

**Walsoken Parish Council Minutes**  
**of the meeting held on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> August 2019**  
**held in Walsoken Village Hall at 7.00pm**

**PRESENT**

Councillors Fred Leach (Chair), Clive Bettinson, Andy Houghton, Barry Sisson, John Harwin and Chris Luff.  
 Borough Cllrs Richard Blunt (left early) and Julian Kirk and County Cllrs Harry Humphrey and Sandra Squire.  
 Two members of the public.

Item No.	Details
85	<p><b><u>Public Participation</u></b>            A local resident introduced herself and stated she was disappointed to receive a letter from the Parish Council regarding her overgrown hedge and would have preferred a personal visit. She explained she had cut the hedge for 26 years but had not done so for the last 2 years as she considered it too dangerous to be out on the road with cars speeding past, which she thought had caused the verge to be eroded. She requested a Health and Safety Risk Assessment to be undertaken.            Cllr Leach explained that the Risk Assessment could only be carried out by the person undertaking the hedge cutting so the Parish Council was unable to do this.            Cllr Humphrey confirmed that if Highways undertake the hedge cutting they will charge the owner. He had asked Highways to look at the verge to ascertain if it is worn away by traffic and will let her know their response when received.            Cllr Leach thanked her.</p>
86	<p><b><u>Apologies</u></b>            Cllr John Woolley – holiday, Cllr Joanna Woolley – working, Cllr Jenny Snow – family commitment.</p>
87	<p><b><u>Register of Members' Interest</u></b>            Councillors handed in their forms.</p>
88	<p><b><u>Declarations of Interest</u></b>            None.</p>
89	<p><b><u>Urgent Matters</u></b>            None reported.</p>
90	<p><b><u>Approval of the Minutes</u></b>            The Minutes of the meeting held 9<sup>th</sup> July 2019 had been circulated and were approved as a true and accurate record, proposed by Cllr Bettinson seconded Cllr Luff, signed by Cllr Leach.</p>
91	<p><b><u>Matters Arising</u></b>            a) <b>Council website Counter statistics</b> – Clerk reported the user statistics as at 19<sup>th</sup> August 2019 as 9 visitors that day, 32 previous day, 158 the last 7 days, 569 the last 30 days and 7,785 in the last year.            b) <b>Ward amalgamation</b> – Clerk had been advised by Kings Lynn Borough Council that as a Norfolk County Council Electoral Review is currently underway this will be considered as part of that Review.            It was suggested that Clerk writes to the Boundary Commission for their support.            c) <b>Highways Parish Partnership</b> – Clerk advised that Highways had stated the bus stop paving could not be included in the grant scheme as it is a maintenance issue but they would ask Highways to decide a way forward.            Clerk confirmed the the closing date for the scheme is 6<sup>th</sup> December 2019.</p>
92	<p><b><u>Planning</u></b>            a) <b>The Planning Report</b> – the Planning Report had been circulated to councillors, and was noted.  <b>19/01221/F</b> – Cllr Blunt advised he will be speaking to support this application at the Planning Committee meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2019. Cllr Leach had also listed additional comments in support of the application and it was suggested these are sent to the Planning Officer and the Democratic Services Officer, copying Cllr Blunt in.</p>
93	<p><b><u>Church and War Memorial</u></b>            a) <b>Beech stump carving</b> – Nothing to report.            b) <b>Request for seating</b> – Clerk gave figures for wooden seats varying from £75 for flat pack up to several hundred pounds.            After discussion councillors unanimously agreed to decline support for the request.</p>

