

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 8th February 2018 at 7.30pm.

Present Vice Chairman – Cllr James Whitaker
Councillors – Andy Bliss, Richard Blunt, Jo Drew, Adrian Eveleigh, David Lawty, Lynne Newman, Steven Rowell
Clerk - Emma Bateman,
Parish Hall Committee Chairman - Les Street
12 Members of the Public

25/18 Election of Chairman

1. As the Vice Chairman, Cllr Whitaker, was present he will act as Chairman for the meeting.
2. It was proposed and seconded that the election of a Chairman is postponed until a member of the Parish Council is ready to put themselves forward for the role. Agreed.
3. It was proposed and seconded that should the Vice Chairman be unable to attend, a member will be elected at the start of each meeting to act as Chairman. Agreed.
4. It was noted that the AGM will be in May and expected that a member will be willing to stand for the Chairman's post at that time.

26/18 Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Green and County Councillor, Cllr Sandra Squire.

27/18 To receive any declarations of interest and request for dispensations

1. Cllr Blunt will not vote on planning applications.
2. No requests or other declarations.

28/18 Minutes – to approve the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Thursday 11th January 2018

The minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 11th January 2018 having been previously circulated were accepted as a true record of the meeting. Unanimously agreed.

29/18 Matters Arising – to record matters arising from the last meeting

No matters were brought up.

30/18 Public Participation – to invite public participation

No member of the public wished to participate.

31/18 To receive Councillors reports of villagers' concerns, highway issues and street lighting faults

1. Potholes – two potholes on Bustards Lane near to Waterloo Farm.
2. Lighting – two new LED lamps have been installed on Church Rd and The Chase.
3. Walpole Marsh – Councillors had received concerns from a resident about the lack of footpath/bridleway signs. One councillor will be meeting with the Rights of Way Officer this week to look at signage etc.

32/18 The Chairman of the Meeting reminded councillors and members of public to allow members to speak without background conversations.

33/18 To receive a reports and Sub-committee proposal/recommendations:

1. County and Borough Councillors reports
 - 1.1 County Councillor – reported by email that the CC has been focused on the budget setting recently which is keeping spending under control to put the CC in a better position going forward and delivering value to residents.
 - 1.2 Borough Councillor
 - 1.2.1 It was explained the situation with the letter from Castle Rising Parish Council regarding the Planning Department 'filtering' panel. It was noted that parishes will still be consulted in the same way as now but that parish councils must give valid planning reasons for objections and be willing to speak at Borough Council Planning Committee Meetings about any plan that has raised an objection. The filtering group decides on how each application is treated. Cllr Blunt reminded the council that, as a Borough Councillor, he has the authority to 'call in' an application to the Planning Committee. It was recommended that at least one councillor attends the training sessions provided by KLWNBC.
 - 1.2.2 It was advised that KLWNBC are going through the budget process and the Band D council tax charge will be within government guidelines.
2. Community Centre report
 - 2.1 It was reported that the WPFRT had had their meeting and there will be a 'family get together' event this weekend and a Macmillan Coffee Morning.

33/18 continued

- 2.2 It was advised that the WPFRT is speaking with the Diocese of Ely regarding the car park and the lease of the land that the primary school is sited on. The primary school has communicated to the WPFRT regarding the gate and the car park. It was advised that the matter is for resolution between the WPFRT and the Primary School. The Vice Chairman offered to act as an unbiased chairman if the two parties wished to convene a meeting.
- 2.3 The Primary School has request that Norfolk County Council cut the hedges abutting the playing field within the next few weeks.
3. Village Crier, Social Media & Website Editors reports
Councillors noted the first edition from the new editor and a vote of thanks was made to the new Editors.
4. To receive a report from the Community Contribution Sub Committee and discuss the proposals/recommendations
4. 1 Swingfield Seating – the subcommittee has chosen a bench style and this was accepted. It was agreed unanimously to purchase 4 benches now.
4. 2 Seating for The Chase, Playing Field and Play Park – it was agreed that WPFRT would be consulted at their next meeting on style and numbers of benches/picnic tables.
4. 3 Bus Shelters – another location will be investigated for Walnut Road, details will be forwarded to the Clerk. A replacement shelter was discussed for Wisbech Rd. It was agreed that the group would look into styles and costs. There was discussion about the continuation of bus services and school bus provision in the Walpoles with a great deal of background noise and interjection from the public. It was agreed to speak to NCC about services buses and school bus provision.
4. 4 Next items for consideration – it was advised that the items on the suggestions list from the consultation included the Parish Hall, which is to be discussed later in the meeting and an enclosed dog exercise area and it was suggested that the WPFRT is approached to consider this for the community field off Springfield Rd.
4. 5 It was requested that the Subcommittee is disbanded and reformed into a working group. This was discussed and it was proposed and seconded for the disbanding of the subcommittee and re-formation as a working group. Unanimously agreed.
4. 6 Parish Hall Application for funding from the Community Contribution
- 4.6.1 Councillors had all received a copy of the application from the Parish Hall Committee in December 2017 and had listened to the Presentation given by the Parish Hall Committee this evening prior to this meeting. It was suggested a total pledge of £30K as requested by the Parish Hall Committee with £5K being granted initially to start the process off. The remaining £25K would be subject to the grant of planning permission and indications of other grant funding progress to bring the project to fruition. Councillors discussed in general and there was a great volume of noise and members talking over each other.
- 4.6.2 It was proposed the pledge of £30K, with a £5K grant made straight away for architect fees and planning permission and the remaining £25K released at the appropriate time subject to planning permission and other sources of funding to bring the project to fruition, the proposal was seconded. A vote was taken – 7 members were in favour and 1 member did not vote. Carried. A member of the Parish Council made objections to the proposal, the vote and loudly expressed concerns regarding the decision. The Chairman of the Meeting asked the member not to shout.

