

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Walton Parish Council held on Monday 4 March 2024
at 7.30pm at Walton Cricket Club.**

Present: Cllrs David Aspland (Chairman), Richard Prudhoe (Vice Chairman), Mark Wake, Ed Kilby, Stephen Sharp

Apologies: Cllr Edward Simpson

In attendance: Deborah Marshall (Clerk to the Parish Council)

Guests: Ward Cllrs Alan Lamb, Norma Harrington & Penny Stables.

One member of the public was in attendance.

1. To receive & approve apologies for absence.

Apologies had been received from Cllr Simpson.

Resolved: That the apology and reason for absence be accepted.

2. To disclose or draw attention to any disclosable pecuniary interests for the purposes of Section 31 of the Localism Act 2011 and paragraphs 13-17 of the Members' Code of Conduct. Also to declare any other significant interests which the Member wishes to declare in the public interest in accordance with paragraphs 18-20 of the Members' Code of Conduct.

None.

3. To accept the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 8 January 2024 as a true and correct record

Resolved: That the minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 8 January 2024 be accepted and approved as a true record.

4. Planning Matters

i. **To consider retrospective application 24/00393/FU - demolition of outbuildings at Walnut Farm, Main Street, Walton. Resolved:** Response submitted: Objection dated 08.02.24.

ii. **To consider a notification from Wharfedale Property Management for the proposed demolition and replacement of 3 x commercial/industrial units at junction of Street 7 and Avenue C West on Thorpe Arch Estate.** A proposal had been circulated and Wharfedale Property Management had requested an official response. **Resolved:** The PC had no objections.

iii. **To receive an update on 20/08547/FU Change of use of land for the siting of 8No. Glamping units**
The application was approved on 08.02.24 but is highly conditioned on adequate sewerage and drainage. There is a 3 year time limit in which this must be installed. Chris Johnson said a visit from YW had been requested and that YW will meet this week to discuss the drainage improvement project in Walton.
Resolved: That the update be noted.

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

The December and January crime report was circulated. The report still combines both the Collingham and Harewood and Wetherby Wards. There were 250 crimes reported in the two months. 33 of the 66 assaults recorded are related to HMP Wealstun / Wetherby YO1 and 3 out of the 11 recorded drugs offences are also related to the prisons. Cllr Harrington said that a single Wetherby Ward report would become available from March onwards. **Resolved:** That the crime report be noted.

6. Financial Matters

a. **Income and Expenditure to 29 February 2024 including Bank Reconciliation.**

Resolved: That the Bank Reconciliation and Income and Expenditure 1 April 2023 to 29 February 2024 be approved. Closing bank balances at 29 February totalled £19,282.08.

b. Income & expenditure forecast to 31st March 2024.

Resolved: That Income & expenditure forecast to 31st March 2024 be noted.

c. Payments for approval since last PC meeting:

i. HSBC Bank Charges. (£17.86)

ii. Clerk Salary January and February 2024 (£380.68)

iii. HMRC. Clerk Tax and NI Jan and Feb 2024. (£95.20)

d. Payments for approval.

i. R Prudhoe – Minibus to Leeds Civic Hall (Plans Panel) £100 + VAT

ii. JE Simpson & Sons: 2024 rent for footpath/cycle track (£500) + Playground (£100). Subtotal £600 + VAT. Tot: £720.00.

Resolved: That the above payments be approved.

e. Purchases

i. To consider the purchase of a replacement bus shelter plaque using CIL

Cllr Prudhoe reported that this was still in progress and that he was yet to receive costs.

ii. To consider a quote of £300 for Triax test of playground matting

It was proposed that the Cllrs lift the mats and remove and compacted soil if necessary.

Resolved: That Triax testing be not considered necessary at the current time.

7. Village Volunteer Day

i. To consider any arrangements for the volunteer day on 16th March

Cllr Prudhoe said he had sent out an email to promote the day, but there had not been a strong response and around 8 volunteers are still needed. Cllr Stables said she would ask the Green Group for volunteers. Cllr Sharp reported that the weeds have now been treated with Roundup in preparation for tree planting. Cllr Aspland said that the owner of the hedge along the cycle path had received agreement from his insurers and that replacement hedge had now been ordered to fill the gap created by a vehicle collision.

ii. To consider a litter picking risk assessment

A copy of the risk assessment had been circulated. **Resolved:** That the litter picking risk assessment be approved.

iii. To consider a tree planting risk assessment

A copy of the risk assessment had been circulated. **Resolved:** That the tree planting risk assessment be approved.

8. Highways

a. To consider any actions from the meeting with LCC Highways.

Members of the Parish Council met with Nick Borrás, Principal Highways Engineer and undertook a walking assessment of the village. The PC was informed that the low level fencing for the verge on School Lane was still with the contractor and that an alternative contractor would be sought to expedite its installation. It was agreed that the PC would fund the village entry gateway signs on all four entrances to the village with CIL and that Highways will need to confirm the exact locations of where the 20mph speed limit commences before locations can be suggested. It was proposed that various options be then put out to public consultation. It was agreed that Highways will repaint the existing road markings within 6 weeks and supply additional 20mph signs. The location of the cycle path exit at Thorp Arch was examined and Nick Borrás said he would check on how the location of the path was determined and who approved it.

Resolved: That the above actions be approved.

9. To receive an update from the Village Hall

Cllr Wake advised the PC that building work is now underway. New drainage has been installed which has used some of the contingency and further grant monies have been obtained. Unfortunately, it has been found that the existing roof joists at the rear of the building have woodworm and dry rot and these will need to be replaced. The Village Hall is confident that funding can be found to cover this.

Resolved: That the update be noted.

10. Correspondence and future issues for consideration

i. Matters arising from the minutes of the 8 January 2024 meeting.

- Cllr Aspland said he would draft a letter to the existing cycle track sponsors to see if they would be willing to renew their sponsorship. It was agreed the cost would be £200 for 3 years.

ii. To consider correspondence received by the Clerk since the last meeting.

The list of correspondence had been circulated. A complaint sent to the Ward Councillors regarding the frequency and reliability of the No 7 Bus was noted. The PC also received a complaint regarding HGV's from Thorp Arch Trading Estate using Walton as a cut through. A list of companies had been compiled from those observed by the resident. The list was sent to Wharfedale Property Management who have since sent a reminder to the operators. **Resolved:** That the correspondence be noted.

iii. To receive 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.

Cllr Kilby asked about the open access to the Fox and Hounds car park. Cllr Aspland said he would write to Florets to ask whether there were any plans for a barrier.

With no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 20:40.

Signed _____ Date _____