

## WALTON PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of Walton Parish Council was held on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2011 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

**Present:** John Evans (Chair), T. Alan Armstrong, Alan F Armstrong and Rodney Hodgson.

**In Attendance:** City Councillor Sid Bowman, County Councillor Lawrence Fisher, Mel Warwick (representing Walton Play Area Group) and parishioners Jonathan Fowler and Brian Hogg.

**Apologies:** Gordon Kyle, Robert Ridley and Simon Wood. Parishioners Pam Cronin and Marie Ashcroft.

### **Action**

**213/11 Declarations Of Interest**  
Councillor Evans declared in interest in all matters relating to the Village Hall.

**214/11 Minutes Of Meeting Held Monday 16th May 2011**  
**Resolved** to authorise Chair to sign as a correct record.

**215/11 Co-option of New Councillor**  
**Resolved** to co-opt Jonathan Fowler as a new Parish Councillor with immediate effect. Councillor Fowler took his position at the front of the room and signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

**216/11 Public Participation**  
None.

**217/11 Reports From City/ County Councillors And Police**  
County Councillor Fisher reported that both the Cambeck and Irthing bridges were to be closed for essential repairs from 1 August for 5 weeks. To ensure that parishioners are clear that both bridges will be closed at the same time and during the evening the official notice will be displayed on the main noticeboard. He also reported that Neighbourhood Forum grant applications are still being accepted even though meetings are not running. Councillor Fisher also stated that he would donate £600 towards project costs for this financial year – thanks were given to him for the generous donation.

### **CLERK**

City Councillor Bowman reported that Radio Cumbria is not to be closed down despite rumours and that a passport office will be opening up shortly within the Civic Centre.

There were no Police present although Councillors reported that the Speed watch scheme was to re-start imminently in Brampton.

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- 218/11 Parish Map Board**  
An updated quote had been received and it was agreed that the existing Village Hall sketch along with pictures of the new play area (including the lime trees), church and Roman House are to be included. Illustrations of wildlife rather than a landscape drawing will be used to depict Walton Moss. **Resolved** that the order now be placed with a draft to be obtained for September's meeting. **CLERK**
- 219/11 Notice Board**  
Noted that the board had been repositioned and it was agreed by all that it was in a better location.
- 220/11 Quality Parish Council**  
Noted that work was continuing with this application with potential submission in June 2012. Work was needed to consult young people in the parish and if this is achieved the rest of the criteria will be worked through to be achieved. **JE/  
CLERK**
- 221/11 Broadband**  
Noted that the Broadband Champion Mrs Jones had confirmed to the Chair that a newsletter would be circulated with an update in the forthcoming week.
- 222/11 Fingerposts**  
Quotations to refurbish the two remaining fingerposts in the Parish had been received. Councillor Bowman pledged to donate £200 towards a project of the Council's choice. It was therefore **resolved** to apply to the Neighbourhood Forum for grant funding towards this project. **CLERK**
- 223/11 Noticeboard for Outlying Parish**  
It was noted that the 2<sup>nd</sup> round CPCA grant funding applications were now being submitted and it was therefore **resolved** that funding be requested to purchase a new noticeboard for installation around the Nickies Hill area. **CLERK**
- 224/11 Data Protection**  
Under current guidelines all Parish Council's must be registered with the Information Commissioner for data protection. **Resolved** to register and pay the yearly fee. **CLERK**
- 225/11 Standing Order**  
**Resolved** that a standing order mandate be completed to pay the Clerk's salary monthly rather than the completion of twelve separate cheques.
- 226/11 Heritage Lottery Funding**  
The Chair explained to Councillors that this funding application to research and promote the history and heritage of the Village Green and surrounding area has been submitted and results would be announced in September.
- 227/11 Audit**  
It was noted that the external audit has been successfully completed with the

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acknowledgement that the fixed assets have been restated to original purchase prices in line with current guidelines.

