

**Minutes of the Meeting of Walton Parish Council held on Monday 14 March 2022 at 7.30pm
Village Hall, Walton**

Present- Councillors David Aspland (Chair), Brodie Clark (Vice-Chair), Stephen Sharp, Richard Prudhoe, David Taylor.

Also in Attendance Helena Buck (Clerk)
Ward Cllr Norma Harrington
3 Walton residents

1. **Apologies for absence noted and approved.** Cllrs Simpson, Wake.
2. **Declaration of any disclosable pecuniary interests.** None.
3. **To accept the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 10 January 2022 as a true and correct record.**

It was resolved that the minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 10 January 2022 be accepted and approved as a true record, proposed Cllr Aspland, seconded Cllr Sharp, agreed by all.

4. **Matters arising from the minutes.** None.

5. Police Matters: to consider the most recent Crime Information.

The most recent crime data available on the Interactive Police website was for January 2022.

- 1 crime reported in the Walton area: 1 Violence/sexual offence at Woodland Mews.
N.B. The category Violence/sexual offences includes neighbour disputes.
- 7 crimes reported at Wealstun Prison.

Councillor Prudhoe reported an incident of air rifle use in the village. Ward Cllr Harrington urged residents to report any incidents of crime so that Police could build up a crime picture and prioritise/target resources where appropriate.

Advice for reporting crime:

- For non-urgent issues and to pass on information, call West Yorkshire Police on **101**.
- In an emergency (if a crime is in progress or you think the offenders are nearby), call **999**.
- To give information anonymously, call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

PACT meeting, 1 March 2022: Crime figures for the Wetherby Ward continue to be relatively low compared with other areas across the city. Police and Ward Councillors raised the issue of perceived lack of police presence (incl. foot patrols) by members of the public. Police confirmed that they did go out on a regular basis in addition to responding to crime incidents, for example officers have recently been out across the Ward with speed gun devices and motorists have been apprehended.

Cllr Harrington again urged residents to attend the monthly PACT meetings where any issues or concerns could be discussed with their local Neighbourhood Policing Team. Date of next PACT meeting: Tuesday 5 April, 18.30-19.30pm at the Methodist Church, Bank Street, Wetherby.

6. **To consider correspondence received.** A correspondence list had been circulated and noted.

7. Financial Matters.

The following accounts were approved:

- a. Income and Expenditure to 28 February 2022 incl. Bank Reconciliation statement as at 28 February 2022.
- b. Income & expenditure forecast to 28 February 2022. Cllr Taylor emphasised the need to contain spending within precept limits in the forthcoming year.
- c. It was resolved to approve Richard Dorsey as Internal Auditor for 2021-22, proposed Cllr Aspland, seconded Cllr Taylor, agreed by all.

- d. HSBC bank charges. Cllr Taylor had submitted a complaint to HSBC regarding transfer of PC funds to HSBC's Small Business Banking Account as the Parish Council could not be categorised as a business. The complaint had been rejected, Clerk to follow up.
- e. Payments approved:
 - i. PC Crew GoCardless: GoCardless: Maintenance Contract Payment for QuickBooks Inv. 25649 dated 4 Jan 2022. £8.33 + £1.67 VAT. Tot £10.
 - ii. PC Crew GoCardless: Maintenance Contract Payment for QuickBooks Inv. 26043 dated 4 Feb 2022. £8.33 + £1.67 VAT. Tot £10.
 - iii. H. Buck - Reimbursement - Inca (Europe) 2-yr Domain Renewal, Annual basic domain hosting, Annual DNS service, Annual email service. Invoice dated 14 Jan paid by cheque: £109 + £21.80 VAT. Tot £130.80.
 - iv. YLCA Webinar: Broadening your Planning Knowledge (Cllr Sharp). £22.50.
 - v. PWLB Loan Repayment due 15 March 2022. £771.57.
 - vi. HSBC Business Current Account Charges (Bank Debit) 30 Nov 21-30 Dec 21: £8 maintenance fee + £2 activity charges. Total: £10.
 - vii. HSBC Business Current Account Charges (Bank Debit) 31 Dec 21-30 Jan 22: £8 maintenance fee + £6 activity charges. Total: £14.
 - viii. PC Crew GoCardless: Maintenance Contract Payment for QuickBooks Inv. 26423 dated 5 Mar 2022. £8.33 + £1.67 VAT. Tot £10.
 - ix. H. Buck Inst Inks reimbursement – Hewlett Packard Instant Inks DD by credit card for Office Jet 4650 Printer: Jan-Feb 21: £9.99 per month. £8.32 + £1.67 VAT x 2. Tot £19.98.
- f. Retrospective approval given for the following:
 - i. Ken Wilby reimbursement: materials for noticeboard refurbishment. £45.00.
- g. Approval for Clerk salary and expenses Jan-Feb 2022 (circulated).
Noted: the NJC new rates of pay applicable from 1 April 2021 (NALC 2022: EO1-22 2022-22 National Salary award).
- h. Approval for HMRC payment: Tax on Clerk's salary Jan-Feb 2022 (circulated).
- i. Noted: transfer between Walton PC bank accounts by authorised signatories Cllrs Aspland and Taylor on 6 Jan 2022.
- j. Noted: VAT recovered, HMRC £964.61 received 24 Feb 2022.

