

Walpole Parish Council

The Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting of Walpole Parish Council held at the Community Centre, Summer Close, Walpole St Andrew on Thursday 12th September 2013 at 7.00pm.

Present – Chairman - Cllr Richard Blunt
Councillors - Andy Bliss, Richard Broden, Richard Cousins, Richard Green, Emma Hanslip, Maureen Patrick, James Whitaker & Pat Wiseman.
Borough Councillor Tony Wright.
Emma Bateman – Clerk, Janet Luck – Website, Irene Hunter – Press
47 Parishioners.

154/13 Public Participation – to suspend the meeting to allow public participation

Discussion regarding the Residents views regarding the Detailed Policies and Sites Plan preferred options consultation. A discussion took place regarding the Consultation and the proposed preferred sites from the Borough Council. Parishioners raised concerns about whether land behind the proposed preferred option on Church Road would be developed in the future, why the figure of 16 homes when the village infrastructure is so poor, with no buses to Wisbech, poor access to health care provision, inadequate access to shopping, poor broadband, low water pressure, over-subscribed primary school and no pub or post office. From the houses that have been built recently, many have gone into the rental market as they are not selling and several stand empty. Concerns were raised regarding the overdevelopment of the village, more consideration should be given to current planning applications, current policy has allowed for infill development and this has provided the quota of houses required without having any extra designated development areas. Residents are concerned that houses being developed are not suitable to rural life, the type of houses that are being built are more urban in design and space, i.e. gardens too small, insufficient off road parking. Electricity supply, sewage and rainwater disposal is already inadequate for the village now. The two preferred sites are on narrow roads with no footpaths in places, traffic is too fast. There would be a loss of the “ruralness” of the village if were to be overdeveloped. Preference is for continuation of the existing policy of infill development which has provided 40 houses in recent years. One resident said that the village will die if no new people come into the village and would like the site on Church Road developed as there would be provision for locals to have those houses.

This session closed at 8.20pm.

155/13 Apologies – to accept apologies and reasons for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Rosa Blunt, Annie Treen and County Councillor Fred Agnew

156/13 Declarations of Interest – to record declarations of interest from members on any item to be discussed

Cllr Patrick declared an interest in Finance 161/13 II.

157/13 Minutes – to approve the minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 8th August 2013.

Two attendees were missed off the Present section – Cllr Patrick and Green were added.

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 8th August 2013, having been previously circulated and with the above amendment were accepted as a true record of the meeting. Proposed by Cllr Cousins, seconded by Cllr Broden. Agreed

158/13 Matters Arising

1. New waste bin – has been ordered and will be fitted free of charge by the suppliers on to grass.
2. The Chase Lighting Scheme – Speak to Roy Payne from Westcotec and arrange information for residents (possibly an extra meeting)
3. Allotments – Mr Stevenson has given up his tenancy of his allotments. The Council accepted his notice with immediate effect. Advert to go into the Crier, Website and noticeboards.

159/13 Detailed Policies and Sites Plan preferred options consultation – to agree the Parish Council’s response to the consultation.

Councillors discussed the comments from the Public and agreed to respond as follows:

Walpole Parish Council response to the Detailed Policies and Sites Specific Allocation Plan Consultation.

Walpole Parish Council rejects the Borough Council of King’s Lynn and West Norfolk’s proposals for the Detailed Policies and Sites Specific Allocation in The Walpoles. The Parish Council would like to see the existing development boundaries to remain as in the last 5 years the current development plan has allowed for 40 houses to be developed. In that 40 properties, there have been 7 individual properties and 3 larger developments of housing at Townsend Farm, Cuttings Court and the Wendals Herbs site. The Parish believes that there is no need for any further identified sites for the future development in The Walpoles as the Parish can provide enough sites for the proposed allocation of 16 houses within the existing development boundary. The Parish Council has had extensive consultation

with the residents at a recent Parish Council meeting and the majority of residents who attended the meeting do not want any more major developments in the villages. There have been several new builds recently which have not sold and been put into the rental market. The Parish infrastructure cannot and does not support larger developments, the Primary School is oversubscribed and classes are full to their maximum capacity, there is poor water pressure in the villages, poor availability of broadband, the bus services have been cut back, there is no bus to Wisbech at all as this service was terminated earlier this year making it difficult to shop or visit health providers locally unless everyone has access to their own transport. The Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk must consider these factors regarding allocations of specific site for development.

160/13 Planning - to consider Planning Applications as listed plus any others received after publication of the agenda.
13/01158/F –Amendment to approved plans to allow increase in height of installed resistor units at land east of Walpole Substation, Walpole Bank, WSA. Support.

13/01286/F - Detached Dwelling and Integrated Garage at land SW of The Willows, Pycroft Lane, Walpole St Peter. Support.

