeting at 7.33pm and welcomed everybody.

86. Apologies for Absence

The Chair reported that 5 apologies for absence had been received. Councillors Shaikh (work), Meacock (leisure commitment), Greenshields (Family), Jones (work) and Taylor (back injury).

87. Adjournment.

The Chair called for an adjournment.

It was resolved that the meeting should go into adjournment at 7.37pm, to allow the guests to address the Meeting.

Anita Raggett Vicar of St. John's Church.

The Church provides two hospitality tents at the Creamfields Festival "We are the Church". It's an opportunity to connect with young people. It's ecumenical, all denominations are represented. They provide free water and Jammy Dodgers. The tents can also act as a refuge for people to use.

Neil Simpson Walton Estate Manager.

Neil gave an update on events at the Walton Estate.

He now manages the golf course as well. There are financial pressures and he is working to turn things round. He is looking for the golf team to improve the service provided. The club house needs repairs and modernisation. There are issues with dogs on the course. Notices have been put up asking owners to keep dogs on a lead and use the Right of Way, as there is a health and safety concern. He asked whether this could be highlighted in the Parish Newsletter.

At the Crematorium the meadow areas are going to have new planting. The lime trees require deadwood pruning and roof repairs are required before any internal improvements can be made.

He is looking to appoint a marketing manager. Following the closure of Haigh Hall they are looking to secure wedding business from there. The caterers Lewis's and Carrington's are doing well.

The partnership co-ordinator is developing relationships with Myerscough College and Walton Lea Partnership. Myerscough would like to do a community project.

The conservatory opening will be on the 10th October, the Chair and Councillor Price will attend. The riding school is holding activities particularly the markets. High Ropes will be coming next year and there are Heritage Trails. They have produced an Activity Pack.

He had an estimate for the Golf Club wall repair at £4K and asked whether the PC would be able to provide some financial support.

He did promise to carry out the work on clearing the trees around the golf club wall.

88. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 29th August 2019 were reviewed.

Councillor Price, page 23, para 79, 1st line Councillors should read Councillor.

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

89. Reports on Matters Arising from the previous minutes

The report had been issued with the meeting documentation.

Stockton Heath Library Funding Contract.

Action – Councillor Harris to chase up return of the Parish Council's copy signed by Emma Hutchinson.

Replacement trees for A56.

Awaiting reply from Simon Twigg on what trees can be obtained for the £1K budget.

New Waste Bin for Old Chester Road.

Dave Cotterill has asked Kevin McCready to contact the Clerk. But not happened yet.

90. Report from Borough Councillor.

Councillor Harris reported on the poor state of Broomfield's Leisure Centre and she had taken this up with the appropriate people.

Following a question from Councillor Hardie SH advised that she would raise the matter of extending the time when the green bins stop being emptied. The drains and gullies are being sorely tested by the recent heavy and persistent rainfall. SH advised that this has been brought up in Council meetings. There is a schedule but there are also budget issues.

91. 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: -

Chq no. 001170	pay to R J Hallam	Clerk's Salary	£272.47
Chq no. 001171	pay to HMRC	PAYE/Tax	£68.11
Chq no. 001172	pay to R J Hallam	Office Expenses	£7.99
Chq no. 001173	pay to Gardenia Gardens Ltd	Warden Work	£510.00
Chq no. 001174	pay to PKF Littlejohn LLP	External Audit	£240.00
Chq no. 001175	pay to St John's PCC	Donation Church Grounds Maintenance	£300.00

Receipts

None

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

92. Report from Audit Advisory Group.

Terms of reference still to be agreed.

93. External Audit Conclusion.

The Clerk reported that he had received notification that the external audit had been concluded with no issues being raised.

The Notice of Conclusion of Audit and certified copies of the AGAR (Sections 1, 2 and 3) had been placed on Notice Board and the Parish Council's website.

94. To consider membership of ChALC.

A discussion took place on the pros and cons of membership and there were mixed opinions. There was some debate about how the subscription was now calculated.

Action – Clerk to bring details to next meeting.

95. Report from the Donations Advisory Group.

It was resolved that the PC donate the sum of £300 to St. John's PCC for the maintenance of the Church grounds.

96. Planning Matters

The report had been issued with the meeting documentation. Councillor Hardie said there were no further comments to make.

Banners

Action – The Chair and Councillor Harris to meet with Planning in order to obtain specific instruction on how to provide the information they require.

Stobarts

There was general consensus that the PC would provide financial support to the South Warrington Parish Group in fighting the appeal by Stobarts. This would be on the same basis as with the Local Plan. A suitable proposal would be included on November's agenda.

Action- Clerk to include on agenda.

Parish Councils can make their own presentation at the appeal if they wish. Councillor Greenshields to be approached about this.

97. Local Plan Proposed Submission Version.

Nothing to report.

98. Creamfields

Councillor Bennett left the room.

The email from a resident expressing some concerns about the Festival had been forwarded to John Probyn by the Chair. Some rubbish had been left on Holly Hedge Lane, the clean up there had not been as good as in previous years. Cars and HGVs coming from the fields had deposited mud on to Chester Road and more than likely was ending up in the roadside gullies. These issues would be raised at the Creamfields meeting set for December 3rd.

Councillor Bennett returned to the meeting.

99. Report on Parish Matters

Two Acre Complaint

Councillor Greenshields not at meeting. Matter referred to next meeting.

Other Parish Matters

Christmas Party – It was agreed that the PC would have a Christmas meal at the Stag Inn following the Christmas Lights switch on, on Saturday 30th November.

Action – The Chair will organise.

Christmas Lights switch on – Owing to availability issues of Father Christmas (Lions) the switch on this year will be on a Saturday the 30th November.

Christmas Trees and Lights

Action – Councillor Hardie to purchase a spare set of batteries for the tree at the Village Triangle.

War Memorial Cleaning – To be discussed under Village Betterment.

Wreath.

It was resolved that the PC would donate the sum of £50 to the British Legion in respect of the supply of a wreath.

100. Report from Village Betterment Advisory Group

Councillor Price went through the minutes of the meeting of the 19th September.

A copy of these minutes will be attached to these minutes and a copy placed on the website.

Action - Clerk to include a proposal on November's agenda for the PC to spend up to £340 on the purchase of winter plants for the tubs and beds.

101. Reports from Appointed Representatives

Church Magazine/Publicity – Cllr Bennett – Magazines issued.

Footpaths – Councillor Price – The path across the Mill Lane field is in place.

The next RoW meeting not until December 2019.

Roads/Traffic and Street Lighting – Councillor Bennett – Mill Lane very overgrown, particularly hedges coming from the fields of Mr Riley and Walton Turf Farm.

Action – Clerk to write to the field owners

A resident had advised about the state of Hobb Lane. The hedges there may be due to be cut shortly. The Chair will keep the Clerk informed and if no action then the field owners will be written to.

Walton Hall Estate – Cllr. Price – The conservatories are due to be officially opened on the 10th October.

Action – Clerk to include a proposal on November's agenda for the PC to make a contribution to the repair of the Golf Club Wall.

102. Review of Correspondence

Licensing Policy – No action.

Residents gunshot concerns

Action – Clerk to advise resident that this is caused by gas guns used in bird scaring. The source of fields is not known.

103. Date and time of next meeting

The next meeting of the next Parish Council will be **Thursday 7th November 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 09.55 hrs.

DRAFT