

## WALTON PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of Walton Parish Council was held on Monday 12 March 2012 at 7.45pm in the Village Hall.

**Present:** John Evans, Jonathan Fowler, Alan T Armstrong, Alan F Armstrong, Robert Ridley and Tom Brocklebank.

**In Attendance:** County Councillor Lawrence Fisher, City Councillor Syd Bowman and parishioners Mel Warwick, Ian Bullough, Brian Hogg and Brian Davidson.

**Apologies:** Gordon Kyle, Simon Wood and Pam Cronin.

**Action**

**344/12 Declarations Of Interest**

Councillor Evans declared an interest in all items relating to Walton Village Hall.

**345/12 Minutes Of Meeting Held Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2012**

**Resolved** to authorise the Chair to sign as a correct record.

**346/12 Co-Option of New Councillor**

It was explained that unfortunately Rodney Hodgson had been unable to attend a meeting for six months and was therefore disqualified from his position as Parish Councillor. Councillors expressed regret at this decision as he had been a very useful and informative Councillor. Following notification, it was **resolved** that Tom Brocklebank be co-opted onto the Council. His Declaration of Acceptance of Office forms were duly signed.

**347/12 Public Participation**

Mr Bullough reported that the road surface at the corner of Sandysike road end was in a state of disrepair despite attempts to fill in the potholes. Concerns were also raised about a section of road in Woodleigh and the road near Kellwood. Councillor Fisher offered to contact a Highways officer and do a site inspection – the Clerk is to forward him a list of the problem areas.

**CLERK**

It was acknowledged that a discussion regarding the Centurion Inn had been held during the Parish Meeting.

**348/12 Reports From City/ County Councillors**

City Councillor Bowman reported that the City Council would be celebrating the Olympic torch run and Diamond Jubilee with events in the city centre, including big screens to watch the proceedings.

County Councillor Fisher reported that a decision over the recycling centres, including the Brampton site, was due within the next few weeks.

**349/12 Clerks Report**

The following report had been previously circulated and was noted:

**Noticeboard** – the noticeboard at the bus stop has been removed. Correspondence continues to be exchanged with the new board suppliers to try and have the leaks fixed.

**City Council Planning Meeting** – the Clerk attended a meeting concerning the Planning process on 17 January which proved informative and a useful discussion forum. A further meeting for Councillors is due to be held in March for up to two councillors to attend.

Signed:.....

Date:.....

**Cumbria County Council Land** – this issue remains on-going. The County Council have been in touch to reiterate they are moving forward with the transfer which will be completed as soon as possible. The commemorative tree will remain on hold until this issue is fully resolved.

**Land Registration/Rose Cottage** – no further progress has been made with Land Registry despite letters chasing them therefore no action concerning the anonymous complaint at Rose Cottage can be made.

It was noted that a quote for repair of the noticeboard to install additional ventilation had been received since publication of the report and would be acted on. It was also stated that the Land Registry had stated the application would be completed on 13 March 2012.

CLERK

**350/12 Diamond Jubilee Beacons**

The Social Committee had declined the offer to host a beacon on 4<sup>th</sup> June due to being busy with the celebrations on 2<sup>nd</sup> June. Councillors considered whether they would like to organise the beacon themselves, with the potential for a gas beacon diminishing due to lack of availability. **Resolved** not to participate in the Beacon celebrations.

**351/12 Community Led Plan**

The Chair explained that a lot of the Parish Council's work stemmed from the Parish Plan and it was necessary to review the plan taking fully into account the opinions of everyone in the community. It would however require volunteers to carry out the review and it was asked that if anyone wished to volunteer to contact the Chair.

**352/12 Nuclear Depository Consultation**

Councillor Evans had completed this consultation on behalf of the Parish Council. A copy was available to read.

**353/12 Visual Map Board**

The end of this project was noted. No feedback had been received from parishioners although it was observed that the board was getting a lot of interest.

**354/12 Consultation on Interim Planning Policy Statement**

A copy of this document was circulated during the meeting for Councillors to read. After consideration it was **resolved** that no comments were to be made.

**355/12 Orchard House**

After some discussion it was agreed by all that the gravelled area outside of Orchard House that had been included in the Council's Land Registration Application would be treated exactly the same as the rest of the Village Green with no special arrangements for maintenance. It was however clearly stated that the area is Parish Council owned and will remain so.

**356/12 Car Park**

A lengthy discussion had taken place during the Parish Meeting where the advantages and potential hazards and disadvantages of trying to place a car park onto the Green were discussed. It was **resolved** that Councillor Fowler would read through an application form regarding Village Green Land Exchange that had been forwarded to him by CALC. No further action would however be able to take place until a full community consultation had taken place and this would be included in the CLP review.

Signed:.....

Date:.....

**357/12 Easter Party and Jubilee Celebrations**

The Social Committee had approached the Parish Council for permission to use the Village Green to host the above events. **Resolved** that permission be granted for the activities detailed on the posters publicising the events. The Social Committee were asked to contact the Parish Council should any new activities be included on the Green.

**358/12 Village Hall**

Councillor Evans reported that the Village Hall had reached the final three in the Border Kitchens competition and would meet the judging panel the following day. Thanks were offered to all those who had voted for the Hall.

He also reported that out of the initial four interested tea room parties, a chosen provider had been appointed to operate a tea room within the Village Hall. The plan would be to use the Hall for the first twelve months until, it was hoped, the Reading Room would have been refurbished. A public meeting was held and there was unanimous support for the tea room. Councillor Evans stressed that the tea room operators contract allowed local hirer's precedence and the tea room would close if any locals wished to hire it. It is hoped the additional income for the Hall will help contribute with the up-keep an maintenance of both buildings.

**358/12 Save Our Pub**

In the absence of Councillor Wood a full update was not available. A letter had however been received from the Group to the Parish Council that was available to view. Following discussion at the Parish Meeting it was **resolved** that the Parish Council would write to the City Council regarding the Centurion urging them to take appropriate action. Councillor Fowler volunteered to draft a letter for circulation amongst Councillors before it is sent by the Clerk.

JF

**359/12 Social Committee**

As Councillor Wood is also the Social Committee representative then no update was given. It was however believed that all necessary matters had been covered under 357/12.

**360/12 Tree Opposite Newberry**

A discussion was held regarding whether pruning one tree, opposite Newberry, would have a detrimental effect and knock-on implications for the rest of the trees in the Village. Advice had been sought from the Parish Council's tree maintenance company and they had been advised that as long as there was no health and safety issue then pruning would be unnecessary and would mean an annual cost to the Council. It had however been recommended that a competent person inspect all the trees regularly and particularly after high winds and to have a professional assessment every two and a half to three years. It was therefore **resolved** not to prune the tree in question but to appoint someone in charge of regularly inspecting them. The Clerk will respond to Mr Sell following his complaint about the tree at the last Parish Council meeting.

JE  
CLERK

**361/12 Play Area Maintenance**

A proposed schedule – where maintenance is done as and when required – had been previously circulated. This was in opposition to following the providers required schedule which was very onerous and had cost implications. It was noted that the play area was having weekly inspections as required by the insurance company. **Resolved** to agree the schedule. This will now be put back to the Play Area Group for them to decide to agree or not.

Signed:.....

Date:.....

It was noted that the Play Area Group under the agreement would continue to fund maintenance until funds run out and then the Parish Council will take over. It was however stressed that repairs will begin to increase in years to come and budgets should begin to take account of potential maintenance costs.

**362/12 Consultation on a County Mineral Matter Planning Application - Ref. 1/12/9003**

This planning application had been previously circulated. **Resolved** that no representation be made on the application.

**363/12 Accounts to end February 2012**

These were circulated to Councillors previously and it was noted that a projected loss of £907 would be made for the year. This will vary slightly as some invoices may not be received until the new financial year. Due to the Council making a loss this year and forecast to make a bigger loss next year it was agreed that priorities for spending would need to be assessed carefully from now on.

**364/12 Donation Request Walton Social Committee (Easter Celebrations)**

The Social Committee had requested a donation of £200 towards their Easter party. **Resolved** to donate £200.

**365/12 Donation Request (Great North Air Ambulance)**

A query was made by Councillor Fisher as to whether Parish Councils were legally able to support this organisation. The Clerk stated that under the S137 power a donation was legitimate. It was however agreed to research means of support other than financial (such as clothes collections). Councillor Brocklebank is to investigate these and report to the next meeting.

TB

**366/12 Donation Request (Carlisle Youth Zone)**

This request had been carried forward from November's meeting. **Resolved** that no donation would be made.

**367/12 Donation Request (Cumbria Military Museum)**

This request had been carried forward from November's meeting. **Resolved** that no donation would be made.

**368/12 Accounts Payable**

The following receipts were noted:

- £10 Marie Ashcroft (Advert in Newsletter)
- £1500 Carlisle City Council (Visual Map Board)
- £800 Carlisle City Council (Village Hall Funding)
- £150 Carlisle City Council (Councillors Donation – previous month)
- £15 Irthington Parish Council (training)
- £15 Brampton Parish Council (training)

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

- £136.72 S Kyle salary March (Standing Order)
- £136.72 S Kyle salary April (Standing Order) (Next financial year)
- £57.50 S Kyle (newsletters)
- £77.06 S Kyle reimbursements since November
- £72.00 William Brown (instillation of map board)
- £2782.82 Visual Imprint (map board)

Signed:.....

Date:.....

- £800 Walton Village Hall (Carlisle City Council Funding)
- £62.28 S Kyle reimbursement for YPO Bill (Kettles)
- £231.25 PAG (VAT Transfer – previous month)
- £168.08 Eden Woodland Consultants (Previous month)

### 369/12 Council Matters and Agenda Items for Future Meetings

- Annual Plan Review
- Budget for 2012/13

### 370/12 Correspondence

The following were noted:

- New Employment Briefing - Local Government (Discretionary Payments) Regulations 1996
- County Council Highways Hotline
- "Connecting Cumbria" Broadband Project
- Queens Diamond Jubilee Big Lunch
- Connecting Cumbria FAQ's
- Guidance on the use of Royal Names and Titles for the Diamond Jubilee
- Notification of CPCA/CCC Meeting 20 March
- Parish Salt Scheme
- Local Leaders Celebrating the Olympic Games
- Section 137 Expenditure: Limit For 2012/2013
- Cumbria In Bloom Competitions 2012
- Neighbourhood Planning Meetings (CALC)
- Community Empty Property Bid Flyer
- Prayers at Council Meetings (NALC Legal Briefing)
- Letter from Secretary of State (re: General Power of Competence)
- Parish Charter Letter Consultation – **resolved** that this consultation be responded to with comments on behalf of the Council.
- National Pay Award (NALC)
- ACT Gazette Spring 2012
- CALC Circular March 2012
- Staff Training Directory (Carlisle City Council)
- March 2012 e-bulletin West Cumbria MRWS Partnership
- Office of Fair Trading and markets in Remote Rural Communities
- Tea Room Signposts Requests – **resolved** that signs may be displayed within the parish.
- Jubilee Tree request (Penny Clover) – **resolved** that this decision be supported and the necessary expenditure authorised at the next meeting.
- Save Our Pub Group letter
- Agenda CPCA Meeting
- Talkin Rowing Club invitation – **resolved** that Councillor Evans will rsvp as to whether he can attend on behalf of the Council.

### 371/12 Date Of Next Meeting

The Annual Meeting of Walton Parish Council will take place on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2012 at 7.30pm. Agenda items should be sent to the Clerk before Friday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2012.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm.

Signed:.....

Date:.....