

20.

**The Minutes of the Meeting of Walsoken Parish Council held in  
Walsoken Village Hall, Walsoken on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2015 at 7pm**

**PRESENT**

Councillors Fred Leach (Chair), John Woolley (Vice Chair), Clive Bettinson, Andy Houghton, Lisa Wiffen, Jenny Snow, Frank Smith, Joanna Woolley, Clive Bettinson.

County Cllr. Harry Humphrey

**00. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None present.

**01. APOLOGIES AND REASONS**

Cllr Allan Landall – church meeting; Borough Cllrs. Roy Groom – alternative Parish Council meeting and Brian Long - Borough and Parish Council meetings.

**02. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

**03. NOTIFICATION OF MATTERS TO BE PUT ON THE AGENDA UNDER ‘AOB’**

Cllr Houghton had two matters under Highways.

**04. TO CONFIRM MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2014**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2014 had been circulated. Cllr Wiffen proposed they be accepted as a true copy, seconded Cllr Houghton, unanimously agreed.

**05. MATTERS ARISING**

**a) Parish Council website** – Clerk reported that this matter is still outstanding.

Clerk reported also that more than one councillor had now stated that they had not always received emails from the Clerk. After discussion it was decided that Clerk should report the matter to the Saver.

**b) Overgrown area in church** – Cllr Landall was not present so this item will be carried forward.

**06. CLERK'S CONTRACT**

Cllr Leach confirmed that the Clerk was now on the recommended salary scale point and Clerk confirmed that she is happy with the existing contract. Council agreed existing contract.

**07. PLANNING**

**a) Planning Application** – The Planning Report having been circulated, was read out by Clerk and noted.

**08. HIGHWAYS**

**a) Argyl Gardens** – Clerk reported that Andy Wallace from Highways Dept. had programmed the potholes at the junction of Argyl Gardens and Burrett Road, to be filled in, but they did not consider it a priority job.

**b) Repair work in Burrett Road** – a discussion followed about the quality of the work that had been carried out and tarmac that had been left next to the pumping station, at the entrance to the orchard. It was considered that this tarmac could have been used to fill more potholes in the road. Cllr Leach will ask the orchard owner if he had asked for any surplus tarmac to be laid in the entrance.

It was stated that some of the drain covers still had stones in them causing a blockage, but it was noted that there was no water laying in the road where the work had been completed.

Concern was expressed about the lack of any public or statutory notice when the road had to be completely closed for the roadworks. Cllr Humphrey advised that he always received notice of any work and he would forward the most recent emails to the Clerk and ask for future notices to be forwarded to the Clerk as a matter of routine.

Clerk was instructed to write to Andy Wallace re the surplus tarmac and drain covers, asking him to inspect the work.

**c) Broadend Road junction** – Cllr Houghton expressed concern that reports in the local papers had quoted that Highways Agency had stated that a roundabout would be “inappropriate.”

After discussion it was decided that Clerk should write to Catherine Brookes at Highways Agency, copying Elizabeth Truss MP into it, asking for clarification about a roundabout at the junction.

**09. STREET LIGHTING**

Nothing to report.

**10. ALLOTMENTS**

Nothing to report.

**11. CHURCHYARD AND WAR MEMORIAL**

It was reported that the Memorial tree was still in place.

**12. FINANCE**

**a) Payments for approval** – the payments on the attached schedule had been circulated. Cllr Harvey proposed the payments be accepted Cllr Wiffen seconded, all in favour.

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**b) Precept for year ending March 2016** – after discussion it was decided to increase the Precept by 1% to £8,665, proposed by Cllr Harvey, seconded by Cllr Houghton, all in favour.

**c) Budget for year ending March 2016** – the Budget had been circulated and Clerk explained the figures. Cllr Harvey proposed the Budget be accepted, seconded by Cllr Joanna Woolley, all in favour. The Budget was signed by Cllr Leach.

**13.CORRESPONDENCE**

The correspondence was available prior to the meeting.

The Local Plan Pre-Submission document was discussed. Clerk reported that Cllr Groom had expressed concern about the removal of surface water from the proposed developments.

**14. URGENT BUSINESS**

None.

**15.AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

Clerk to provide information on Election procedures in May 2015.

Next meeting is Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2015 at 7pm at Walsoken Village Hall.

Meeting closed at 7.58pm

Annette Williams, Clerk

Chair..... Date.....2015