

WALPOLE PARISH COUNCIL

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Walpole Parish Council held at the Community Centre, Summer Close, Walpole St Andrew on Thursday 9th April 2015 following immediately on from the Annual Assembly.

Present – Chairman - Cllr Richard Blunt
Councillors – Andy Bliss, Rosa Blunt, Richard Green (arrived 7.15pm), Maureen Patrick, James Whitaker and Pat Wiseman
Borough Cllr Tony Wright
Emma Bateman – Clerk, Irene Hunter – Press, Peter Luck – Village Crier and Website
Parishioners – Gill Henderson, Lynne Newman, Kate and David Lawty

Chairman's Notice

The notice had previously been read to the Assembly at 7pm and was not re-read.

(In the interests of openness and transparency, councillors and members of the public are reminded that the law permits any person to film, record, photograph or use social media in order to report on the proceedings of a meeting of the Parish Council or its committees when they are open to the public. This does not extend to live verbal commentary.

Filming and photography will only be permitted from the area designated. No flash photography or additional lighting should be used without prior consent.

Anyone wishing to report on the meeting should notify the Clerk or Chairman so that they can be afforded reasonable facilities. People under the age of 18 or other members of the public not wishing to be filmed or photographed should notify the Clerk or Chairman and should sit in the area designated for this purpose.

Improper conduct or any disruptive behaviour could result in expulsion from the meeting.)

Cllr Richard Blunt changed the order of the Agenda as the Annual Assembly had concluded at 7.15pm and commenced the Ordinary Parish Council meeting.

58/15 Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor Richard Cousins.

59/15 To suspend the meeting for Public Participation

There was no participation from the public.

60/15 Minutes – to approve the minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 12th March 2015.

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 12th March, having been previously circulated were accepted as a true record of the meeting. Proposed by Cllr Whitaker, seconded by Cllr Bliss. Agreed.

61/15 Declarations of Interest – to record declarations of interest from members on any item to be discussed

Cllr Patrick declared an interest in Finance 65/15 C.i.

62/15 Matters Arising – to record matters dealt with arising from the last meeting

1. War Memorial cleaning – Fairhaven Stone have advised they will start the cleaning of the War Memorial in St Peter's Churchyard on 21st April. Clerk will advise the Church Wardens.
2. Trod – the application for funding from Parish Partnership was successful and the trod will go ahead. The contribution will be approved in Finance. Cllr Whitaker asked when the trod will be installed. Clerk to ask NCC where in the schedule for this year.
3. Townsend Estate Allotments – Michael Walsh from KLWNBC has advised that the current tenant has not indicated that he would like to give up tenancy. Councillors discussed and agreed for the Clerk to ask when the tenancy should end, if it is an Annual Agreement, and advise MW that the land does not look like it is being productively used. Also, to ask if the tenant has been asked if they want to give up the tenancy.
4. Litter issues by School – Cllr Rosa Blunt advised that she had spoken to the Head Teacher's secretary, who advised that children are regularly reminded not to drop litter and they have regular litter picks around the school.

63/15 To suspend the meeting to receive Brian Jones, Liaison Officer for Dong Energy.

Brian Jones explained that he had been appointed as the Liaison Officer for Dong Energy and took up post on 23rd March 2015. Mr Jones liaises with all organisations affected by the Race Bank Off-Shore Wind Farm from fishermen in the Wash to RSPB, Parish Councils etc. The Clerk had met with Mr Jones prior to the meeting and discussed issues about traffic flow. Mr Jones advised that the planning permission for the Wind Farm had been put in in 2008/9 and had two proposed traffic routes approved, one using A17, King John Bank, Marsh Road, Wisbech Road, Walpole Bank for employees and light vehicles only, the second route was to use A47, West Walton School Road, Mill Road and Walpole Bank for HGVs. Dong realised that the West Walton route was not practical and spoke with a contact at the Sub Station who advised that all traffic had been using the A17 route for some time. It was assumed that Dong could use this route and did so until an objection was received and Norfolk County Council told Dong not to use the A17 route for HGVs so all HGVs are now coming through West Walton past the two Schools. Dong are now submitting a planning application to NCC to vary the conditions of the routes so that they are usable by all vehicles and HGVs can resume using the A17 route. NCC are yet to make a decision. There was a discussion about the routes. Mr Jones advised that this phase was the busiest for HGVs and was having 55 HGV trips per day, the phase is due to finish on 18th April. The next phase will be piling and concrete lorries coming in to deliver concrete. Cllr Whitaker

asked if there is a timetable for the phases. Mr Jones advised that there isn't a definitive timetable but the project is to take 18-24 months. Dong are trying to find the written permission for the Sub-Station vehicles to use the A17 route but this hasn't been forthcoming. The planning application variation is with the County Council and Mr Jones will give the reference number to the Clerk to refer to County Cllr Agnew.

