

**Draft Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Walton Parish Council held on
Monday 6 November 2023 at 7.30pm at Walton Village Hall**

Present: Cllr David Aspland, Cllr Mark Wake, Cllr Ed Kilby, Cllr Richard Prudhoe

Apologies: Cllrs Edward Simpson and Stephen Sharp

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

Guests: Ward Councillors Norma Harrington & Penny Stables

Five members of the public were in attendance. The Chairman opened the meeting with the Public Open Forum. Brodie Clark attended the meeting to provide an update on the drainage issues and progress made with Yorkshire Water. This was covered under agenda item 4iii. Chris Johnson attended the meeting to provide an update on Planning Application 20/08547/FU Change of use of land for the siting of 8No. Glamping units for holiday use, storage building and ancillary works including a new access road. This is covered under agenda item 4.vii. Brian Eldred attended the meeting to provide an update on funding for the Village Hall extension and improvement. This is covered under agenda item 9.

DRAFT MINUTES

1. To receive & approve apologies for absence.

None.

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 4 September 2023 as a true and correct record

Resolved: That the minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 4 September 2023 be accepted and approved as a true record.

4. Planning Matters

i. To consider a the appeal to Planning Application 22/03015/FU - Erection of farm shop and cafe with associated car parking and landscaping - Land East of Smiddy Hill

The reasons for refusal of the Planning Application were impact on the trees and the shop's spatial location within the Conservation Area. It was considered that the PC should submit an objection based on the above factors which are still a major concern for the village despite other issues having been addressed by the applicants.

Resolved: That the Parish Council submit a response to the Planning Inspectorate objecting to the appeal.

ii. To consider Planning Application 23/05977/FU- Erection of anti-drone netting, 1.2m fence post extenders and 7m central columns at HM Prison Wealstun.

Resolved: That there be no objections to the above application.

iii. To receive an update on flooding and drainage issues on Hall Park Road.

An update has now been received from Yorkshire Water (YW) on a probable way forward. This will likely be the installation of a large underground tank or water pool at a cost of £1-£2 million to YW. A financial approvals process will need to be followed for 2025-30. The Resident Group has been liaising with both the Operations Team and Finance Teams at YW and YW recognise there is

a level of urgency to the work. In the meantime, YW has agreed to clean the Walton drains at regular intervals and it will advise Walton residents each time this occurs. The Resident Group asked that the PC provide a progress update to the residents and circulate the advice on what is appropriate to flush into the sewage system. The Group will also place notices around the village. It was also requested that the PC write to YW to support the improvement works and provide a reminder on how long progress had taken to date.

Resolved: That the PC send an update and reminder in the November newsletter and write to YW to support the proposals and encourage action to be taken.

iv. To receive an update on land ownership on Springs Lane and Main Street

The Clerk reported that she had consulted with both Wetherby Town Council and Wetherby Civic Society but neither keep historical land records for the former WRDC. A request has now been submitted to Leeds Land Records and a response is being awaited.

v. To receive an update on the Fox and Hounds Public House

It was reported that little interest had been shown in the purchase of the property.

vi. To consider the Leeds Local Plan Update: Pre Submission Changes

Cllr Aspland reviewed the document. The focus of the Local Plan update is on Climate Change with policies on carbon reduction, flood risk, green and blue infrastructure including biodiversity and nature conservation, place-making and sustainable infrastructure. Cllr Stables was asked if she could read the Walton Neighbourhood Plan and suggest any areas for improvement.

Resolved: That Cllr Stables review the Neighbourhood Plan and provide feedback.

vii. Other Planning Matters

20/08547/FU Change of use of land for the siting of 8No. Glamping units - Cllr Alan Lamb will be meeting with Leeds Planners on 7th November to discuss the application. It was reported that some changes have taken place since the submission of the application. The entrance at Blind Lane has now been fenced and the applicant has now moved some 20 miles from the site. The application will likely be reviewed by Plans Panel in January 2024.

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

The Clerk circulated the October Crime report. There were 143 crimes reported in October across the whole of the Wetherby Ward. Of the 28 assaults recorded, 17 are related to HMP Wealstun / Wetherby YO1.

Resolved: That the report be noted.

