

# Minutes of WALTON PARISH COUNCIL meeting held TUESDAY, 19th September, 2023

Present: Councillors: - Armstrong, Hodgson, Hogg, Wilkinson and Weaver.

In attendance: - Clerk

**033/23 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – RESOLVED** Cllrs. Shaw, Matthews and Unitary Authority Cllr Mallinson apologised for absence.

**034/23 REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS – RESOLVED** No requests were received since the previous meeting for dispensations to speak and/or vote on any matter where a member has a disclosable pecuniary interest.

**035/23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – RESOLVED** No declarations by elected members of interests in respect of items on this agenda were received.

## **036/23 MINUTES**

**036/23.1 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11TH JULY 2023 – RESOLVED** To authorise the Chairman sign, as a correct record, the minutes of the meeting held on 11th July 2023.

## **037/23 MATTERS ARISING**

**037/23.1** The draft donations policy approved and put into immediate effect, Clerk to ensure it was placed on website and details submitted to the next publication of the Newsletter.

**037/23.2** The Clerk reported to the members that the revision to the Cheque signatories is now resolved.

**037/23.3** The Clerk reported that he had commenced the ILCA – CILCA official training course, this was expected to last until next summer and amounts of recovery from other Councils is contained within the payment schedule.

**037/23.4** The Clerk reported that he had contacted the Unitary Authority to determine ownership of the finger post sign and the land on which it is placed.

Unitary Authority indicated that they were the owners of the post, but that they would await trimming of the hedges (due in the autumn) to determine exactly where the boundary line was and in whose ownership the land sat.

Council decided to wait for the information before taking any further decisions.

**037/23.5** **RESOLVED** the Clerk would commence the place Notices in the Notice Boards and include details in the Newsletter with regard to the Co-option to the council vacancy.

**037/23.6** Cllr. Weaver reported that he had placed in the Defibrillator the recently procured battery and pads and was about to secure a replacement St Johns bag of First Aid items. He also indicated that he had a copy of the instruction manual which he will forward to the Clerk for inclusion on the website.

**037/23.7** The Clerk reported that contrary to previously indicated the Play Area land is registered with the Land Registry.

**037/23.8** After a long discussion it was **RESOLVED** that Cllr. Weaver would place the planters and signs (as shown to the Council) in the appropriate place as a start in the process of attempting to provide a safer traffic situation around the Play Area and Village Hall. Follow-up discussion will be placed on the next Agenda for review together with any information regarding liability of the Council in the event of an accident occurring on the Play Area.

**038/23 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** – None

**UNITARY AUTHORITY REPORT** - None

**039/23 LEAPS RIGG SOLAR FARM** – no further progress or update, still in Planning

**040/23 FINANCIAL MATTERS** - Expenditure on the schedule was approved, Budget v Actual reports were distributed together with an up-to-date Bank Reconciliation.

**041/23 REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORTS** – both Cllr Hodgson and Hogg indicated that they had not received an update on the Village Hall activities as no meeting (to their knowledge) had been held. Concern was raised as to the length of time the hall roof had been awaiting attention. Cllr Hogg to investigate with the Village Hall chair.

**042/23 CORRESPONDENCE AND LITERATURE RECEIVED BY THE CLERK** –

**Newsletter** – The Clerk informed the Council of email exchanges that had taken place which meant that the methodology around production of the next Newsletter would have to alter. Council decided that to give more time to the process the deadline would be put back to the next Meeting date.

**Grass Cutting Contract** – Council approved the process of tendering to commence with options to be included for terms of 1, 2 and 3 years.

**Confidential Employment contract issue** – Council discussed and debated a Contract of Employment issue which by virtue of its nature was deemed **CONFIDENTIAL** and instructed the Clerk, Cllrs Shaw and Weaver to deal with the preliminary issues arising.

**043/23 DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – November 14th 2023 Village Hall, Walton, 7.30pm