8. Update on Traffic Workshop (9 Feb) and Village Drop-In Session (12 Mar 22).

Cllr Clark reported that both events were very informative and successful. Approx. 50 residents had attended the 12 March drop-in session.

Summary notes are attached as Appendix 1. The Council noted the content and recommendations within the paper and were content for Councillor Clark to continue his working with the community and LCC towards delivering some traffic risk mitigation arrangements for the community of Walton.

9. Review of playground inspection schedule.

It was resolved that the Play Inspection Company would continue to carry out the statutory annual safety inspection and HAGS would carry out one operational inspection/year, agreed by all.

10. The Complaints Procedure was approved, proposed Cllr Aspland, seconded Cllr Taylor.

11. The updated ICO Model Publication Scheme was approved, proposed Cllr Aspland, seconded Cllr Taylor.

12. The Asset Register as at 28 February 2022 was approved, proposed Cllr Aspland, seconded Cllr Taylor.

13. Platinum Jubilee Celebrations - 4-day Bank Holiday, Thursday 2nd-Sunday 5th June.

This will be a Village Hall-led project in collaboration with the Parish Council and the Church. Plans are under way for a picnic, games and other celebratory activities.

14. Village Hall Development.

- a. Charitable status. All required documents for merge and asset transfer completed and sent by solicitors to the charities commission. Village Hall Committee awaiting a response.
- b. Extension. Two quotes for the reconfigured plans had been received. Both were significantly higher than the figure proposed for the initial design. If the project was to go ahead significant additional funding would be required.

15. Planning matters.

- a. Noted: Appeal against Refusal: Appeal Ref: APP/N4720/X/21/3286837 Land opposite Ivy House Farm, Main Street, Walton, Wetherby LS23 7DJ. Description: Certificate of Existing Lawful Development for Use of land as domestic garden. Site visit made on 1 February 2022 by Inspector appointed by the Secretary of State. Decision date: 01 March 2022. The appeal is made under section 195 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as amended against a refusal to grant a certificate of lawful use or development (LDC). The appeal is made against the decision of Leeds City Council. The use for which an LDC is sought is use of land for domestic purposes. Summary decision: The appeal is allowed and a certificate of lawful use or development is issued, in the terms set out in the Formal Decision.
- b. Application 21/10041/FU/NE For: First floor rear extension Site At: Ivy House Farm Main St Walton. Retrospective approval given for the supplementary note forwarded to LCC Planning on 1 Feb 2022. (Non-participation of Chair - possible conflict of interest).
- c. Application Number: 22/00464/FU/NE For: Variation of condition 11No. (Landscaping) to previously approved planning application 21/03766/FU for amendment to condition wording. Site At: British Library Street 5 Thorp Arch Estate. No Objections.
- d. Application Number: 22/00664/TR For: Crown lift to 5m and 25% thin on 3 trees only. Site At: Walton House Hall Park Road Walton. No Objections.
- e. Application Number: 22/01138/TR For: 5 DAY NOTICE T1 Eucalyptus - To remove cracked limb due to storm damage as it overhangs garage roof and needs removing asap also to complete 20-25% (4m) height reduction. Site At: Meadowcroft Springs Lane Walton. No Objections.

Action: Cllr Sharp to contact LCC's Conservation Officer regarding croft and toft development within the village.

16. Annual Parish Meeting. It was agreed that the APM will take place at 7.00pm on Monday 9 May 2022.

17. Minor items (matters about which no decision can be taken at this meeting) and to notify the Clerk of items for inclusion on the agenda of the next meeting. None.

