

WALTON PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of Walton Parish Council was held on Monday 20th September 2010 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Present: John Evans (Chair), Margaret Sutcliffe, Robert Ridley, Alan Armstrong, Andrew Vaughan and the Clerk.

Also present were Mel Warwick (representing Walton Play Area Group), Simon Wood, Hazel Winter, Moira Mark, Tommy Mark, Tom Winter, Brian Hogg, Brian Davidson, Ian Hogg and Mike Seddon. Fiona Ritson (representing Walton Play Area Group) arrived at agenda item 10/053.

Action

- 10/039 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
Resolved that apologies be noted and accepted for Gordon Kyle (working), Rodney Hodgson (working), Cllr. Fisher (Neighbourhood Forum) and Cllr. Bowman (holiday).
- 10/040 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
A non-personal interest was declared in the Play Area by Councillor Vaughan. A non-personal interest was also declared in the Village Hall by Councillor Evans.
- 10/041 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**
Mr Hogg raised the issue of the Village Hall Clock not working – the matter was to be raised under “Correspondence”.
- 10/042 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING HELD MONDAY 19th July 2010**
Resolved to authorise Chair to sign as a true and accurate record.
- 10/043 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**
- 10/043/1 Land Registry.** Following an initial rejection due to lack of evidence of ownership, the registration of the Village Green was now being processed. Properties neighbouring the Green were to be written to allowing them to launch a legal objection and once the Land Registry lawyers have completed this process the Green will become the legal property of the Parish Council.
- 10/043/2 Gully on the Green.** This matter is now resolved.
- 10/043/3 Tree Planting.** Several saplings, donated by the Cumbria Army Cadet Force, were planted however many of these had now disappeared or been mown down. Some saplings have been retained for replacements if necessary.
- 10/043/4 NOWT Presentation.** The Group had failed to get in touch therefore this item is deferred until further notice.
- 10/043/5 Save Our Pub.** Correspondence had been exchanged and the Chair had met with the owner of the Centurion Inn to try and see if any support for the re-opening of a pub could be made by the PC as an impartial body. This was to be given some further thought and may include advertisements or articles in the next newsletter. It was confirmed that if a parishioner writes with a formal request to the PC to investigate any matter then they are duty bound to look into it.
- 10/043/6 Clerks Training.** It was noted that a £100 donation has been made

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towards the costs of training from NALC.

10/043/7 Additional Litter Bin on Football Pitch. It was explained that the City Council would site a litter bin at a cost of £285 but the Parish Council would be responsible for its maintenance, including the emptying and disposal of waste. They will only adopt a bin on private land if it can be proven that there is sufficient need on a public highway adjacent to it. It was therefore agreed not to progress with this.

10/043/8 Abandoned Vehicle. The Anti-Social behaviour department at Carlisle City Council have been dealing with the vehicle on the Village Green. A parishioner stated that the vehicle has recently been taxed – this is to be looked into.

CLERK

10/043/9 Manhole Cover on Green. A number of covers on the Green belonging to both United Utilities and BT were being investigated and replaced where necessary. Mr Seddon outlined the drainage problems he had leading into one of the drains however it was stated that this item related specifically to only the actual covers.

10/044 MINUTES FROM COMMITTEES/GROUPS

10/044/1 Planning Committee 27th August. Resolved that the previously circulated minutes were received.

10/045 CO-OPTION OF NEW COUNCILLOR

Resolved to co-opt Simon Wood as a replacement Councillor for Jude Jones. Cllr. Wood signed his Declaration of Acceptance Form and took his place at the front of the room.

10/046 WALTON PLAY AREA WORKING GROUP

10/046/1 Dissolution of the Group. Following consultation an agreement had been drawn-up to allow the Group to be dissolved as a part of the Parish Council. Resolved: To authorise signature of agreement between Group and PC at earliest convenience.

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10/046/2 Consultation/Objections. It was noted that no comments had been received to the consultation therefore it was taken that there were no remaining objections.

10/046/3 VAT. It was noted that work was still being undertaken to establish whether the VAT could be reclaimable now that the Group is a separate legal body. Resolved: To continue to liaise with HMRC.

CLERK

10/046/4 Tri-partite Deed. Resolved that this document be signed at the earliest convenience now that the Land Registration had been approved.

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10/046/5 Additional Litter Bin. Refer to 10/043/7. The Play Area Group will take up this matter after the refurbishment has been completed.

10/047 SIGNAGE AT WALTON ENTRANCE

It was noted that the entrance sign to the Village has been reported to Highways and will be repaired in due course.

