

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 Church Community Hall, Old Chester Road, Higher Walton, on Thursday the 6<sup>th</sup> July 2023.**

**Present** Councillor Y R Shaikh - Chair  
Councillor R Hardie - Vice Chair  
Councillor D Hazeldine  
Councillor J C Greene  
Councillor D M Karalius

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

The Chair opened the meeting at 7.01pm and welcomed everybody.

**47. Apologies for Absence**

The Chair reported that apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Bowles (work), Lacey (work), Williams (holiday), Harris (clash of meetings) and Borough Councillor Jervis.

**48. Adjournment**

There was no adjournment.

**49. Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 8<sup>th</sup> June 2023 were reviewed.

**It was resolved that the minutes be accepted as a true record. Proposed by Councillor Karalius and seconded by Councillor Hardie. All in favour.**

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

The report had been issued with the meeting documentation and the Clerk briefly ran through the items listed.

**Police Report.**

**Incidents of note:**

**Ellesmere Road-** Two shoplifting incidents.

**Chester Road-** Theft of farm equipment.

**St John's Church, Chester Road-** damage to main door to church.

**Speed indication Device (SID) Results.**

**Warrington Road- (towards Park Lane)**

4176 vehicles recorded passing the SID

Highest speed recorded 75mph.

Avg. vehicle speed 26mph.

**Warrington Road- (towards Hatton Lane)**

2991 vehicles recorded passing the SID  
Highest speed recorded 59mph.  
Avg. vehicle speed 26mph.

**Hatton Lane- (Towards Hatton)**

5324 vehicles recorded passing the SID  
Highest speed recorded 85mph.  
Avg. vehicle speed 37mph.

**Community engagement**

Walton Lea project. Continued support of the bike recycling project by delivering bikes from the police property system.

St Johns Church coffee morning.

**Other activities.**

Assisted DLVA with removal of vehicle parked on Chester Road, vehicle was last taxed 26years ago.

**Daresbury Expressway**

The Clerk said that councillors were now up to date with what was happening, from the emails he had circulated.

**Point of Order**

The Chair stated that a Point of Order had been raised at the June meeting and subsequent to that the Chair had received two formal complaints, from councillors about another councillor, which he had also passed on to the Clerk. These were associated with Code of Conduct A7 'Respect for Others'. These will be followed up, but it was not appropriate to go into it all at this meeting. The Clerk will investigate, broadly within procedures and guidelines, which the Chair will also be involved in and we will report back to the PC after that investigation.

**51. Report from Borough Councillor.**

Borough Councillor Wheeler advised that WBC were taking Livewire back into their management, they cannot bail them out as this would be an illegal subsidy.  
Highways have a £7-8m programme for road and pavement repairs and they have assessed what needs doing. A list will be produced and the PC will have a chance to comment. The money comes from the Department of Transport.

**Action - Borough Councillor Wheeler will send details to the Clerk.**

**52. Forward Plan Update.**

No report.

**53. 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 001483	payable to R J Hallam	Clerk's Salary	£324.20
Cheque number 001484	payable to HMRC	PAYE/Tax	£81.05
Cheque number 001485	payable to R J Hallam	Off Exp Ink	£9.99
Cheque number 001486	payable to Gardenia Gardens Ltd	Warden (Inv5408 42X£15=£630+VAT£126)	£756.00

Cheque number 001487	payable to Paroch. Church Co. of Walton Chesh.	Churchyard Maintenance	£300.00
Cheque number 001488	payable to D M Karalius	Coronation Signs	£42.07, plants
Cheque number 001489	payable to Lymm Parish Co.	Recharge costs for professional fees	£253.40
Cheque number 001490	payable to Knutsford Town Co.	2 X training social media	Karalius and Harris
Cheque number 001491	payable to S A Harris	Coronation ribbon	£15.00
Cheque number 001492	payable to D Hazeldine	Photo prints	Coronation capsule

***It was resolved that the Financial Report and the Accounts for Payment be approved. Proposed by Councillor Bowles and seconded by Councillor Bennett. The cheques were signed by Councillors Hardie and Karalius.***

***The cheque for Knutsford Town Council was not approved as Councillor Harris did not attend.***

**External Audit** – The Clerk advised that he had submitted the AGAR to PKF Littlejohn on the 19<sup>th</sup> June 2023.

#### **54. Report from Advisory Groups.**

##### **Events Planning Group.**

Councillor Karalius confirmed that the burying of the time capsule had gone really well. She thanked the councillors involved with this who had worked really hard.

There was a special thank you from councillors for the sterling work done by Frank and Ryan.