18. Date of next meeting which will be the statutory Annual Meeting of the Parish Council: Monday 9 May 2022, 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Signed.....Chairman

Date.....

Contact the Clerk at secretary@walton-pc.gov.uk

Appendix 1

Walton Traffic Calming – some next steps.

The purpose of this note is to invite the Parish Council to consider next steps in respect of the anticipated build-up of traffic volumes over the next two years.

The immediate context is increasingly clear – the Thorp Arch new housing development; the implications of the library expansion; the likelihood of a substantial Garden Centre within the Trading estate and, of course, additional housing within Walton – all have traffic implications.

As a Parish Council, we have agreed to commence discussions with key parties towards establishing the measures that ensure that safety (to people; vehicles and traffic) is fully recognised and that effective mitigation arrangements are, as necessary, introduced.

A workshop of ‘experts’ was held in February, followed by a full community drop in event on 12th March. Both had the purpose of eliciting sensible, affordable options towards managing the forward safety risk.

This note seeks to reflect a number of measures which the Parish Council might choose to agree as the next stage of the safety arrangements and it summarises and incorporates the experience, the thinking and the preferences of the expert and community cohorts from those two meetings – which in turn had their basis in the *Leeds Traffic Survey*; an *Independent Traffic Review* and the *engagement exercise* carried out by Penny Stables.

So, findings to date;

On the question of highest risk areas within the village, it is clear that the key concerns are,

- The ‘S’ bend at the village end of School Lane.
- The Wetherby Rd end of School Lane.
- The Wetherby Rd/Walton Rd junction.

There was also a more generalised concern on the volume of speeding traffic within the village and on HGV vehicles through the village.

With these risks in mind, a number of favoured measures are becoming clear.

1. A full review and reconsideration of relevant ‘signage’ at the immediate access points to the village and more broadly.

The work would look to ensure the appropriateness of the signage; the best location and the greatest impact. The review has now been initiated by Leeds Traffic Management who will look to ensure a linkage between the review and mitigating the risks of HGV accessing Walton; speeding traffic through the village and the Wetherby Rd/Walton Rd junction.

Leeds have confirmed that they will share their proposals with us – seeking our views and agreement. Nil cost to Walton

2. A consideration of a one-way option on School Lane.

The work would look to ensure that the risks associated with the ‘blind corner’ (‘S’ bend) and the Wetherby Rd/cycle track junction can be mitigated. It is an attractive option but it is recommended that the Parish Council commissions some early modelling work to confirm that the redirected traffic does not create a greater risk.

3 Installation of ‘gates’ at all entry points to the village with appropriate signage and road markings.

The work would look to ensure that there is a clear sense that drivers are entering a ‘different’ community area which requires greater care. Appropriate signage and a different road surface support that impression to encourage speed considerate driving. Cost per pair of gates £2k. Road signage, nil cost to Walton.

4 The Parish Council should take a more proactive approach to challenging the behaviours associated with speeding,

Periodic speed guns; reporting our concerns on enforcement directly to the police; reporting more regularly to the Trading Estate; Football Club; Prison.

Additionally, the Parish Council might also wish to consider,

5 The installation of 'table ramps' at the two busiest entry points to the village (Springs Lane and Hall Park Road).

The work would contribute to the reduction of traffic speeds at the two 'fastest' areas. Minimum of £5k per ramp, costed to Walton.

There were a number of rejected options (at either or both meetings).

- Flashing speed lights (not judged to be effective in reducing speed).
- Speed 'bumps' (costly, noisy, damaging, problematic with agricultural vehicles).
- Chicanes, road narrowing (already in place via 'car parking' on Main St).
- Obstructive 'planters' on roads (a significant liability on the village in the event of accidents).

Equally there were other ideas which, whilst welcomed, are not recommended because they are either disproportionate, not possible, no benefit or beyond reasonable cost,

- Close Spring Lane.
- 20 mph limit on Wighill Lane.
- One way system around the entire village.
- Double yellow lines on most roads through the village.

When we submit our proposal to Leeds – they will need to approve and they will wish to visit and carry out a review of what we are seeking; its relevance; the implications and any legal considerations.

So, what is asked of the Parish Council today;

- Does the Parish Council agree to progress the first four options (including modelling work on option two plus cost issues as necessary)?
- Does the Parish Council have a view on the fifth measure?

Brodie Clark CBE

Vice Chair, Walton Parish Council