161/13 Finance

I. To consider any request for grants and donations if received
None received.

II. to approve payments

i.	WPFRT	Hall Hire	12.00	12.00
ii.	CGM Ltd	Grass Cutting	153.75	184.50
iii.	MHB Services	Streetlight Maintenance Aug	48.31	57.97
iv.	MHB Services	Streetlight Maintenance Sept	48.31	57.97
v.	Command Pest Control	Mole Treatment Swingfield	65.00	78.00
vi.	Lawnboy	Church Mower wheel bearings	13.22	15.86
vii.	Mrs M Patrick	Bin Liners for Play park bin	18.00	21.60
viii.	Mrs E Bateman	Clerk's Salary and Expenses	369.07	369.07
ix.	E.ON	Energy charge	68.53	71.96

Cllr Bliss proposed all payments be made, seconded by Cllr Wiseman. Agreed.

III. to record receipts

Village Crier	Adverts	202.00	202.00
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IV. To view the books of Account

Cllr Bliss looked at the Books.

162/13 Correspondence

1. Robert Hall Charity – have offered £3,000 on condition that all remaining funds have been raised. Write to the Charity Trustees and explain that the project has now been split into two separate funding projects and ask if the £3K can be put towards one project.
2. Sutton Bridge Power Station – re-consultation on the proposed Gas Fired Power Station proposal – consultation ends 14th October. Cllr Broden to attend VIP Information session on 21st September.
3. PCSO – Crime Figures – 1 burglary at dwelling, 2 burglaries other than dwelling, 3 criminal damage, patrol of Community Centre Carpark on a regular basis. Cllr Patrick advised the Council that the Police would like the Parish Council to have dialogue with the Children's Home Management about the problems. Councillors agreed and Cllr Patrick will arrange this.
4. Tilney St Lawrence Parish Council – invitation to meeting regarding Terrington St John Surgery on 16th October 2013. Cllr Patrick will attend, clerk to liaise with Cllr Patrick for a list of complaints to advise Henry Bellingham MP.
5. KLWNBC – Consultation for Walpole Cross Keys Neighbourhood Plan – Councillors would like John Clements from KLWNBC to advise on Neighbourhood Plans – clerk to arrange a visit for November or December.
6. Transport in the Walpoles – Nicky Stevenson is to come and talk to the Parish Council on 14th November.
7. The Rural Fair Share Petition – Petition to give rural authorities a fairer share of funding.
8. Norfolk Link - Newsletter

163/13 WPFRT Sports Field - to discuss the proposed access to the field

Invite BMX Club representatives to the October meeting to discuss the planning application. Cllr Bliss advised that an access will cost in the region of £5K and will get a price for the whole project. Cllr Bliss will ask for clarity on the piping of the dyke and would like IDB to come and assess the area and give a specification at a cost of £50. Clerk will speak to IDB.

164/13 Village Crier and Website – to receive any reports from the Editors

1. Non-payment for advert – The Editor is unable to get the payment for the advert, councillors agreed to write off the charge.

2. Distribution of Criers – Cllr Patrick will give Mrs Luck a list of distributors.
3. The website has had 2200 hits.
4. There was a comment regarding dog fouling, Cllr Broden responded.

165/13 To receive councillors' reports of Villagers' Concerns

Primary School – Cllr Hanslip advised that there were comments about oversubscription at the Primary School. Councillors agreed that a letter should be written regarding plans for intake policy and growth in relation to the proposed development plan.

Telephone Box – on Wisbech Road is overgrown and also vandalised, Clerk to write to BT.

Anglian Water Pumping Stations – These are overgrown and need tidying up, Clerk to write to AW.

Townsend Estate – the lane at the rear of the houses is blocked up next to No1, Clerk to write to Freebridge.

Walnut Tree at School Lane – concern that the tree is poor condition, clerk to speak to NCC.

Planters in niche in wall by Almshouses – Councillors discussed and agreed that no planters would be provided by the Parish Council

Cllr Wright left the meeting at 9.55pm

Townsend Farm – Cllr Wiseman advised that the pavement o/s new houses is used for parking. Cllr Blunt advised that there is no legislation to stop parking on pavements in rural villages.

Hall Hire Fees – councillors discussed and agreed to pay £20 per meeting as from 1st January 2014, proposed by Cllr Wiseman and seconded by Cllr Cousins. Agreed.

166/13 Highways - To receive reports of road and footpath faults

West Drove North – pothole

Chalk Road – drainage on the wrong side of the road

167/13 Streetlighting – to receive reports of faulty lighting columns

Frenchs Road No1 not working

168/13 To receive items for the next agenda

169/13 Date and Time of Next Meeting – Thursday 10th October 2013 at 7.00pm in the Community Centre.

Meeting closed at 10.10pm