64/15 Planning

A. Applications

15/00181/F – Retention of detached dwelling (revised design) at site SW of The Willows, Pycroft Lane, WSP. No comments were made.

15/00521/F – Extension to dwelling at 3 Marsh Road, WSA. Support.

B. Borough Council Decisions

14/01059/NMAM_1 – Land east of Walpole Sub Station, Walpole Bank, WSA. Non material amendment to PP 14/01059/F, alternative substation design to serve Race Bank Off Shore Wind Farm, inc landscaped bund, new access roads and creation of new drainage ditch and alternative substation equipment. Permission granted.

14/01662/F – Storage, The Marsh, WSA. Demolition of derelict commercial building and construction of 4-bed two storey dwelling with detached double garage. Permission refused.

15/00102/F – The Bungalow, Marsh Rd, WSA. Construction of 1-bed, s/c annex to be attached to existing bungalow. Permission granted.

15/00171/F – Millfield, Mill Rd, WSP. Extension to existing bungalow, removal of conservatory, demolish existing out building, erect new 3-bay carriage barn and minor window and door modifications to existing bungalow. Permission granted.

15/00118/F - Millfield, Mill Rd, WSP. Erection of new agricultural barn. Permission granted.

C. Appeals

APP/V2635/W/14/3001281 – Rose and Crown Farm, Walpole Bank, Walpole St Andrew. Erection of 30MW Solar Photovoltaic Facility with associated landscaping and construction of temporary access. Informal hearing by Planning Inspectorate at 10am on 14th July in Rooms 1, 2 & 3 at KLWNBC, King's Court, Chapel Street, King's Lynn, PE30 1EX. Consultees may attend the hearing and at Inspector's discretion participate in the discussion.

65/15 Finance

A. Annual Accounts

The Bank Statements had not arrived in time to complete for April and will be completed for the AGM as usual.

B. To consider any request for grants and donations if received – Magpas

Cllr Whitaker proposed a donation of £25, seconded by Cllr Bliss. Agreed.

C. To approve payments

i.	WPFRT	Hall Hire	20.00	20.00
ii.	K&M Lighting Services	Streetlight Maintenance	48.31	57.97
iii.	CGM Ltd	Grass Cutting	153.75	184.50
iv.	KLWNBC	Dog bin emptying 1/4/14 to 28/2/15	360.00	432.00
v.	KLWNBC	Litter bin emptying Annual charge	96.50	96.50
vi.	Realise Futures	New litter bin housing	385.00	462.00
vii.	NCC	Parish Partnership contribution for Trod	7,000.00	7,000.00
viii.	KLIDB	Drainage Rates	217.34	217.34
ix.	NALC	Annual Subscription	269.31	269.31
x.	Mrs E Bateman	Salary and expenses	263.36	263.36
xi.	Brown & Co	Professional Fees LDF	750.00	900.00
xii.	Minuteman Press	Village Crier Printing	325.00	325.00
xiii.	MAGPAS	Donation	25.00	25.00
		Direct Debits		
xiv.	E.ON	Energy Charge April	68.53	71.96

D. To record receipts

i.	Melton A	Allotment Rent	258.85	258.85
ii.	Powers B	Allotment Rent	210.74	210.74
iii.	Powers R	Allotment Rent	799.84	799.84
iv.	Thistleton A	Allotment Rent	1077.66	1077.66
v.	Thistleton D	Allotment Rent	333.98	333.98

E. Interest Rates

The Clerk advised that Barclays Bank Interest Rates offered were 0.05% on current balances. Councillors discussed and agreed to leave the account as they are for the time being.

F. To view the books of Account

Cllr Whitaker looked at the Books.