**228/11 Land Registration of Village Green**

The Chair explained that Land Registry had been in contact and progress was being made to continue the application to register the Village Green. It was however noted that Land Registry have been almost obstructive in their handling of the application.

It was **resolved** that Rights of Easement and Rights of Access (including vehicular) to properties owned by Mr & Mrs Lowes, Mr Mason and Mrs Richardson be negotiated with each party. No changes to the surface of the Green (whether grass or track) will be able to be made by the granting of these rights. The Chair will contact each of these owners and begin negotiations.

JE

With regards to the boundary dispute with Orchard House, Councillors believed that the land in question is an established right of way and has always been open access and they would not agree to the land being privately owned and potentially fenced. Reference was also made to minutes showing the Parish Council had taken payment from a previous owner of Orchard House as rental for the land in question.

No negotiations with Mr & Mrs Jones would therefore be made until clarification over the legal position is received and the Parish Council subsequently **resolved** to contest Mr & Mrs Jones's objection. The Clerk will notify Land Registry that no progress will be made with this objection until the County Councils solicitors have provided guidance (the Clerk to forward correspondence to Councillor Fisher). Consideration is also to be made to obtaining statutory declarations from locals who can testify to the land being established Village Green.

CLERK

**229/11 Cumbria County Council Land Ownership**

No response had been received from Cumbria County Council regarding the land that is registered to them. Councillor Fisher kindly offered to take the matter up to obtain a response. **Resolved** that the Clerk forward correspondence to Councillor Fisher.

CLERK

**230/11 Knorren Fell Cottage**

No further action will be taken with this common land query at the present time as no new information was available from the archive offices.

**231/11 Parking on Tarmac**

The thermoplastic designs are to be laid on the tarmac outside the Village Hall in the imminent future. It is hoped that these would deter parking and it was **resolved** that any signage prohibiting parking is delayed until the effect of the designs can be evaluated.

Mrs Warwick expressed concern that a van had been left on the tarmac and it

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would need to be moved for the Play Area Open Day. **Resolved** that the Chair personally visit the owners to request it be removed. As the owner of the van was also believed to be the owner of a sofa that had been left on the Village Green the Chair was also to request this be removed and provide them with the City Council's telephone number so that a permit could be obtained for visiting the tip free of charge.

JE

**232/11 Lime Trees**

Quotations for the pruning of the lime trees on the Green had been received. **Resolved** to authorise the expenditure of £310 plus VAT to have the trees pruned as soon as possible. It was also **resolved** that a risk assessment of all the trees be carried out.

CLERK

**233/11 Commemorative Tree**

The family of Mr Farrer had requested that a white flowering cherry tree be replanted in the same location as the previous one had been removed. As this land was not owned by the Parish Council this matter was deferred. Mr Farrer's family will be informed that there will be a delay but this will be resolved when possible.

AFA

**234/11 Village Hall**

It was reported that a vacancy exists for a volunteer to join the Management Committee. Consideration has also been given to opening up a tea room within the Hall and it has been passed by Environmental Health so is potentially ready to open immediately – the opportunity is to be advertised to try and raise interest. Councillor Fisher raised the question of whether this would incur business rates which is something the VHMC will investigate if the idea comes to fruition.

The need for public toilets for walkers was raised. Councillor Fisher suggested that a tourism grant may be available to help with maintenance costs – this information is to be passed on to be investigated by the VHMC secretary.

CLERK

**235/11 Play Area Group**

Mrs Warwick reported that the equipment installation is now complete and that the thermoplastic designs along with a "snagging" list of problems is to be completed before payment is made. The Play Area Group will retain ownership of the equipment for a ten year grant monitoring period before the Parish Council takes over ownership.

Mrs Warwick also explained that the equipment is available for use by all ages of children and that games equipment will be applied for in the sustainability grant in the imminent future.

**236/11 Save Our Pub**

No new progress has been made although the problems were discussed at length.

