

Walsoken Parish Council Minutes
of the ZOOM meeting held on Tuesday 7th July 2020 at 7.02pm

COUNCILLORS PARTICIPATING

Councillors Fred Leach (Chair), John Woolley (Vice Chair), Clive Bettinson, Allan Landall, Andy Houghton and Jenny Snow.

Borough Cllrs Richard Blunt and Julian Kirk

Item No.	Details
	Cll Leach welcomed everyone who had been able to participate in the Zoom meeting.
54	<u>Public Participation</u> No-one present.
55	<u>Apologies</u> Cllr Barry Sisson – work; Cllr Chris Luff – away; Cllr Jo Woolley – family and County Cllr Sandra Squire – chairing a meeting.
56	<u>Declarations of Interest</u> Cllr Landall – church matters.
57	<u>Urgent Matters</u> Gravestones and church path to be raised under Churchyard Agenda item.
58	<u>Approval of the Minutes</u> The Minutes of the Skype meeting held 19 th May 2020 had been circulated and were approved as a true and accurate record, proposed by Cllr Woolley , seconded Cllr Bettinson , the Minutes will be signed by Cllr Leach retrospectively.
59	<u>Matters Arising</u> a) Website figures – Clerk read the visitor figures as at 6 th July 2020 - 8 today, 16 yesterday, 121 in last 7 days, 640 in last 30 days and 9,085 in last year. b) Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) - Clerk read the reply from Kings Lynn Borough Council (KLBC) advising that Freebridgehave applied for the Affordable/Social Housing Exemption for the houses in Chapnall Close so there will be no CIL payable. A query was raised as to whether barn conversions would be eligible for CIL, Cllr Blunt will enquire about specific applications if the planning numbers are sent to him. c) Bus shelters – Clerk had circulated examples of shelters ranging from £1,460 + VAT + delivery + installation to £3,128 not including VAT, delivery or installation. Westcotec had estimated the cost of removal of existing shelter, installation of a new one and making good the surface to be £4,500-£5,500 + VAT. A discussion took place about the refurbishment of the existing shelter as the frame is in good repair. Clerk to obtain prices for painting it and installing perspex panels. d) Defibrillators – Clerk had written to 19 shops and businesses in the village to ask if they would be willing to have the unit installed on their property. Responses had been received from VIP Hair, Daniel Wenn hairdresser, Boots Pharmacy and Legge-Bourke Court offering to host the unit plus pay for the electricity, which would amount to around £10 per year, plus Walsoken Village Hall. It was agreed to ask VIP Hair if they would have the unit, Clerk to contact the owner. Clerk had contacted East Anglia Ambulance and British Heart Foundation to enquire if they had any recommendations for a defibrillator. Cllr Kirk gave contact details for Wisbech Ambulance Station. The wall cabinet for the fully automatic unit from Primary Care Supplies had dimensions of 500mm x 400mm x 220mm.
60	<u>Parish Council website accessibility</u> Clerk advised that from 23 rd September 2020 all council websites will have to comply with regulations to ensure reasonable adjustments are made to websites to make them accessible to people with various disabilities including impaired vision, motor difficulties, cognitive impairments or learning disabilities and deafness or impaired hearing. Cllr Houghton had looked at this and considered that the Parish Council would be exempt as the requirement to comply with the accessibility requirement would impose a disproportionate burden outweighing the benefit to those using the site. He will check a few of the pages to make sure they are in order. Cllr Kirk thought that all Council websites had to be uniform – Clerk will investigate this. Clerk advised there is a Government template for the Accessibility Statement which will need to be completed.

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61	<p>Planning</p> <p>a) The Planning Report – the Planning Report had been circulated to councillors, and was noted. 20/00709/F – Clerk to ask if this application replaces the previous ones for permitted developments.</p>																																																									
62	<p>a) Finance</p> <p>Payments and receipts – 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>101947 Mrs A Williams</td> <td>Net salary 11th May to 28th June 2020</td> <td>£452.79</td> <td>£0.00</td> <td>£452.79</td> </tr> <tr> <td>101948 Mrs A Williams</td> <td>Expenses to 7th July 2020</td> <td>£59.99</td> <td>£0.00</td> <td>£59.99</td> </tr> <tr> <td>101949 Inland Revenue</td> <td>Income tax 11th May to 28th June 2020</td> <td>£113.20</td> <td>£0.00</td> <td>£113.20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>101950 Westcotec</td> <td>Maintenance June 2020</td> <td>£13.46</td> <td>£2.69</td> <td>£16.15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>101951 Petty Cash</td> <td>Stamps, stationery</td> <td>£30.00</td> <td>£0.00</td> <td>£30.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>101952 Westcotec</td> <td>Supply July 2020</td> <td>£13.46</td> <td>£2.69</td> <td>£16.15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Direct Debit Haven Power</td> <td>Supply April/May 2020</td> <td>£118.51</td> <td>£5.93</td> <td>£124.44</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: right;">TOTAL OF PAYMENTS</td> <td>£801.41</td> <td>£11.31</td> <td>£812.72</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>RECEIPTS</th> <th>DETAILS</th> <th>AMOUNT</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>HMRC</td> <td>Refund of VAT for y/e April 2020</td> <td>£388.05</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Haven power</td> <td>Refund of overpayment of Direct Debit</td> <td>£85.48</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: right;">TOTAL OF RECEIPTS</td> <td>£473.53</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Cllr Snow proposed the payments be accepted, seconded by Cllr Houghton, all in agreement. Clerk explained that the Haven Power Direct Debit will now be cancelled with immediate effect.</p>	PAYMENTS TO BE MADE	DETAILS	NET AMOUNT	VAT	TOTAL	101947 Mrs A Williams	Net salary 11 th May to 28 th June 2020	£452.79	£0.00	£452.79	101948 Mrs A Williams	Expenses to 7 th July 2020	£59.99	£0.00	£59.99	101949 Inland Revenue	Income tax 11 th May to 28 th June 2020	£113.20	£0.00	£113.20	101950 Westcotec	Maintenance June 2020	£13.46	£2.69	£16.15	101951 Petty Cash	Stamps, stationery	£30.00	£0.00	£30.00	101952 Westcotec	Supply July 2020	£13.46	£2.69	£16.15	Direct Debit Haven Power	Supply April/May 2020	£118.51	£5.93	£124.44	TOTAL OF PAYMENTS		£801.41	£11.31	£812.72	RECEIPTS	DETAILS	AMOUNT	HMRC	Refund of VAT for y/e April 2020	£388.05	Haven power	Refund of overpayment of Direct Debit	£85.48	TOTAL OF RECEIPTS		£473.53
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63	<p>Highway matters</p> <p>Partnership Scheme – Clerk advised that the closing date for the 50/50 scheme this year is 4th December 2020. Cllr Leach asked for suggestions for the scheme. He put forward a proposal for a passing place in Sparrowgate Road at one of the entrances to Goodales Orchards, either side of Nelson House. Clerk to ask Andy Wallace at Highways what his views are and whether this would be eligible for the scheme.</p> <p>Overgrown hedge Blackbear Lane – Clerk to write to the occupier of No 54 asking for hedge to be cut back as it's grown onto the footpath forcing pedestrians onto the road.</p> <p>Blackbear Lane trod – councillors will view the trod and path to assess the condition of it.</p> <p>Green Lane – Clerk read correspondence from a resident who had concerns with quad and trail bikes using the road and tracks. He had asked for a speed limit reduction and gates at the A47 end of Green Lane and the entrance to the footpath on the bend. Highways had replied stating they would not consider a speed limit reduction and that staggered pedestrian guardrails could be installed at the A47 end for an estimated £400 and the Parish Council would be expected to pay. They stated that the footpath was in Cambridgeshire. Clerk to ask the complainant if the suggested gates would be acceptable. Clerk to reply to Highways stating the path is definitely in Norfolk, and request a fixed price for 2 sets of gates, copying in Cllr Squire to see if she is aware if Highways England are responsible for the A47 end of Green Lane.</p>																																																									
64	<p>Streetlighting</p> <p>Nothing to report.</p>																																																									
65	<p>Churchyard matters</p> <p>a) Gravestones – Cllr Leach had been approached by a resident who had a family gravestone in the cemetery which had been labelled by Fenland District Council as being unsafe. He had been unable to contact anyone but the Clerk had found and passed on a contact name at Streetscene. Cllr Leach reported that one of the gravestones identified as being unsafe was Baxter's which was part of the Charitable Trust which hands out benefits to residents at Christmas.</p> <p>b) Church footpath – Clerk read an email from the Parochial Church Council pointing out that there are 3 or 4 areas of cracked and raised surfaces in the footpath leading to the South porch. A discussion took place and it was thought these could have been caused by tree roots, although the path was considered to be generally in good condition compared to other churches. Cllr Landall reported that the church had paid £16,000 about 12 years ago to have the footpaths relaid and some tree roots removed, although the Parish Council wasn't notified of this at the time. It was agreed that Cllr Leach will spray paint around the cracks and Clerk will order warning signs. Cllr Leach will</p>																																																									

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c)	<p>look into tarmac quotes to fill in the cracks. Cllr Landall thanked the Parish Council.</p> <p>Grounds maintenance – Cllr Landall reported that Idverde were doing a good job grasscutting but had had a staff shortage so were behind with clearing rubbish and cutting back epicormic growth.</p>
66	<p><u>Village Hall Report</u> Cllr Woolley reported that the Village Hall had received a Government grant of £10,000 to cover their running costs. Clerk will post a statement from the Chair of the Village Hall Committee advising “The Village Hall will not be opening this year now. We will know better in November when it could open again but next year looks unlikely at the moment.”</p>
67	<p><u>Urgent Business</u> Cllr Woolley reported that he and Cllr Houghton had dealt with the exposed pipes in Sparrowgate Road, Cllr Leach thanked them both.</p>
68	<p><u>Agenda items for the next meeting</u> None. Cllr Leach thanked everyone for attending and the Borough Councillors for their help. The meeting was closed at 9pm. The next Zoom meeting is on Tuesday 18th August 2020 at 7pm.</p>

.....Chair

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