**Action – Clerk to send letter of thanks to both.**

##### **Donations Advisory Group**

Following Councillor Price's resignation, Councillor Greene said that he would be happy to join the Group and become the third member.

**Action – Clerk to email Councillors Harris and Bowles to establish who would now take the lead in reporting back to the PC.**

##### **Planning Matters**

The Planning report had been circulated to councillors with the meeting documentation.

Councillor Hardie gave some clarification to cases on the report.

##### **Climate and Ecological Emergency Group**

Councillor Bowles had circulated an email to all councillors on the 5<sup>th</sup> July bringing them up to date.

##### **Tree Planting.**

Councillor Hardie reported that Mrs Gadd had got support from 8 of her neighbours for more street trees and would like more leaflets posted.

He would check with WBC to see if they were amenable to more street tree planting. He did not think that wisps would be suitable for street tree planting.

His proposal to set aside up to £3k for street tree planting did not get a seconder. Several councillors felt that the proposal was not specific enough and there was insufficient information. The Chair allowed a discussion on tree planting in the parish.

The Chair said that there were opportunities for planting trees in areas other than streets and further hedge planting. Licenses would not be required, and trees/hedges could be planted by volunteers.

**Action – The Chair and Councillor Hardie will get together and follow up on these issues.**

##### **Report from Village Betterment Advisory Group**

The AED training had been carried out by Dave McClure in two sessions prior to the PC meeting. Only 2 councillors had attended. There were 8 people in the 1<sup>st</sup> session and 4 in the second.

##### **Risk Assessment Advisory Group.**

Councillor Hardie had completed a RA for the Village Triangle work session with Liam Lynn.

It was agreed that the PC would need to approach WBC in respect of the Christmas lights switch on event if there was a likelihood that more than 100 people would be attending.

The recent assets inspection had been carried out by Councillor Hardie on the 2<sup>nd</sup> June and a report compiled and circulated. This was approved and accepted by councillors.

#### **55. Report on Parish Matters**

##### **Local Plan.**

No Report.

##### **Other Parish Matters**

##### **Draft Minutes**

Councillor Greene raised a concern about the way the minutes are published on the website in draft form. A full discussion followed. The Clerk said he would consult with other Clerks and possibly ChALC/SoLCC about their procedures.

It was agreed that the Clerk, along with Councillors Greene and Hazeldine would get together and bring an agreed solution to the next PC meeting.

##### **Proposal from Councillor Hardie to move PC meetings to the smaller room in the Church Community Hall.**

Councillor Hardie explained his reasons and there was a short discussion but there was no seconder for Councillor Hardie's motion.

It was agreed that the Clerk could arrange to organise a meeting in the smaller room at some time in the future, so that they could form an opinion.

#### **56. Reports from Appointed Representatives**

**Footpaths/Towpaths** – No report.

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

**Walton Hall Estate** – No report.

Councillor Price's resignation was briefly discussed.

**Action – It was agreed that the Clerk should write to former Councillor Price to thank her for her 10 years as a parish councillor.**

**Action – Item on next agenda to include a replacement for Councillor Price on the Advisory Groups that she served on.**

**Action – Clerk to advise WBC of resignation and request the appropriate notices.**

**Action – It was agreed that the Clerk should approach the PCC about a replacement for the Vicar Anita Raggett on the Walton Hall Liaison Group**

**Action – Councillor Karalius to look into clarifying who is the sponsor of the Walton Liaison Group and how Walton Parish Council fits into this. This to be presented to the next PC meeting.**

#### **57. Review of Correspondence**

##### **Society of Local Council Clerks – Martyn's Law**

The Clerk explained the content of the email received from the Society of Local Council Clerks and a full discussion took place on the possible implications of the Law for the PC, particularly in relation to the Christmas lights switch on event.

It was agreed that at this stage we do not need to do anything, but it will be reviewed when the Law comes into being.

**Noise complaint from resident in respect of events at Walton Hall Estate**

The Clerk explained that the email had gone to Councillor Shaikh and Councillor Price with the Clerk being copied in.

As a result the Clerk did not acknowledge but forwarded a copy to Councillors Harris and Williams who were closely involved with the Liaison Group, who were discussing these kind of matters.

Councillor Shaikh said that he would also look at this. He had not responded originally as he was unsure who the email had come from.

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

**The next meeting of the Parish Council will be Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2023, at St. John's Community Church Hall, Old Chester Road, Walton, commencing at 7.00pm.**

The Chair thanked everyone for attending the meeting. The meeting closed at 20.34 hrs.