

WALKINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting 7:00pm, 24 October 2023, Walkington Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs Mrs Swann (Chairman), Howard (Vice-chair). Hearne and Mrs Holdorf. Ward Cllr Mrs Stewart, eight members of the public and Ms Rose (Clerk).

Absent: Cllr Waterland.

Public Participation – A representative from the Pegasus Group attended the meeting with a representative of Albanwise Ltd to discuss land holdings in and around the village, they asked what the Parish Council considers will be needed in the next five to fifteen years, ranging from biodiversity habitats such as wetlands and grasslands to affordable housing or housing for the elderly. The next agenda will include an item for discussion and feedback.

Representatives from Risby Homes attended the meeting to give an update on plans for land to the rear of the Village Hall. The Chairman considered this to be important news and gave permission for the representatives to speak even though it was not advertised with the agenda. Potential amendments to the plan include the introduction of affordable houses, the conversion of Fergie Lodges into bungalows and access to the site via the Ferguson Fawcitt entrance only. There may also be the provision of three parking spaces alongside the village hall and an adjacent area of land made available to the Parish Council on a peppercorn rent. Councillors indicated the single entrance and the rental of parking and adjacent land to be an improvement to the original plans although the running costs of the land has not yet been investigated. Cllrs expressed a desire to see a playground on the site and for the road to be adopted by East Riding of Yorkshire Council.

The meeting opened at 8:00pm.

23.10.01 Apologies for Absence

Cllr Waterland apologised for being unable to attend the meeting

23.10.02 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Howard declared interests in items related to the Sherwood and Waudby Charity and the School. Cllr Hearne declared interests in items relating to the Sherwood and Waudby Charity, Allotments, Village Pond, Village Hall and Pantomime Players.

23.10.03 Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting on 7 September 2023 were approved.

23.10.04 Chairman's Communications

It has been a wet month in the village, partly due to a burst main drain on West End. The drain cracked for the second time in a year, engineers indicated the original drain was put in place in 1935 and that the damage could have been caused by increasing volumes of traffic. The Parish Council approved a letter to be written to Yorkshire Water to ascertain the exact cause of the problem and to ask what plans are in place to rectify the matter.

The hanging baskets have finished flowering and are waiting for collection.

Silhouettes of soldiers will be placed at the pond and a sign erected for Remembrance Day. The Parish Council sent its appreciation to the Pond Committee for their work.

The Parish Council is aware of recent comments on social media referring to the integrity of Parish Councillors, which could be interpreted as slander. As the Parish Council considers this to be a serious matter it will be seeking legal advice and may, in future take legal action against anyone making such comments. The Parish Council approved a notice to this effect being put on the Parish Council website.

23.10.05 Matters for Ward Councillors

Cllr Stewart will make investigations into the following after complaints by residents:

- If a street name can be altered once developers have chosen a name from the name bank and if postcodes can be changed once allocated. (see item 8a below).
- If further enforcement can be taken regarding the clearing of Church Walk.
- If the new house at 97 East End is occupied enabling the old house to be removed in line with planning decision 03/06008/PLF.
- Overhanging trees around the perimeter of the school.

Cllr Stewart will also find out when the next round of funding will open for the Shared Prosperity Fund.

East Riding of Yorkshire Council (ERYC) proposed traffic restrictions on Crake Wells/Meadow Way near the school to prevent vehicles waiting, stopping and loading Monday to Friday 8-9am and 3-4pm. The Parish Council approves of the proposals.

23.10.06 Planning

In order to adhere to deadlines comments were submitted between meetings on the following applications: 23/02186/PLF Dove Cote, 39 West End, (amended application) and 23/02719/TPO 87 Megson Way. Comments can be viewed on the ERYC Planning Access website.