66/15 Correspondence – to receive items for information

1. KLIDB – control of mink in the Great Ouse catchment.
2. NALC – LAIS Guide and Transparency code, councillors discussed and noted that the draft minutes should now be published in advance of meetings and within one month of the meeting having taken place, proposed by Cllr Bliss and seconded by Cllr Whitaker, agreed.
3. Mr David Lawty – questions raised regarding Precept increase, amount of precept per household, Play Park (CCTV, cost of vandalism, maintenance of new equipment, land ownership, is planning permission required, ownership of equipment and liability for accidents), BMX Track (management of the track, cost of access to sports field, who will the access benefit, if BMX do not get PP will money be spent on access), Walpole Parish Foundation Recreation Trust (who is on the Trust, query regarding management trustees and custodian trustees, Trust finances – who agrees them, query on grants to the Trust from Parish Council), Minutes of meetings (where can they be viewed, when are they published, how can members of public comment on minutes) and the speed sign on Mill Rd is damaged. Councillors had all received a copy of the letter in advance of the meeting and it was agreed to send a written response to all the questions.
4. Miss S Lyons – speeding on Walnut Road and mobile speed signs, overflowing rubbish from bin at Parish Hall. Councillors advised that the VAS mobile speed signs were not purchased because of logistics and fixed ones were bought for Market Lane and Mill Road, clerk will ask highways about speeding issues, clerk to speak to Parish Hall about the bin and arrange for it to be cleared up.
5. NALC – Election of members to the Executive Committee
6. PCSO Lee – Crime figures for year from 10th April 2014 to 8th April 2015 9 x Criminal Damage, 12 x theft, 12x assault, 5 x burglary other than dwelling, 4 x burglary dwelling, 3 x drugs, 1 x theft of motor vehicle, 1 x theft from motor vehicle, 1 x arson, 1 x sexual offence, 2 x harassment/public order. Councillors would like a comparison with other villages of a similar size.
7. Rob Mason – impassable footpaths and unsurfaced roads, footpath signage. Councillors discussed and Cllr Whitaker will be working on this and a small working group will have to be formed. It was noted that there is a footpath across Prins land that is rolled down after planting. To be included on the next agenda.
8. Signpost Newsletter
9. CPRE Light pollution survey, guidance note and conference 10th June 2015

67/15 Noticeboard for The Marsh

Councillors discussed and it was agreed to contact some local people to quote for a noticeboard in keeping with the existing.

68/15 Inscription for War Memorial in Walpole Parish Hall

Councillors discussed the addition of a painted name for John Morley Stimpson as the Stonemason advised that chiselling in a name would damage the War Memorial. It will cost approximately £160 and it would only be possible to add Morley Stimpson as on the War Memorial in the Churchyard. This because there is not enough space for the whole name. Proposed by Cllr Patrick, seconded by Cllr Wiseman. Agreed. The clerk will contact the Parish Hall committee for approval.

69/15 Dong Energy Option Agreements – to receive an update

Councillors agreed to defer to next agenda.

Cllr Tony Wright left the meeting.

70/15 Access road to sports field – to receive an update on progress with KLIDB

The application for alteration to a watercourse has been submitted and it will take up to two months for KLIDB to respond, although they hope to do this sooner.

71/15 Play Park equipment project

1. Lease - WPFRT is waiting for their solicitor to respond to the changes suggested by Walpole Parish Council.
2. Play Equipment – The next stage is to apply for funding. It need to be checked whether the applications included VAT or not, as this will make a difference to the amount of equipment that can be applied for in each phase of the project.

72/15 County and Borough Councillors Reports

Cllr Richard Blunt advised that Cllr Wright is retiring from the Borough Council at the end of this term.

73/15 Village Crier and Website – to receive reports

Nothing to report.

74/15 To receive councillors' reports of Villagers' concerns

1. Lions Services – there is a fence right on the edge of the pedestrian refuge. Ask Highways to look at it.
2. Grass cutting – the Swingfield and Open Spaces have not been cut. Clerk will contact CGM Ltd.
3. Broadband – several residents have mentioned low speed, everyone needs to monitor and report to their provider.

75/15 Highways –

1. Stickfast and Dunces Lane are in need of a cut.
2. Wisbech Rd – opp Springfield Road, large pot hole.
3. Kirk Rd - potholes by old entrance to School.
4. Wisbech Rd – opposite The Paddocks pothole.
5. Query why Bustards Lane has had road repairs more than normal highways.

6. White lining on Wisbech Road next to Victoria House, chase NCC.
7. Mill Road, West Walton by Walton Lodge, road is breaking up.
8. Speed sign on Mill Road, Walpole St Peter has been knocked off its posts.

76/15 Streetlighting

1. Springfield Rd – 5b, 9b and o/s The Manor House.
2. Kirtons Close – 25 and 26.
3. Chalk Rd – o/s No1
4. Frenchs Rd – o/s No1

77/15 To receive items for the next agenda

Footpaths

78/15 Date and Time of Next Meeting –Thursday 14th May 2015 in Walpole Community Centre - Annual General Meeting of Walpole Parish Council at 7.00pm.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm