

# Minutes of WALTON PARISH COUNCIL meeting held in the Village Hall TUESDAY, 11th January, 2022

Present: Councillors: - Hodgson (RH), Hogg (BH), Mark (TMa), Mounsey (TMo), Shaw (GS), and Wilkinson (WW).

In attendance: - Clerk/RFO (AD). 1 member of the public (AK)

**001/22 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE-** None – at this point GS informed the Council of the resignation of Councillor Wood with immediate effect and to indicate that AD would commence the due process of informing the Returning Officer to seek views on a bye-election, failing that then the Council would seek to co-opt to the declared vacancy.

**002/22 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.

**003/22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – RESOLVED** No declarations by elected and co-opted members of interests in respect of items on this agenda were received.

## **004/22 MINUTES**

**004/22.1 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9TH NOVEMBER 2021 – RESOLVED** To authorise the Chair sign, as a correct record, the amended minutes of the meeting held on 9th November 2021.

**005/22 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION –** AK passed to Council a document relating to footpaths in the area which seemed to have issues regarding signage. This was in support of her impassioned request for help in what appears to be a number of environmental issues regarding activity on what is considered to be Common Land i.e. Knorren Fell. However, AK did inform the Council that during the recent days she had been informed of the legal owner of the land (Knorren Fell) was Major Johnson and as such any activity issues would firstly have to be addressed by him.

After full consideration again of the issues Council noted it has no legal jurisdiction regarding the issues of land owned by Major Johnson (including Knorren Fell) and simply recognised the issues.

**006/22 REPORTS –** No reports were received from City and County Councillors

**007/22 TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING APPLICATIONS** None

**008/22 PARISH CLERK UPDATE –** AD Reported that he had completed the on-line course ILCA which was funded by the Council in 2021 and indicated that some thought would need to be given to future Training requirements of both Clerk and Councillors. presented and attached to the minutes

**RESOLVED –** AD to bring to next meeting options paper and details of the benefits accrued to Parish Councils of employing a qualified Clerk.

## **009/22 FINANCIAL MATTERS -**

**009/22/1** Bank Balances and Bank Reconciliations were reported by AD.

**009/22/2** Council approved the expenditure as below -

71	Carlisle City Council	Play Area Report	£61.80
72	Cumbria Payroll Service	Payroll Service	£16.80
73	A Dawes	Clerks Wages	£407.33
74	HMRC	Tax Payment	£111.80
75	A Dawes	Expenses	£78.69

**010/22** No unforeseen matters not requiring a decision were brought to Council.

**011/22 PLAY AREA –**Annual Inspection report was discussed and no immediate remedial action was required. Further actions will be taken beyond the attempt by GS regarding additional funding for the Hip-Hop.

**012/22 PRECEPT 2022/2023** – AD Confirmed request for £8000 had been made.

**013/22 INSURANCE TENDER** - AD reported that Council would wish to enter into a Tender for its Insurances from the renewal date as increases in the last 2 years had put a strain on the Budget. **RESOLVED** AD to commence tender process and would take suggested tenderer information from Councillors

**014/22 GRASS CUTTING TENDER** – decision was made to award the Contract to Ted Nancarrow of Haltwhistle subject to confirmation of the pick up of cuttings and the “flexibility of number of cuts required. AD to confirm.

**015/22 CORRESPONDENCE and LITERATURE RECEIVED BY THE CLERK**

Council noted an item of correspondence regarding the proposed development of a Solar Farm by OPD Energy and AD confirmed that Alexander Miejimolle (Product Developer) would make a short presentation to the March Council meeting. The proposed development is at Leaps Rigg Farm, Walton, Brampton, Carlisle, CA8 2DZ.

Discussion centred around the events and activity planned to celebrate Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee determined that AD should discuss with Walton and Lees Primary School holding a joint “Tree Planting” Ceremony (location and type to be approved by the Council with the help of Mike Lowther who did some very satisfactory work to the Trees in the Village during the summer.

Other ideas were sought for other activities that the Parish may wish to be involved with during the holiday week-end scheduled for 2rd 3rd 4th and 5th June.

AD indicated that the first meeting of the Group to scope out and take forward the Parish Plan Update would be 25th January in the Village Hall at 7 and Councillors were also invited to proactively seek other Parishioners to attend.

AD briefly read out extract from Neil Hudson MP letter regarding inability of Parish Councils to yet meet either remotely or via a HYBRID fashion legally. AD will update when other correspondence is received, meanwhile Council will continue policy of meeting legally face-to-face with social distancing arrangements in place.

**016/22 AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING – NOTED** items for the next meeting should be submitted to the Clerk on or before 1st March 2022.

**017/22 DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – 8<sup>th</sup> March 2022, Village Hall, Walton, 7.00pm.

Meeting closed at 8.30