

Walsoken Parish Council Minutes
of the meeting held on Tuesday 9th July 2019
held in Walsoken Village Hall at 7.05pm

PRESENT

Councillors Fred Leach (Chair), Clive Bettinson, Jenny Snow, Allan Landall (arrived 7.05pm) and Andy Houghton (arrived 7.20pm).

Borough Cllr Richard Blunt (left early) and County Cllrs Harry Humphrey and Sandra Squire.

Item No.	Details
69	<p><u>Public Participation</u> Chris Luff, a Walsoken resident introduced himself as he is interested in serving as a Parish Councillor. He gave a brief background to his residence and employment. Cllr Leach thanked him.</p>
70	<p><u>Apologies</u> Cllr Barry Sisson – holiday, Cllr John Woolley – holiday, Cllr John Harwin – holiday. Bor Cllr Kirk – attending West Walton meeting. PC Lee Anderton.</p>
71	<p><u>Declarations of Interest</u> None.</p>
72	<p><u>Urgent Matters</u> None reported.</p>
73	<p><u>Approval of the Minutes</u> The Minutes of the meeting held 14th May 2019 had been circulated and were approved as a true and accurate record, proposed by Cllr Landall seconded Cllr Snow, signed by Cllr Leach.</p>
74	<p><u>Matters Arising</u> a) Council website Counter statistics – Clerk reported the user statistics as at 8th July 2019 as 9 visitors that day, 13 previous day, 167 the last 7 days, 667 the last 30 days and 7,569 in the last year. b) Ward amalgamation – Clerk had been advised by the Borough Council that a copy of the signed Minutes would be required to confirm the request for the amalgamation of the two Wards. A query was raised about the position with County Councillors if the Wards were amalgamated into one. Clerk will enquire. PC Anderton had commented that the monthly newsletter will still refer to the ward boundaries as before any amalgamation.</p>
75	<p><u>Planning</u> a) The Planning Report – the Planning Report had been circulated to councillors, and was noted.</p>
76	<p><u>Church and War Memorial</u> a) Beech stump carving – Cllr Leach may have more information at the next meeting so this item will be held over. b) Request for seating – Clerk advised that prices vary widely depending on the size, style and materials used. Cllr Landall suggested a bench similar to one in the cemetery and will send the Clerk a photo. A discussion took place about the potential positioning near the West door under trees which could lead to any seating being soiled. A suggestion was made for portable chairs to be used which could be taken in and out of the church as required. Item to be carried forward to the next meeting. c) Grassing of cultivated area – Cllr Landall thanked the Parish Council on behalf of the Parochial Church Council for the grassing of the cultivated area either side of the church footpath.</p>
77	<p><u>Street Lighting</u> It was noted that the LED in Church Road hadn't yet been replaced.</p>
78	<p><u>Finance</u> a) Payments – the schedule below had been circulated</p>

Item No.	Details				
	PAYMENTS TO BE MADE	DETAILS	NET AMOUNT	VAT	TOTAL
	101895 BHIB Ltd	Insurance renewal	£439.17	£0.00	£439.17
	101896 Mrs A Williams	Net salary 6 th May to 30 th June 2019	£298.84	£0.00	£298.84
	101897 Mrs A Williams	Expenses to 9 th July 2019	£43.00	£0.00	£43.00
	101898 Inland Revenue	Income tax 6 th May to 30 th June 2019	£74.60	£0.00	£74.60
	101899 Westcotec	Maintenance June 2019	£13.46	£2.69	£16.15
	101900 Borough Cncl KL & W Norf	2019 Election costs	£95.14	£0.00	£95.14
	101901 Westcotec Ltd	Maintenance July 2019	£13.46	£2.69	£16.15
	Direct Debit Haven Power	Supply April 2019	£32.06	£1.60	£33.66
	Transfer	To Savings Account	£4,964.38	£0.00	£4,964.38
		TOTAL OF PAYMENTS	£5,974.11	£6.98	£5,981.09
	RECEIPTS	DETAILS	AMOUNT		
	HM Customs	VAT refund for year ended April 2019	£475.34		
	Savings Account	Transfer from Current Account	£4,964.38		
		TOTAL OF RECEIPTS	£5,439.72		
	Cllr Bettinson proposed the payments be accepted, seconded by Cllr Snow, all in agreement.				
79	<p>Highways</p> <p>a) Monitoring Report– noted.</p> <p>b) BT pole and overgrown hedge, Biggs Road - Clerk advised she had written to the Pole Objections Team re the BT pole in Biggs Road and had emailed Highways regarding the overgrown hedging.</p> <p>c) Station Road/Wilkins Road corner – Clerk instructed to write to the occupier of the property on the corner of Station Road and Wilkins Road to request that their hedge is cut back as it is presently obstructing the view of traffic, warning them that Highways will charge a fee if they have to do it.</p> <p>d) Various highways issues – Cllr Houghton had produced 11 photographs highlighting problems as below -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • badly eroded trod in Burrett Road plus weeds breaking it up • hazardous sunken drain in Burrett Road opposite Sparrowgate junction • overgrown hedge on corner of Sparrowgate and Burrettgate junction obscuring 3 street lights and a 40mph speed limit sign • uneven surface and slope around the bus stop in Burrett Road <p>Clerk instructed to advise Highways and copy in Cllr Humphrey and also write to the occupier of the property with the overgrown hedge.</p> <p>e) Grasscutting – a discussion took place about the poor quality of grass cutting in the village, two cuts have taken place to date. Clerk instructed to ask for a schedule from the Borough and County Councils.</p> <p>It was noted that the overgrowth outside the flats in Burrett Road had now been cut back to a good standard although it wasn't clear who had undertaken the work.</p> <p>f) Highways England Road Safety Audit on the A47 Broadend Road junction – Clerk summarised the report which concluded that no further action is required.</p> <p>Cllr Humphrey advised that the Wisbech Access Strategy will be taking over as their aim is to improve the transport network in the area to support future housing developments. A proposal has been put forward for a roundabout at the junction and funding is available but the proposal is awaiting final approval.</p> <p>g) Norfolk County Council Parish Partnership Scheme – a discussion took place about the bus stop in Burrett Road. Clerk to enquire if work to the uneven, sloping surface would be suitable for the grant.</p>				
80	<p>Allotments</p> <p>Nothing to report.</p>				
81	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>None.</p>				

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82	<p><u>Co-option of a councillor</u> Mr Luff left the room while a discussion took place. It was unanimously agreed to co-opt him onto the Council. He returned to the meeting and accepted the role and Cllr Leach thanked him.</p>
83	<p><u>Urgent Business</u> None reported.</p>
84	<p><u>Agenda items for the next meeting</u> None reported. The meeting was closed at 7.43pm. The next meeting is on Tuesday 20th August 2019 at 7pm at Walsoken Village Hall.</p>

.....Chair

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