10/048 PARISH COUNCIL PROJECTS

A discussion was held regarding various suitable projects, including:

- A map board for opposite the Centurion (depending on the play area refurbishment and Village Hall toilets);
- Upgrading the Woodland Area;
- Supporting further works to the Village Hall;

- Refurbishing the remaining finger posts in the Parish.

A village bus trip was also suggested but this was to be taken forward by the Social Committee. Resolved: Councillors to continue to consider suitable projects in time for quotes to be obtained for the next round of grant funding

10/049 NOTICE BOARD

A number of locations were looked at as a new site for new notice board and it was resolved to move it to replace the existing bus stop board when the play area refurbishment begins.

10/050 WOODLAND AREA GRANT FUNDING

This item was deferred until the next meeting.

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10/051 EVENT ON GREEN

It was noted that the insurances and arrangements for the fundraiser event for the Great North Air Ambulance had to be rushed through due to a lack of notice from the event organisers. It was agreed that if any similar events are to take place on the Green in the future then the Parish Council should consider the impact on the local residents of the finish time and noise levels before granting consent. It was agreed that such events are well received by the residents of the parish and should be encouraged. It was noted that there are procedures for the hire of the hall and events on parish land that need to be followed although the Parish Council would support social events.

10/052 KNORREN FELL COTTAGE

It was noted that the owners had been written to as is normal annually. It was also stated that they had been informed that their household insurance might not cover the fence as it is not on their property and they may be liable in the event of any accidents.

10/053 PARKING

As a complaint had been raised regarding people parking on the Village Green, a report had been circulated to clarify that although it was illegal to park on the Green, it would be a more sensible option to not enforce any restrictions unless damage occurred. Resolved: To put an article in the newsletter summarising the parking policy and to publish the full report on the notice board.

JE

10/054 NEWSLETTER

A draft newsletter was passed around councillors. This is to be emailed to everyone for comments. Resolved: To circulate a parish newsletter during early October.

CLERK

The delivery of the newsletter will be undertaken by all councillors delivering to agreed areas of the parish.

ALL

10/055 BUDGET STATEMENT

The previously circulated accounts-to-date were noted with the following comments:

- Expenditure for the budgeted laptop was to be incurred.

- The Chair had asked the Clerk to keep a log of working hours as it is believed that the ten hours a month currently paid for may not be accurate.
- It was confirmed that the grass cutters in the past have only charged for the number of cuts actually carried out, and not how many quoted for. It was however pointed out that as the grass had been cut with a collection box for the Big Picnic then the bill may be more than expected.

10/056 TRAINING

Councillors are to let the Chair or Clerk know if they would like to attend any training courses this year. Information on general training courses was circulated to all councillors.

10/057 MEETINGS/COURSES

10/057/1 CPCA Meeting 14 June 2010. This had been attended by Cllr. Sutcliffe and the Clerk with discussions including Government spending cuts.

10/057/2 Green Spaces Course 14 September 2010. This had been attended by Cllr. Sutcliffe and the Clerk and it was noted that the course was very interesting with lots of informative literature given regarding Village Greens.

10/058 PORTFOLIO AREAS

Portfolio areas were reviewed with Cllr. Wood being given a new area of "Woodlands". This will mean he will take over the work outlined in 10/050. Cllr. Hodgson was given Street Lights and Tree's as his portfolio responsibility and Cllr. Sutcliffe will now look after both Common Land and the Village Green. There were no matters for discussion.

10/059 ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

The following receipts were noted:

- £686.00 Income from Parish Grant (Carlisle City Council)
- £1 expenditure on Land Charges Search (Land Registry)

The following payments were noted:

- £5 expenditure on postage (Mel Warwick – previous months)
- £167.50 expenditure on planning (Carlisle City Council – previous months)
- £20 expenditure donation for Woodland area (Cumbria Probation Trust)
- £150 expenditure on Clerks Training Course (SLCC)
- £20 expenditure on photocopying for the Land Registration (S Kyle from Colophon Printers)

10/060 CORRESPONDENCE

10/060/1 The Big Society. It was noted a conference at Newton Rigg is to be held to discuss this Government initiative.

10/060/2 Travel and Subsistence Rates. Updated rates were noted but not applicable.

10/060/3 Highways Update. A copy was passed to Cllr. Armstrong for his information.

10/060/4 Clock. Concerns over it not working had been raised. As it was believed it was being wound up adequately it was agreed to have it looked at.

Resolved: To contact Cumbria Clock Company.

CLERK

10/061

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 15th November 2010. The precept will be determined at this meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.24pm.