

Clerk to the Council: -
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Minutes of the Parish Council meeting of Walton Parish Council held at St. John's Church Community Hall, Old Chester Road, Higher Walton, on Thursday the 6th April 2023.

Present Councillor S A Harris – Chair
Councillor D M Karalius – Vice Chair
Councillor R Hardie
Councillor B M Price
Councillor A Williams
Councillor J C Greene
Councillor D Hazeldine
Councillor A Bowles

In Attendance Parish Clerk R J Hallam
Borough Councillor 0
Residents 0

The Chair opened the meeting at 7.00 pm and welcomed everybody.
She reminded councillors of the meeting protocols.

1. Apologies for Absence

The Chair reported that there were apologies for absence from Councillors Bennett (holiday), Shaikh (work) and Lacey (work) and Borough Councillors Wheeler and Jervis.

2. Adjournment

None.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 2nd March 2023 were reviewed.

It was resolved that the minutes be accepted as a true record, subject to the following change. Page48, para185, line4, "steeling" should read "stealing". Proposed by Councillor Karalius and seconded by Councillor Greene, all in favour.

4. Reports on Matters Arising from the previous minutes

PCSO Report Phillip Hilton. (PH)

March Report Walton.

Good evening,

Here is the monthly update for the Walton area.

Incidents of note:

19/03/2023 - Holly Hedge Lane. At the Runcorn Road end near humpback bridge camper van parked on a road for approx 3 weeks - stays for a few nights then it goes, then returns - there seem to be a number of young children in the camper van and one adult male.

PCSOs have attended the location but each time the van has not been there. Will continue to monitor.

21/03/2023 – Belvoir Road. Caller reporting 2 males on their driveway at 01:26 am trying to get into car. Males left when disturbed.

Patrols attended and conducted an area search but there was no trace of the males.

PCSOs have attended to provide reassurance and crime prevention advice.

21/03/2023 - Caller reporting that someone has tried to enter the property last night at 01:15. They have damaged the UPVC round the door by pulling it off and the gate was open. No entry has been gained. House to house and CCTV enquiries conducted by PCSOs. Unfortunately no viable lines of enquiry at this stage. Reassurance and advice given and Selecta DNA property marking kit provided to resident and immediate neighbours.

UpdateLiam LYNN (23 years) was issued with a Conditional Caution on 25/03/23 for 10 counts of Criminal Damage.Liam has 13 conditions he has to comply with, or he faces Court.The conditions include a letter of apology to Walton Parish Council and up to 4 hours unpaid work to be completed at the direction of Walton Parish Council.

The residents voice survey is available for anybody to complete and can be accessed here:

www.cheshire.police.uk/residentsvoicewarrington

Conditional Caution.

Concern was expressed that there was no plan for 3rd party supervision, in addition to a parish councillor when overseeing the work in the Parish as part of the conditional caution. Need to check this with PCSO and or Beat Manager and seek clarification on his capabilities and learning issues. A risk assessment should be documented for when this supervision takes place.

Action – Clerk to make contact with Phillip Hilton/Ann Muldowney.

Defibrillators.

Both now installed. Walton Lea are doing monthly checks. Training will run on a Saturday at Walton Lea, dates to be established. Photo opportunities are being looked at with national, local and specialist newspapers.

Graffiti.

Action – Clerk to write to Peel about removal of graffiti on the Swing Bridge.

Assets of Community Value.

The benefits of this scheme were explained by the Chair and examples of appropriate beneficiaries were discussed.

Action – Councillors to write to the Clerk with suggestions for inclusion in the scheme.

5. Report from Borough Councillor.

There were no borough councillors present.

6. Forward Plan Update.

This remains on going, but needs to be updated with things that have been done.

7. Civility and Respect.

The Chair gave an insight into the C and R programme, which has been adopted by parish councils from across the country.

Councillor Hardie argued that he could see nothing different with this than the Code of Conduct already in place.

Training Courses were being run and it was felt that councillors would benefit from doing some of these courses.

Other councillors felt that C & R was over and above our Standing Orders, Financial Regulations and Code of Conduct, which are our fundamentals, but C & R expands on this.

It was agreed that a suitable proposal would be included on May's Agenda.

Action – Proposal to be included on May’s Agenda.