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94	<p><b>Street Lighting</b></p> <p>a) <b>Bulk purchase for supply</b> – Clerk reported that she had received a phone call from Great Annual Savings Group regarding the potential bulk purchasing of electricity supply for street lighting for local Parish Councils. This has been referred to National Association of Local Councils for their advice.</p> <p>b) <b>Sparrowgate Road light</b> –Clerk to chase the replacement of the temporary LED in Sparrowgate Road.</p>																																													
95	<p><b>Finance</b></p> <p>a) Payments – the schedule below had been circulated.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>PAYMENTS TO BE MADE</th> <th>DETAILS</th> <th>NET AMOUNT</th> <th>VAT</th> <th>TOTAL</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>101902 Mrs A Williams</td> <td>Net salary 1<sup>st</sup> July to 11<sup>th</sup> August 2019</td> <td>£242.62</td> <td>£0.00</td> <td>£242.62</td> </tr> <tr> <td>101903 Mrs A Williams</td> <td>Expenses to 20<sup>th</sup> August 2019</td> <td>£33.00</td> <td>£0.00</td> <td>£33.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>101904 Inland Revenue</td> <td>Income tax 1<sup>st</sup> July to 11<sup>th</sup> August 2019</td> <td>£60.80</td> <td>£0.00</td> <td>£60.80</td> </tr> <tr> <td>101905 Westcotec</td> <td>Maintenance August 2019</td> <td>£13.46</td> <td>£2.69</td> <td>£16.15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Direct Debit Haven Power</td> <td>Outstanding amounts Mar and Apr 2018</td> <td>£36.13</td> <td>£2.22</td> <td>£38.35</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Direct Debit Haven Power</td> <td>Supply May 2019</td> <td>£33.23</td> <td>£1.66</td> <td>£34.89</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Direct Debit Haven Power</td> <td>Supply June 2019</td> <td>£32.06</td> <td>£1.60</td> <td>£33.66</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: right;"><b>TOTAL OF PAYMENTS</b></td> <td><b>£451.30</b></td> <td><b>£8.17</b></td> <td><b>£459.47</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Cllr Houghton proposed the payments be accepted, seconded by Cllr Sisson, all in agreement.</p>	PAYMENTS TO BE MADE	DETAILS	NET AMOUNT	VAT	TOTAL	101902 Mrs A Williams	Net salary 1 <sup>st</sup> July to 11 <sup>th</sup> August 2019	£242.62	£0.00	£242.62	101903 Mrs A Williams	Expenses to 20 <sup>th</sup> August 2019	£33.00	£0.00	£33.00	101904 Inland Revenue	Income tax 1 <sup>st</sup> July to 11 <sup>th</sup> August 2019	£60.80	£0.00	£60.80	101905 Westcotec	Maintenance August 2019	£13.46	£2.69	£16.15	Direct Debit Haven Power	Outstanding amounts Mar and Apr 2018	£36.13	£2.22	£38.35	Direct Debit Haven Power	Supply May 2019	£33.23	£1.66	£34.89	Direct Debit Haven Power	Supply June 2019	£32.06	£1.60	£33.66	<b>TOTAL OF PAYMENTS</b>		<b>£451.30</b>	<b>£8.17</b>	<b>£459.47</b>
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96	<p><b>Highways</b></p> <p>a) <b>Monitoring Report</b>– noted. BT pole and overgrown hedge, Biggs Road - Clerk to chase response and ask Highways about the trees. Various highways issues, Clerk to report the following -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• update Highways on the trod overgrowth as being the length in Burrett Road opposite and to the right of Sparrowgate Road junction</li> <li>• Chase re pothole on Lynn Road roundabout which has appeared again in spite of recent repairs</li> <li>• pothole at the junction of Chapnall and Burrett Road</li> <li>• damaged speed limit sign at the Fengate/Wheatley Bank junction, believed to have been hit by a lorry</li> </ul> <p>b) <b>Parking at Chapnall/Burrett Road junction</b> – it was noted that cars are still parking close to the junction. Clerk requested to write to the Care Agency to remind their visiting staff not to park near the junction.</p> <p>c) <b>Grasscutting</b> – a discussion took place about the poor quality of grass cutting in all areas of the village. It's believed that three cuts have taken place to date but it was noted the drivers are travelling too fast and only pushing the long grass down and not cutting it. Clerk to complain to the Borough Council and a suggestion was made to also write to CGM to complain.</p>																																													
97	<p><b>Allotments</b></p> <p>Nothing to report.</p>																																													
98	<p><b>Correspondence</b></p> <p>a) <b>Village Hall Report</b> – Clerk read Cllr John Woolley's report in his absence, he had attended a meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> July 2019. Concern had been expressed about the loss making situation which would mean closure of the Hall at the end of the year if this continued. If a breakeven figure could be achieved then the Hall would be able to remain open.</p>																																													
99	<p><b>Urgent Business</b></p> <p>None reported.</p>																																													
100	<p><b>Agenda items for the next meeting</b></p> <p>None reported. The meeting was closed at 7.58pm. The next meeting is on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2019 at 7pm at Walsoken Village Hall.</p>																																													