34/18 To consider nominations for Walpole Parish Foundation and Recreation Trust vacant posts
It was agreed to defer this to the next meeting.

35/18 Planning

A. Applications for Consultation with Parish

18/00061/O - Outline application for construction of two new semi-detached dwellings with off road parking and turning space, scaled as starter homes at land on the south side of Chalk Road, WSP. Object for the following reasons: The principle cannot be supported as it is outside the settlement boundary. There are highway concerns regarding the proposed access onto a sharp bend. Planning history for this site shows that an application for a larger single dwelling has previously been refused. A vote was taken – 6 against and 2 abstentions. Carried.

B. Borough Council Planning Authority Decisions

17/02247/F - Two Jays, Church Road, Walpole St Peter. Proposed front and rear extensions to bungalow internal alterations and conversion of garage to utility room, boot room and shower room. Application Permitted, 15th January 2018, Delegated Decision.
17/00921/F - Hill Farm, West Drove North, Walpole St Peter. Variation of condition 1 of PP 13/00147/F: Siting of a mobile home for the site manager in support of a 12 stable block livery business. Application Withdrawn, 22nd January 2018.
17/02287/F - Orchard View, Walnut Road, Walpole St Peter. Single storey rear extension to dwelling. Application Permitted, 22nd January 2018, Delegated Decision.

36/18 Finance

		<i>Ex VAT</i>	<i>VAT</i>	<i>Inc VAT</i>
1. to approve payments				
1.1 WPFRT	Hall Hire (Feb)	27.00		27.00
1.2 K&M Lighting Services	Streetlight Maintenance & LED replacement	53.73	10.75	64.48
1.3 K&M Lighting Services	LED lamp replacements	130.00	26.00	156.00
1.4 Minuteman Press	Village Crier Printing Feb edition	325.00		325.00
1.5 Mr B L Powers	Green Lane cutting	85.00		85.00
1.6 HMRC	PAYE	22.00		22.00
1.7 Mrs E Bateman	Salary and Clerical Expenses	236.58		236.58

<i>Ex VAT</i>	<i>VAT</i>	<i>Inc VAT</i>
127.61	6.38	133.99

- 1.8 E.ON Energy charge
- to record receipts
There were no receipts to record.
 - To view the books of Account
The books were viewed.

37/18 Correspondence – to receive items for information

- Concerns re a councillor. It was noted that the concerns were regarding issues outside the business of the Parish Council. However, the Chairman of the Meeting reminded councillors of their pledge to abide by the Code of Conduct and that their dealings whether on behalf of the Parish Council or their own business may come under public scrutiny as elected or co-opted members of this council.
- Parish Precept increase query. Councillors discussed and agreed for the Clerk to draft a response for the council to approve prior to sending.
- Sir Henry Bellingham MP - Speed of traffic Market Lane. Councillors discussed and agreed for the Clerk to draft a response for the council to approve prior to sending.
- Castle Acre Parish Council - Planning and democratic accountability. This was discussed under item 33/18 1.2.1.
- Fraser Dawbarns - Deed of Variation - Company name change. The Chairman of the Meeting and one other Councillor signed the new Deed with the name change of the company.
- CGM Ltd - Monthly invoicing regime
- BT - Cancellation of Direct Debit

38/18 To consider the BT phone boxes in the parish

There are two phone boxes with the telephone equipment removed. Councillors requested a letter to BT asking for them to be removed.

39/18 To hear a presentation from the Borough Councillor regarding Neighbourhood Plans

It was advised that this is something that the Parish Council should consider but requested that the presentation be deferred to a later meeting.

40/18 To discuss any updates regarding the Townsend Estate Allotments from KLWNBC

- The Borough Councillor advised that he will meet with Property Services at KLWNBC again.
- It was also advised that KLWNBC will not change the status of the land on the lease from garden plots to allotments.
- It was agreed to move forward, accepting the terminology but insisting on the allowance of temporary fencing, a shed and a greenhouse on each plot.

41/18 To consider the grass cutting at Walpole St Andrew Cemetery and any communication regarding this from KLWNBC

- It was noted that KLWNBC would only allow the Parish Council to control the grass cutting if it were to take on the total maintenance of the cemetery and no financial contribution would be made.
- It was agreed to find out what total maintenance entails, if a supplementary cut is a possibility and how much this will cost.
- It was also agreed to ask for a schedule of cuts and monitor.
- It was also suggested to ask if the parish council could arrange its own supplementary cuts.
- Councillors agreed to advise CGM that the quote for grass cutting (£47+VAT for approx.17 occasions of grass cutting and £9.50+VAT for weed control around the railings on approx. 4 occasions) at the cemetery will not be taken forward at this point.

42/18 Play Park – to receive any reports of faults and maintenance required

- Official Opening – it was agreed to arrange this in conjunction with WPFRT for Easter.
- Moles – Command have been instructed to treat the mole problem.
- Access to the play park – this is very muddy. It was advised that WPFRT will be looking at improvements to the access along with other access areas and bollards to prevent unauthorised vehicles driving on the field.

43/18 To consider creation of a Litter Picking Group and dealing with rubbish strewn from passing vehicles

It was agreed to put an article together for the newsletter.

44/18 To receive items for the next agenda

Footpaths.

It was also noted that the meeting room was cold.

45/18 Date and Time of Next Meeting – Thursday 8th March 2018, Walpole St Andrew Community Centre, Summer Close, Walpole St Andrew at 7.00pm.

Meeting closed at 9.30pm.