8. 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), bank statement 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 001457	payable to R J Hallam	Clerk’s Salary	£324.20
Cheque number 001458	payable to HMRC	PAYE/Tax	£81.05
Cheque number 001459	payable to R J Hallam	Off Exp Ink£9.99/AVGinternetprot £104.99	£114.98
Cheque number 001460	payable to Gardenia Gardens Ltd	Warden (Inv4858 21X£15=£315+VAT£63)	£378.00
Cheque number 001461	payable to Rakemaster Ltd T/A The Print Shop	Posters£60/Newsletter£170	£230.00
Cheque number 001462	payable to Parochial Church Co. Walton Chesh	Hire Church Comm Hall	£275.00
Cheque number 001463	payable to A Bowles	Wild flower seeds	£28.49
Cheque number 001464	payable to R Hardie	Time capsule for King’s Coronation	£67.00
Cheque number 001465	payable to D Hazeldine	Adhesive pads dog posters & cable ties	£13.48
Cheque number 001466	payable to S A Harris	Bunting King’s Coronation	£172.07
Cheque number 001467	payable to D M Karalius	Civic Service	£105.73

It was resolved that the Financial Report and the Accounts for Payment be approved. Proposed by Councillor Bowles and seconded by Councillor Greene. All in favour. The cheques were signed by Councillors Hardie and Price.

9. Reports from Advisory Groups

Events Planning.

Kings Coronation.

The favoured location for the planting of the tree and capsule was the plot of land opposite the Walton QEII Jubilee Playground on Hill Cliffe Road. The elements of the scheme were tree and stake, time capsule, slate plaque and engraved sandstone block. The list of items for the capsule was still to be finalised.

Action – It was agreed that Councillor Harris would write to WBC to establish the process and planning requirements.

Donations Advisory Group.

None

Planning

Nothing further to add to the circulated report.

Climate and Ecological

Councillor Bowles had emailed all councillors with an updated report on the 31st March. The Crematorium was one of the sites being considered for the wild flower planting.

Village Betterment

The artwork needs doing for the Walton Walks and illustrations, prior to putting on an Information Board. Costs likely to be in excess of £1K.

A lady has offered to clean up the Travellers Rest.

Action – Councillor Hazeldine to make contact by email.

10. Report on Parish Matters

Local Plan (LP)

SWPG met on the 28th March and Councillor Lacey attended. The consultation process ends on the 26th April 2023 and our response will go through the SWPG.

The Chair went through the agenda of the 28th March meeting.

Other Parish Matters

Councillor Price announced that the Vicar of St John's Anita Raggett will be retiring in June 2023.

11. Reports from Appointed Representatives

Footpaths – Councillor Price – Nothing to report.

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

Walton Hall Estate – Cllr. Price – The report from Neil Simpson was circulated on the 5th April.

There are a number of events coming up which will have a high impact on the Village.

The Chair stated that it would be useful for the Residents Group to have a meeting with Neil Simpson to help alleviate any resulting issues.

Action – The Chair and Councillor Williams will follow this up.

12. Review of Correspondence

Defibrillators Facebook Posting – Dave McClure from Walton Lea had made the following posting on Facebook:-

"[It was]..An absolute pleasure to help Walton Parish Council and assist with this project.. Anita deserves all the credit though. Great to see parish councils looking after their communities and local businesses getting involved too !!

Councillor Hazeldine felt this was great feedback for the PC and particularly Councillor Williams and therefore should be mentioned at the meeting.

Planters at junction of Park Lane and A56 – Councillor Harris had received a call from a resident expressing concern that the planters obscured vision for motorists going on to the A56. The Chair had driven along for herself and did have some sympathy with this point of view. However, others had driven along and didn't share this view. The obscuring of vision on to the A56 was something that had been considered when choosing the location.

In view of the contrast in opinions it was decided that we should refer the matter to WBC Highways Department to seek their opinion on the matter.

Action – Clerk to write to WBC Highways

Email from resident asking about the PC's legislative powers in requesting a resident to cut back foliage encroaching on pavement.

The Clerk had explained that the PC does not have legislative powers in such matters but was appealing more to the resident's goodwill. WBC do however have powers.

It was also agreed that we should ask WBC to contact 2 residents on Walton Road about the overhanging hedge as no action had been taken by the residents following letters from the PC in November 2022.

Action Clerk to write to WBC.

Supported Lodging

The Fostering Service at WBC had written asking whether we would display a Flyer about the Supported Lodging Scheme,

It was agreed that we would include on our website.

Coronation Service at St. John's Church. – The Vicar had asked whether any councillors would like to attend this service on the 7th May.

Councillor Price to send an email to the Clerk that she had received on this subject providing further information.

13. Date and time of next meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be the Annual Parish Council Meeting on Thursday 4th May 2023, at St. John's Community Church Hall, Old Chester Road, Walton, commencing at 7.00pm.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the meeting. The meeting closed at 20.59hrs.