

WALPOLE PARISH COUNCIL

Interviews were held from 6.45pm for the vacancy of councillor and Charles Boston was duly elected.

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Walpole Parish Council held at the Community Centre, on Thursday 10th June 2021 from 7.00pm

Present :

Councillors – William Brooks (WB), Claire Robinson (CR), Richard Green (RG), Richard Blunt (RB), Andy Bliss (AB), Heather Smith (HS), and Adrian Eveleigh (AE).

County Councillor - Julian Kirk

Clerk – Caroline Boyden

6 members of the Public

Welcome from Richard Green, Chairman to everyone.

1. Apologies – to accept apologies and reasons for absence:

Cllr Campion due to work commitments and Cllr Lawty due to family issue.

2. To remind all councillors of their duty to abide by the Code of Conduct.

The Chair reminded all councillors of their duty to abide by the Code of Conduct.

3. Declarations of Interest of any items on the agenda and to consider any requests for dispensations.

Cllr Green – Solar Farm

4. Public Participation - to allow public participation (3 minutes allowed per speaker, up to a maximum of 15 minutes in total).

Solar Farm -Concerns were raised at the lack of answers given at the recent webinar and objections to this latest proposal. The impact of another application was felt to be too much and the promises of the maintenance and repair of the road from the last application failed to take place, leaving the state of the roads in disrepair and potentially dangerous.

The road in question is in Lincolnshire and contact should be made to the Lincolnshire Highways Department – clerk to obtain contact details. ACTION CB

The funding was explained and suggested that a request for a grant be made by the Walpole Marsh residents.

A formal request was made to ask the developers to hold a public meeting and the clerk will write to the developers. ACTION CB

5. Approval of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on the 6th of May 2021 will take place next May.

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Signed :

Date :

6. Matters Arising – to record matters arising from the last meeting:

6.1 Willow Trees update – these are now getting very big, and something needs to be done.

RB requested that the Parish Council take ownership and inform highways. Clerk to obtain quotes for the initial cut back and then annual maintenance. ACTION CB

6.2 Flooding update – Cllr Kirk had met with the IDB and there were now 3 properties with open cases. The IDB are getting more active and will now act on flooding as a matter of urgency.

6.3 Churchyard wall repairs – a quote had been received for one length of the wall and the clerk to request a quote for the entire walls. A second quote is awaited and should be received for the July meeting. ACTION CB

6.4 HS raised the incident in May outside the school and as the land is owned by the Community Centre and leased by the school, the Parish Council has no responsibility. However, concern was raised by all present regarding the state of the pavements.

6.5 It was noted that the Village Hall can hold 25 people with social distancing.

7. To receive reports:

7.1 Councillors' reports of villagers' concerns, highway issues, allotments, and street lighting.

The Clerk advised that Highways had now programmed the ditch to be cleaned out from opposite Hardy Cottage to the bus stop, and for all gullies, kerb offlets and lines to be cleaned from Lyndale to Chalk Road including Kirkfield again.

Clerk to speak to Highways regarding the overgrown verges which are causing visibility issues.

7.2 County and Borough Councillors reports:

Cllr Kirk sent the following report:

On the 6th May 2021 I was elected as your County Councillor for the next four years. It's an honour to serve you and I thank you for putting your trust in me.

My election campaign was based around supporting local business and the lack of law and order including anti-social behaviour and fly tipping.

Local businesses are the back bone of our community, I will do all I can to support these business both established and new.

Working with the authorities including the police I will make it my duty to make our community a safer and happier place for us to live.

I am joining a number committees / panels at county hall, I have asked not to be on too many as I prefer to spend my time working for my constituents.

Those of you who know me through my Borough Council Wards will know I like to get involved with local groups, litter picking, shopping and prescription collections etc. Please get in touch with me if I can help.

He also mentioned the recent recycling emails and how we can work on setting up a litter pick with Borough agreeing to collect all bags from one location point. An offer of the pickers equipment was made, and Cllr Kirk would be happy to join in a pick. CC and CR to follow up with suitable dates and times. ACTION CC/CR

Cllr Blunt gave an update on the recent announcement of £25 million for King's Lynn Town Deal major investment will support projects to boost skills and improve the town centre.

It is hoped that the cycling schemes & routes can go ahead within the next 12 months.

The hospital is NHS not Borough but suggested contacting Matt Hancock and James Wild.

The Local Plan webinars had started this week and the clerk had attended one.

7.3 Play Area – The annual inspection takes place this month.

- 7.4 Community Centre – It was noted that the audio equipment was not in place as discussed, however Maggie Plume, the WPRFT Chair is looking into a microphone system.
- 7.5 Village Crier – now has delivery volunteers set up for all but one area. Next issue due in August.
Website views: 490 in May with Home 251, Planning 82, Crier 38, Parish Council 17, Latest News 22, Minutes 15.
- 7.6 Footpaths and Circular Walks – no change from last month. Clerk asked to contact Mr. Powers regarding hedge trimming at Stickfast and Munceys Lane and the lane at Weatherholme, Eastlands Bank. now that the nesting season is over. ACTION CB
- 7.7 The Community Fund Projects Working Group – last bench was installed earlier today. This now completes the outstanding items.
- 7.8 SAM 2 report – AE reported that the unit was now on Frenchs Road and recent figures showed that speeds are within the limit in the main. The reports are now on the website.
- 7.9 Communications/Correspondence:
- a. Market Lane Survey – Cllr Kirk awaiting an online discussion and it was confirmed that Terrington are not prepared to pay the final instalment. To be added to next agenda.
 - b. Solar Farm update – as discussed under public participation.
 - c. Vattenfall letter – very vague and no further action.
 - d. Street Lighting Contract – proposed AV, seconded HS and unanimously agreed.
Clerk to advise K & M. ACTION CB
 - e. CR advised that the Woodland Trust are now taking orders for saplings and will check and report back. ACTION CR

8. Planning

- 8.1 21/00858/F proposed front porch, single-storey rear extension and detached garage with games room above at Cley Cottage, The March. Concern raised that the porch would be right on the boundary and AE to take a look and report back. ACTION AE
- 8.2 21/00990 Application for a lawful development certificate for existing use of property in breach of occupancy condition, Britina. Removal of the Agricultural use condition supported.
- 8.3 Grain and potato storage extension at Marsh Farm, Frenchs Road – supported.

9. Finance

- 9.1 To approve payments, record receipts, bank reconciliation and statements for May.
Proposed WB, seconded AB and unanimously agreed. Bank reconciliation to the end of May is £65,373.71. CIL payment received £2,091.00 and VAT refund £589.12.
- 9.2 To propose payments for June 21 – proposed WB, seconded CR, unanimously agreed.
- 9.3 The Solar Farm community fund stands at £11,196.59
- 9.4 It was agreed to increase the Clerk's salary in line with the CILCA award.

10. Items for next agenda – Solar Farm/Willow Trees, Flooding/Drainage, Market Lane Survey, and Church Wall.

11. The next meeting will be on Thursday 8th of July 2021 from 19.00 hrs at the Community Centre.

Meeting ended at 20.38