

Walsoken Parish Council Minutes
of the ZOOM meeting held on Tuesday 2nd March 2021 at 7pm

COUNCILLORS PARTICIPATING

Councillors Fred Leach (Chair), John Woolley (Vice Chair), Andy Houghton, Jenny Snow, Allan Landall, Clive Bettinson, Chris Luff and Barry Sisson (joined at the beginning of the meeting but couldn't participate due to technical problems).
 County Cllr Sandra Squire.

Borough Cllrs Richard Blunt and Julian Kirk

Item No.	Details
	Cll Leach welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending.
18	<u>Public Participation</u> No-one present.
19	<u>Apologies</u> County Cllr Harry Humphrey – attending Outwell PC meeting, Cllr Joanna Woolley.
20	<u>Declarations of Interest</u> None declared.
21	<u>Urgent Matters</u> Cllr Houghton had items under Highways and a Covid related item.
22	<u>Approval of the Minutes</u> In Item 10 of the January 2021 Minutes, Cllr Houghton had stated there was no opportunity to ask questions. This had been challenged by PC Lee Anderton in a later email. Cllr Houghton clarified that he personally had no obvious way of raising a question, but questions were asked by other attendees. Cllr Snow, who had also attended the meeting, confirmed this. The Minutes of the Zoom meeting held 19 th January 2021 had been circulated and were approved as a true and accurate record, proposed by Cllr Bettinson seconded Cllr Landall, the Minutes will be signed by Cllr Leach retrospectively.
23	<u>Matters Arising</u> a) Postal addresses – Clerk had received 4 email responses plus 1 voiced in the January meeting to lapse this item, 1 voiced in the January meeting to continue and 4 councillors who hadn't replied, which would count as abstaining, therefore the majority was in favour of allowing this to lapse. Cllr Leach advised Cllr Houghton that he was free to pursue this himself. b) Bus shelter – the decision from the Parish Partnership Scheme was awaited, which should be received next week. Once this is received, the Clerk informed that she will apply for CIL funding and it was agreed to include the LED light for which Westcotec had quoted £985 + VAT. c) Venues for future meetings – Wisbech Town Football Club had advised that they would be willing to let out either the of 2 rooms for £15 per hour subject to bookings from regular organisations and football matches taking place. Cllr Landall reported that the Church room, without heating, would be available for a donation. If heating was required the cost would be £25 for the whole evening. It was agreed to address this item again once Covid regulations are lifted. d) Wildflower planting – Clerk had received no reply to the request for the way forward. e) Tree planting – Cllr Leach thanked Cllr Squire for the generous offer of a variety of trees. Cllr Landall offered to have 3 trees in the churchyard and he will liaise with Cllr Squire and Cllr Leach regarding the type and positioning. f) Post box in Broadend Road – Rooyal Mail had advised that the post box will be replaced once the timing plate for the new box has been received.
24	<u>Litter picking</u> Following a complaint from a resident about the amount of litter thrown from cars, the Clerk had asked the Borough Council if litter picking equipment was available. The response had been that this wasn't possible at the moment due to Government guidelines preventing groups meeting up. They also wouldn't collect bags as they couldn't guarantee the waste was from private land. Cllr Squire advised that Terrington St Clement village had undertaken an unofficial litter pick with individual residents picking up litter on a walk and taking the bag home to include in their home waste. Terrington St John Parish Council had completed a survey of local Parish Councils and the result was that the litter problem was worse for locations near the A47, A17 and near towns.

