

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF WALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE PAVILION, WALBERTON, ON TUESDAY 28th JANUARY, 2014 AT 7.00 P M

Present: Councillors Mrs. May (Chair) Mrs. Sargeant, Mrs. Clark, Siragher, Helyer. Treves, Roddham, Rogers

In attendance: County Councillor D Whittington
2 members of the public

12214 Apologies for absence

Apologies were recorded from District Councillor Dingemans and Councillor Mrs. Norton.

12314 Declarations of interests

None

12414 Confirmation of the minutes

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 26th November, 2013 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

12514 Matters Arising

1. Councillor Mrs. Clark advised that the MUGA project has been put back as the Pond and Pound projects are a priority.
2. The Clerk has supplied J. Heathcote with a location map to enable him to progress the replacement plaque for the Royal Wedding tree.

12614 Report from West Sussex County Council

County Councillor Whittington reported that the Chief Executive was leaving WSCC and an interim Chief Operating Officer has been appointed. Work is proceeding with the Barnham to Walberton cycle link. Putting the cycle path through the roadside verge along the north side of the old A27 in Fontwell from the junction with West Walberton Lane to the old A29 is being looked at as a possibility.

12714 Report from Arun District Council

No report available

The meeting was adjourned at 7.15 pm for public questions

Mr. D. Morton commented on the large pothole at the junction of West Walberton Lane and the Street. Having been recently repaired the pothole was re-appearing due to the bad weather.

The meeting was reconvened at 7.20 pm

12814 Reports from Committee Chairs

Planning Committee

Councillor Treves presented the minutes of the Planning Committee held on 10th December 2013 and reported on the meeting held on 21st January 2014. The Neighbourhood Plan process would start soon and District Councillor Dingemans would be invited to the Planning Committee meeting scheduled for 11th February 2014.

Finance Committee

Councillor Siragher presented the minutes of the Finance Committee held on 14th January 2014

- a) The Committee had prepared a budget for the year 2014/15 which was for a projected gross expenditure of £42439.00. This was approved by the Council.
- b) The Committee were recommending a precept of £35308.00, which with projected income would fund the budget. The precept represents a 3% increase but this is the first increase for 3 years. The increase will be needed to cover additional costs likely to be incurred with the Neighbourhood Plan process. The precept was approved by the Council...
- c) The Committee had considered the applications received for grants and the recommendations for awards were listed in the minutes of the Finance meeting held on 14th January 2014. After consideration the Council approved the recommendations.

Councillor Mrs. Clark reported that the new IT equipment had been ordered and will be installed by Nick Marino. A new accounts software package Scribe 2010 has been ordered by the Clerk.

General Purposes Committee

No meeting to report. A meeting will be arranged to be held in February

12914

Reports from other Organisations

Joint Downland Area Committee

Councillor Roddham reported that a grant had been awarded to Barnham Community Hall. The Environment Agency were no longer maintaining the Climping sea defences. Councillor Mrs. Clark is preparing an application to Joint Downland for a grant towards repairs to the Pound. Councillor Treves has a contact who will be supplying a quotation to support the bid.

Walberton Task Force

Works has been undertaken at Scotland Lane and another session there is planned for 14th February. In March it is hoped to cut back the roadside hedge at the Village car park. The Clerk advised that he has asked Mr. S. Langley to quote for cutting back and removing the growth behind the changing rooms as this task is too much for the volunteers to undertake.

Allotments

Councillor Rogers said that the Allotments association were planning

improvements to the car park. The Clerk will check with the landowner that this will be acceptable.

Parish News

No report available. The Chairman asked all Councillors to advise all items of interest to Councillor Mrs. Norton for inclusion in her monthly article. This subject will be placed on the next GP Committee agenda.

Village Hall

Councillor Mrs. Clark had no meeting to report. Minutes of the September meeting will be available in mid February. A representative from Pre-School will be joining the Committee but still no representative from either of the Churches. There was some damage to the Village Hall roof following recent storms.

Community Playcentre @ Walberton

Councillor Treves believed that the work on the Holly Tree site would be starting in March and that would trigger the S.106 payment. The trustees will need to re-consult the contractors due to the delays.

Flood Task Force

Councillor Mrs. Sargeant said that the team of Flood Wardens were keeping a watchful eye on events. Keeping ditches clear of debris had certainly helped prevent any flooding.

Police Liaison

Councillor Helyer advised that there had been a recent increase in thefts of bicycles and garden tools.

13014

Highways Issues

- a) The Council considered a letter from Mr. C. Doman which concerned traffic and speed in the Street. The Chairman read a second letter received from Mr. Doman. County Councillor Whittington explained the procedures and data that needed to be collected to support an application for a Traffic Regulation Order to lower the current speed limit of 30 mph. Councillor Whittington reminded the Council that a 20 mph limit was not enforceable by law.
- b) Mr. S. Rackstraw had contacted the Council about concerns with parking in The Street/Maple Road. Whilst the Councillors were sympathetic it was considered the situation was only a problem at school drop off and pick up times.
- c) Mr. J. Wiles was asking for a speed restriction for Tye Lane. County Councillor Whittington said that the same criteria that applied in the Street applied to Tye Lane. It was considered unlikely that any data collected would prove sufficient to reduce the speed limit over the entire length of Tye Lane.

13114

Village pond

1. Councillor Mrs. Clark gave an update on the Sita Grant award and the proposed work. The full amount requested £10923.00 has been granted. A meeting with the contractor will be held on 29th January to review materials and a possible start date.
2. The e-mail from WSCC concerning the Environment Agency

thoughts on a new pond on Walberton Green or expansion of the existing pond were considered. Councillors were totally opposed to any new pond being excavated on the Village Green. Should the Environment Agency, at their own expense, offer to dredge the Village Pond then that would be considered.

13214

New bus shelter

The Council had received a petition signed by 20 residents asking for a new bus shelter at the stop outside Walberton House. The Chairman reminded Councillors that a previous approach to Arun District Council had been turned down due to lack of space. It was agreed to investigate the possibility of moving the bus stop and to apply for a grant from WSCC.

13314

Community Playcentre

The Cpaws Breakfast/After School club were seeking to expand their hours to each morning and afternoon as a trial, for the period 24th February through to 4th April. It was agreed to allow this provided there were no other bookings already made for the pavilion. The Clerk was asked to point out that this was only a trial and that bookings after 4th April would be subject to negotiation.

13414

Village market

The new Village market initiative will be held in the pavilion on 8th February, 8th March and 12th April. Councillor Mrs. