

**WALTON PARISH COUNCIL**

A meeting of Walton Parish Council was held on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2012 at 6.30pm in the Village Hall.

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

**In Attendance:** County Councillor Lawrence Fisher, City Councillor Syd Bowman, Tom Winter, Fraser Winter, Brian Hogg, Mel Warwick, Tommy Mark, Ian Bullough and Brian Davidson.

**Apologies:** Pam Cronin

**Action**

**458/12 Minutes Of Meeting Held Monday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2012**  
**Resolved** to authorise the Chairman to sign as a correct record.

**459/12 Requests for Dispensations**  
No requests had been received.

**460/12 Declarations of Interest**  
Councillor Ridley and Councillor Fowler both declared a prejudicial interest in item 469/12. Councillor Wood declared an interest in item 465/12.

**461/12 Reports From Police/City/County Councillors**  
No police were present however the newsletter will be displayed on the notice board in due course. **CLERK**

City Councillor Bowman informed Councillors about changes to the ways in which the Claimed Rights of certain roads in the District will take effect. He also mentioned the proposed changes to parking fees at Talkin Tarn which would lead to a doubling of the cost. The money raised from parking fees is used to redevelop the Tarn however it is not known if this is communicated well enough.

*Councillor Wood entered the room at this point.*

County Councillor Fisher also mentioned the changes to the Claimed Rights. He stated he believed the changes would lead to a better service. He also touched upon the fact that parishes are paying within their own areas for services (for example grass cutting) but also paying for services within the City boundary.

Councillor Fisher also discussed the Brampton and Beyond Trust and their lack of information and unwillingness to allow the County Council to attend their meetings. The Chairman confirmed that he had spoken to them and they had stated they would ensure they kept us informed of their developments. It was agreed more information is also needed on the Brampton Economic Partnership.

*Councillor Fowler entered the room at this stage.*

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**462/12 Public Participation**

Mr F Winter complained about dog fouling on the Village Green. This was supported by Mr Mark. The Chairman explained that it was necessary for any parishioners to report to the City Council if they were aware of which owners are allowing their dogs to foul in the area. It was stated that it is not necessary to see the offence being carried out if a name could be provided to the Dog Enforcement Officer. It was also explained that signage has recently been updated and a leaflet drop carried out door-to-door. The telephone number and email contact address for the relevant officer at the Civic Centre was offered to anyone at the meeting and will be placed in the next newsletter.

**463/12 Clerks Report**

The following report had been previously circulated and was noted with some additional comments:

**Community Led Plan** – The CLP team have a draft report written and will be circulating information door-to-door as soon as possible before holding an open day in the Village Hall.

**Speeding** – The Police were contacted after the last meeting and we are waiting for a response and action. City Councillor Bowman and County Councillor Fisher reported that they believed a speed indication device would be delivered for monitoring speeds in the near future.

**CLERK**

**Grass Cutting** – the contractor was politely asked to ask his team to take more time cutting the grass.

**Cumbria County Council Land** - The County Council have been contacted numerous times in an attempt to speed up the sale of the two areas of land in the village. Progress is being slowly made and an answer regarding the transfer is expected imminently.

**Reading Room** – work remains on-going to transfer the reading room to the PC as Custodian Trustees. The deeds will be ready for signing by the Chair and Vice-Chair after the meeting.

**Brampton and Beyond** – Councillor Evans has contacted Brampton and Beyond and requested that information be sent to him to allow the Council to be kept up to date.

**Locality Working – report from meeting** – The Clerk attended a meeting in Cumwhinton regarding Locality Working. It was an interesting meeting regarding this additional tier of local government that may become more relevant if the Council’s position on unitary authorities moves forward.

**Tree Inspections** – The Chairman noted that he had defined the measure of high speed winds and would define a “competent person” to inspect them after such winds in the near future.

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**464/12 Village Hall**

The Chairman stated that the reading room refurbishment was well underway. Plans for the room are still in discussion as to whether the tea room should move into there or whether it would be more suitable as a meeting room for other groups. He explained that building regulations and any necessary planning permissions are in-hand.

**465/12 Save Our Pub**

Councillor Wood stated that there had not been a lot of progress. It was clarified that the appeal by the owner had been rejected. The Chairman asked if the group were thinking laterally and considering other options of bringing a public house back to the Village – for example by purchasing one of the other properties for sale and converting it. The Group confirmed they will keep the PC up-to-date with any developments.

**466/12 Broadband**

Councillor Brocklebank informed Councillors that EU approval for the state aid necessary to progress the project was now necessary. An idea of the delivery contract would be better known in 2013. A lengthy discussion was held regarding broadband delivery and service in general. Alternative methods, such as using the Schools CLIO service were also discussed, as was the potential for the parish helping the project, for example by financially contributing to a mini-exchange cabinet in the area or by helping dig trenches for new cables.

**467/12 Social Committee**

A number of events have been organised over the forthcoming months beginning with the Christmas Tree light switch on. All the events are listed in the newsletter and it was requested that parishioners support the events. The Roger Clerk car rally was also mentioned as it will be passing through the parish on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> November.

**468/12 Seat Donation**

A garden seat had been offered for free to the Council. Councillors **resolved** to accept the donation of the bench and voted that it be placed alongside another bench opposite the former pub. The Chairman will confirm it is possible to site it here as the land still officially belongs to the County Council (refer to 463/12). It will be put in the play area if it is not possible.

JE

**469/12 12/0847 L/A rear of 1 & 2 Whitehouse, Walton, Brampton, CA8 2DJ - Residential Development (Outline Application)**

Councillors Ridley and Fowler left the room.

The plans were considered and various opinions offered. It was confirmed that under the NPPF the old building line of the Village is no longer in existence. It was also confirmed that the number of empty properties for sale or rent in the area was not a full material planning consideration. However there would be a requirement that the applicant would need to show evidence of need for the development. Concerns were raised over whether the existing sewerage system

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could cope with three more properties however United Utilities had already submitted their response with no such concerns. It was also confirmed that the development included an affordable housing property as required. The CLP had indicated that parishioners desired further affordable housing units.

JE/  
CLERK

After deliberation it was **resolved** that there was no objection to the proposal but a comment would be submitted querying the need for the development in light of the lack of services in the parish; and also to stress the desire for more affordable housing by parishioners.

**470/12 Centurion Inn Enforcement Action Appeal**

It had been previously noted in 465/12 that the appeal had been rejected by the Planning Inspectorate. The Council confirmed they would speak to the City Council to try and find out the likely next steps in the enforcement process.

CLERK

**471/12 Accounts to end October 2012**

The accounting statement was circulated and noted.

**472/12 Donation Request from Lees Hill School PTA**

It was **resolved** to donate £50 towards on-going fund-raising efforts by the catchment school towards various projects including a mosaic and stage (LGA 1972 s137).

**473/12 Donation Request from Great North Air Ambulance**

It was resolved to donate £50 towards their fund-raising efforts (LGA 1972 s137).

**474/12 Donation Request from Walton Village Hall**

A donation of £300 had already been agreed towards the Reading Room redevelopment. A further donation request was now being made by the Village Hall. A sum of £280 was budgeted for donation to the Hall and it was suggested that the total amount of £580 be paid on materials so that the VAT could be legally reclaimed. Councillors **resolved** therefore to pay £580 plus VAT to a supplier on behalf of the Village Hall as soon as possible upon presentation of an invoice, potentially outwith the next PC meeting. The initial £300 will be returned to the Council in due course.

**472/12 Accounts Payable**

The following receipts were noted:

- £300 Carlisle City Council (Reading Room refurbishment)
- £667 Carlisle City Council (Notice board grant)

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

- £136.72 Sarah Kyle November 2012 (salary)
- £136.72 Sarah Kyle December 2012 (salary)
- £300.00 CGM (Grass cutting September)
- £96.00 Forster and Brown (Noticeboard instillation)
- £24.50 Walton Village Hall (Rental)

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**473/12 Council Matters and Agenda Items for Future Meetings**

- Precept – the annual setting of the precept has been delayed from this November meeting until January due to guidance from CALC. To enable Councillors to fully consider the budget the report and spread sheet will be circulated prior to the next agenda on this occasion.

**474/12 Correspondence**

The following were noted:

- Locality working and broadband
- CPCA AGM Agenda
- Healthwatch consultation
- CALC Briefing on MRWS
- Electricity North West Survey of Parish and Town Councils
- Rural Opportunities bulletin
- Connecting Cumbria Newsletter
- Carlisle Parking Strategy Public Consultation
- CALC AGM Agenda
- Bolton Fell Moss Newsletter
- CALC Circular October & November

**475/12 Date Of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of Walton Parish Council will take place on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> January at 7.30pm. Agenda items for this meeting should be submitted to the Clerk no later than Friday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2013.

The meeting closed at 7.31pm.

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