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	<p>Cllr Kirk reported that he had brought this matter up with the Borough Council. He had also offered to collect the litter bags and take to the recycling centre but had been refused as it could have been trade waste. He has a trade waste bin and would be able to accept plastic litter.</p> <p>Cllr Landall offered the church as a distribution centre for litter bags.</p> <p>Cllr Squire will speak to the Cabinet member about the way forward and ask if any signage is available.</p> <p>It was agreed to hold this item over pending amended Government guidelines.</p>																																								
25	<p>Planning</p> <p>a) The Planning Report – the Planning Report had been circulated to councillors, and was noted.</p> <p>b) 21/01329/F – it was decided to defer this application to the Borough Council.</p> <p>c) 21/00205/F – a discussion took place about the history of applications on this site but councillors couldn't recall having been consulted on the Prior Notification for 5 dwellings. Clerk will investigate further.</p> <p>Cllr Blunt will speak to the Chief of Planning.</p>																																								
26	<p>Finance - Payments and receipts – the schedule below had been circulated.</p> <p>a)</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="217 707 1436 1032"> <tbody> <tr> <td>Mrs A Williams</td> <td>Net salary 11th Jan to 21st Feb 2021</td> <td>£329.35</td> <td>£0.00</td> <td>£329.35</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mrs A Williams</td> <td>Expenses £48 and Zoom £14.39</td> <td>£62.39</td> <td>£0.00</td> <td>£62.39</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HM Revenue & Customs</td> <td>Income tax 11th Jan to 21st Feb 2021</td> <td>£82.40</td> <td>£0.00</td> <td>£82.40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Westcotec</td> <td>Maintenance Feb 2021</td> <td>£13.46</td> <td>£2.69</td> <td>£16.15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>101981 Petty Cash</td> <td>Stamps, stationery, ink cartridges</td> <td>£70.00</td> <td>£0.00</td> <td>£70.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>101982 Information Commissioner</td> <td>Annual renewal of Data Protection</td> <td>£40.00</td> <td>£0.00</td> <td>£40.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">TOTAL OF PAYMENTS</td> <td>£597.60</td> <td>£2.69</td> <td>£600.29</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>b) Cllr Snow proposed the payments be accepted, seconded by Cllr Houghton, all in agreement.</p> <p>Internal Auditor – it was agreed to ask Keven Brooks again to audit the Accounts for the year ending 31st March 2021.</p>	Mrs A Williams	Net salary 11 th Jan to 21 st Feb 2021	£329.35	£0.00	£329.35	Mrs A Williams	Expenses £48 and Zoom £14.39	£62.39	£0.00	£62.39	HM Revenue & Customs	Income tax 11 th Jan to 21 st Feb 2021	£82.40	£0.00	£82.40	Westcotec	Maintenance Feb 2021	£13.46	£2.69	£16.15	101981 Petty Cash	Stamps, stationery, ink cartridges	£70.00	£0.00	£70.00	101982 Information Commissioner	Annual renewal of Data Protection	£40.00	£0.00	£40.00							TOTAL OF PAYMENTS	£597.60	£2.69	£600.29
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27	<p>Highway matters</p> <p>a) The updated Highways Report had been circulated and Cllr Houghton asked for the items below to be followed up -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The surface of the bus stop in Burrett Road • The overgrown hedge outside 2A Burrett Road • Drainage outside the pumping station in Burrett Road causing flooding across the road <p>Clerk will ask Andy Wallace from Highways Dept. to view the above sites when he visits the village to look at Sparrowgate Road.</p> <p>Additionally, the No Parking sign on the pumping station had been removed, it was suggested the sign is put inside the fence. Clerk will report this.</p> <p>A47/Broadend Road roundabout – Clerk requested to enquire the start date and receive regular updates.</p>																																								
28	<p>Streetlighting</p> <p>Nothing to report.</p>																																								
29	<p>Allotments</p> <p>Nothing to report.</p>																																								
30	<p>Churchyard matters</p> <p>Churchyard maintenance – Cllr Landall advised that Idverde's contract states that the first grass cut is due on or before 14th March, Clerk to remind Andy Griffiths.</p>																																								
31	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>Blood donor sessions in the Village Hall – Cllr Woolley reported that the NHS had enquired if the Hall was available for Blood Donor sessions. The Chair of the Village Hall Committee had replied stating the Hall remains closed for the foreseeable future and they do not have the necessary facilities so they feel they cannot help at the moment.</p> <p>Cllr Landall advised that the Church had also been approached but they had declined due to heating and cleaning costs.</p> <p>A suggestion was made that Wisbech Town Football Club could be approached.</p>																																								

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32 a)	<p><u>Urgent Business</u></p> <p>Covid testing and vaccinations – Cllr Houghton had made a private enquiry to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Kings Lynn about the lack of local venues and had received a reply from the Patient Advice and Liaison Service acknowledging the problem. He had asked Borough Cllr Stuart Dark, as a Council concern, for advice and contacts, as Cllr Dark had regularly forwarded information about Covid to Parish Councils, but had received no reply. Cllr Blunt advised that Cllr Dark's role was collating information and forwarding it on but the decisions are made by the NHS, not the Borough Council.</p>
b)	<p>CIL applications – Cllr Blunt advised that the closing date for applications is 30th April 2021.</p>
33	<p><u>Agenda items for the next meeting - 13th April 2021</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusion of completed projects on the webiste <p>Cllr Leach thanked everyone for attending. The meeting was closed at 8.35pm. The next Zoom meeting is on Tuesday 13th April 2021 at 7pm.</p>

.....Chair

.....2021