- a. **Applications** – The Parish Council deferred the following decisions to the tree officer:
 - i. 23/02982/TPO Walkington Hall, 27 Northgate. TPO – WALKINGTON – 1972 – REF 262. Fell one beech tree to ground level as the tree currently has a large cavity at the base.
 - ii. 23/02964/TPO 4 The Haven. TPO - WALKINGTON - 1987 - REF 249 - A1 - Crown lift one copper beech tree by approximately 5 meters to prevent branches over hanging driveway; fell one coppice tree to ground level to allow future development of surrounding trees.
 - iii. 23/03072/TCA 41 West End. WALKINGTON CONSERVATION AREA. Crown reduce one cypress tree (T1) for maintenance, crown reduce one willow tree (T2) and one cedar tree (T3) back to previous growth points for maintenance.
- b. **Decisions – Exempt:** 23/02606/TDD Court Oak, 81 East End. **Permission granted:** 23/02490/TCA 20 East End. 23/01245/TPO Risby Park Farm, Risby Lane. 23/02311/TPO Walkington Hall, 27 Northgate. 23/02318/TPO 37 Lawson Close. 23/02431/VAR 43 Beech View.

23.10.07 Delegations

Sherwood and Waudby Charity Lease - The Parish Council approved the signing of a Solicitors' Client Care letter and approved to pay £750 on account towards the costs of the lease.

23.10.08 Correspondence

- a. **Name Bank** – The developer for Mill Garage, Mill Lane has chosen the name 'Dinsdale Grove' from the Parish Council approved name bank. A resident expressed dislike of the chosen name and would prefer Mill Croft, Mill Side or Mill Drive. The resident has also been notified that his postcode will now be changed and considered this to be unacceptable. Cllr Stewart is investigating this matter.
- b. **Standards Committee Nominations** – Interested Cllrs will be given further information.
- c. **Rough Sleepers Survey** - Councillors will report any rough sleepers seen on the evening of Thursday 9 November into the morning of Friday 10 November 2023 to the Clerk.
- d. **Overview and Scrutiny Topics** – The Parish Council will not be suggesting any topics for scrutiny.

23.10.09 Village Improvements and Maintenance

- a. **Village Improvement Working Group Update** – Inspection of assets has continued and the register will be updated.
- b. **Speed Indicator Devices** – This matter was deferred to the next meeting.
- c. **Parish Council Mail Box** – The Parish Council will not be introducing a mail box at the Village Hall.
- d. **Tree inspection** – The tree inspector does not carry out climbing inspections, quotes will be sought for this work.

- e. **Traffic Survey Results** - There were 132 valid entries in the Parish Council survey asking residents for opinions on traffic restrictions on Kirk Lane and Little Weighton Road. Over 90% voted in favour of all four measures. The measures were 20mph speed limits and on Kirk Lane and Little Weighton Road, all HGVs prevented from using Kirk Lane, and Little Weighton Road use of HGVs for access only. The results of the survey and additional comments raised will be sent to ERYC in response to their enquiry for public opinion on the matter and published on the Parish Council website.

23.10.10 Finance

- a. **Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) 2022-2023** - The external auditors reported that the information in the AGAR is in accordance with Proper Practices and there are no matters giving cause for concern.
- b. **Finance report and draft budget** – The report was approved and discussion of the draft budget for 2024-25 was deferred to the next meeting.

- c. **Payments** – The following payments were approved:

Staff wages and expenses, September	£1769.64
Stationery and admin	£109.16
Pond maintenance	£200.00
All Hallows grant	£2000.00
Clock repairs	£261.60
Audit fees	£252.00

23.10.11 Confidential Matters

- a. **Exclusion of the public.** - The public was excluded from the following discussion of confidential information.
- b. **Discussion on Staffing Matters** – The Parish Council approved the continuation of 5 hours overtime a month for the cleaner to carry out litter picking in the village and approved payment of a 5-years' service gratuity to the Clerk on 31 October 2023, which has been accrued in an earmarked fund.

23.10.12 General Updates

- The treasurer for All Hallows sent his thanks for the grant on behalf of the church.
- The Charman received a letter from the Pond Committee which will be discussed at the next meeting.
- The Chairman received an email from the Playing Field Association (PFA) regarding a grant application, the PFA will be contacted and invited to apply for the grant, to be discussed at the next meeting.
- The Chairman received an email regarding a possible nesting of rats at the pond, the Clerk will alert the pest control contractors and respond to the resident. Residents are reminded that feeding the ducks at the pond also increases the rat population.
- Cllrs approved changing meetings dates back to the first Tuesday of the month on a permanent basis although the meeting in January will be delayed to the second Tuesday. There will be no meeting in August.

The meeting closed at 9:45pm and the next meeting will be Tuesday 5 December 2023.

Approved: _____ Date: _____