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**237/11 Social Committee**

Permission had been sought and granted for a celebratory open day on the Village Green on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> July from 3pm to mark the instillation of the new play area. The Clerk had attended a meeting of the Social Committee as Parish Council representative to confirm insurance arrangements and licensing times and it was noted that a risk assessment of all issues is to be carried out prior to the event. Concern was noted about parking on the Village Green due to the unusually wet weather and the Chair will confirm with Mrs Warwick whether the Green or the County Council land should be used for parking the evening before the event.

**JE**

It was requested that Councillor Ridley provide a full update at the next meeting regarding Social Committee plans for the forthcoming twelve months in case Parish Council permission or input is required.

**RR**

**238/11 Youth Club**

A parishioner had approached the Parish Council and Village Hall Management Committee for support to open up a new youth club in the Village Hall. **Resolved** that the Parish Council support this initiative. Questionnaires will be distributed at the play area open day to gauge interest and to try and obtain parental/adult volunteers/support. Monies may be available in the youth budget of the Neighbourhood Forum and these are to be investigated (with the Parish Council acting as Accountable Body if necessary).

**CLERK**

**239/11 Lea field**

Concern had been raised that the lack of footpath and street lighting in between this property and the Village Green was hazardous to pedestrians. As this is all Highway maintained and owned the parishioner is to be informed to contact Cumbria County Council directly.

**CLERK**

**240/11 Planning Application 11/0239 – The Garth, Townfoot, Walton – Erection of No1. Dwelling (Outline)**

Noted that permission had been refused.

**241/11 Planning Application 11/0339 – Hillfield - Erection Of Wind Turbine (5kW) 15m Hub Height (Height To Tip 18m) On Concrete Base**

Noted that permission had been granted.

**242/11 Accounts to end June 2011**

These were noted.

**243/11 Donation Request Walton Village Hall**

**Resolved** to donate £369.56 towards the annual insurance cost (which has been combined into a policy with the parish council so represents 11 months premium).

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Date:.....

**244/11 Donation Request Walton Youth Club**

**Resolved** to donate £600 maximum towards set-up costs. This money to be made available immediately for CRB checks, insurances, training etc if the Neighbourhood Forum monies are unavailable.

**245/11 Accounts Payable**

The following receipts were noted:

- £200 Walton Play Area Group, Insurance Contribution
- £93.74 Electricity North West, Wayleave
- £1847.21 Groundworks grant, PAG

**Resolved:** to authorise the following expenditure:

- £6.29 Mel Warwick, Postage PAG (replaced chq 100002)
- £25 Village Hall, Rental PAG
- £45.03 Prontaprint Printing PAG
- £TBC Came & Co, Equipment Insurance
- £174.00 BDO Stoy Hayward, Audit Fee
- £136.72 Sarah Kyle, Salary July
- £136.72 Sarah Kyle, Salary August
- £43.40 Sarah Kyle, Expenses April – June
- £TBC H&H King, Village Hall Insurance Valuation
- £35 Information Commissioner, Data Protection
- £2400 Social Committee, Open Day PAG
- £7 Village Hall, Rental
- £20 CALC, Standing Order Book (replaces cheque 100451)
- £372 Eden Woodland Consultants, Tree Pruning

**246/11 Council Matters and Agenda Items for Future Meetings**

No matters were raised,

**247/11 Correspondence**

The following were noted:

- CALC Circular – Councillor Fowler to begin receiving this.
- Queen's Diamond Jubilee Beacons
- Septic Tank Information – it was stated that there is a meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> July to discuss at Brampton Community Centre
- CPCA Meeting Report from Hethersgill Parish Council
- Localism White Paper NALC Report

**CLERK**

**248/11 Date Of Next Meeting**

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2011 at 7.30pm. Agenda items should be submitted to the Clerk before noon on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2011.

The meeting closed at 9.25pm.

Signed:.....

Date:.....