6. To consider dates for the 2024 Parish Council and Annual Parish meetings

The dates had been circulated prior to the meeting. The Clerk advised the Council that the first Monday in January is a bank holiday and proposed that the meeting be moved to second Monday (8th January). The first Monday in May is also a bank holiday and it was proposed 13th May be used as the date for the PC and APM meetings. The Village Hall will be closed on Monday 4th March for refurbishment. Cllr Aspland said he would speak to the Cricket Club to check its availability. **Resolved:** That the dates and proposed venue change be approved.

7. Financial Matters

a. Income and Expenditure to 31 October 2023 including Bank Reconciliation.

Resolved: That the Bank Reconciliation and Income and Expenditure 1 April 2023 to 31 October 2023 be approved. Closing bank balances at 31 October totalled £21,042.54.

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

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

c. To consider the opening of a Lloyd's Instant Access savings account, the transfer of £6,472.29 from the HSBC savings account and the subsequent closure of the HSBC account.

Resolved: That a Lloyd's Savings Account be opened and £6,472.29 be transferred from the HSBC Savings Account.

d. To approve a further transfer of £5,000 via cheque from HSBC to the Lloyd's Current Account

Resolved: That £5,000 be transferred to the Lloyd's Account via cheque.

e. To consider quotes for the 2023-24 annual internal audit

One quote had been received from Rachel Pearson at £183.60. **Resolved:** That the quote of £183.60 be approved.

f. To consider a draft 2024-25 budget

A draft budget had been circulated prior to the meeting. The Clerk advised the PC that the 2024-25 Tax Base would not be announced until just before Christmas and the proposed budget used the 2023-24 Tax Base. A 4.97% increase had been proposed which would equate to a total precept of £7,453.00 and a rise in the annual Band D cost from £60.37 to £63.38. **Resolved:** That the proposed budget be approved in principle to be formally approved at the January meeting following the receipt of the 2024-25 tax base.

g. Payments for approval since last PC meeting:

- i. PC Crew GoCardless: Maintenance Contract Inv 33474 dated 5 October 2023. £8.33 + £1.67 VAT. Tot £10.
- ii. PC Crew GoCardless: Maintenance Contract Inv 33834 dated 4 November 2023. £8.33 + £1.67 VAT. Tot £10.
- iii. Clerk salary and expenses September & October 2023 (SO) (circulated).
- iv. HMRC. PAYE & NI for Clerk September & October 2023 (DD) £88.40.

Resolved: That the above payments be approved.

8. Highways

a. To receive an update on the road safety schemes

The Clerk circulated an update from Nick Borrás prior to the meeting. HGV signs have been mounted but a date is still being awaited from the contractors for the implementation of the village entrance surfacing features on School Lane and Smiddy Hill, the improved advanced signing of the Wetherby Road/Walton Rd junction and the 'S' bend on School Lane and the introduction of low level fencing around the grass verge on the inside of the S bend to remove the obstructive parking. Cllr Harrington advised the PC that it would have to self-fund any verge placed 'gateways' to the village.

9. To receive an update on Village Hall Development

Brian Eldred attended the meeting to give an update on grant funding for the Village Hall extension. Funding of £187,000 has now been offered, of which £70K will be provided by FCC, 40K by Biffa, £28K by The Platinum Jubilee, £20K from the Local Charitable Trust and £9.9K from National Lottery. The remaining funding will be provided by the VHMC and a number of other donators. The proposed extension will house five new unisex toilets and a disabled toilet which can also be accessed externally. The internal refurbishment will include new flooring and infrared heating. Work is expected to commence in January 2024. Cllr Wake reported that the bonfire event had gone very well with 450 attendees and c £1,500 has been raised. On 25th November the Village Hall will host a Christmas market in the marquee and Tingley Brass Band will attend. Mulled wine will be served at the Church. Any profits made will be donated to Wetherby Food Bank. **Resolved:** That the reports be welcomed.

10. Correspondence and future issues for consideration

i. Matters arising from the minutes of the 4 September 2023 meeting.

None.

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

- Cllr Harrington requested that the PC circulate the West Yorkshire Bus Consultation and resident survey. It was agreed this would be included in the November PC newsletter.
- Cllr Aspland said he had received a report that a tree in the Village had been sabotaged. Cllr Stables said she was aware of this and was already investigating it.

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.

None received.

11. Date of next meeting

Resolved: That the date of the next meeting be Monday 8th January 2024 in the Village Hall.

With no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 20:47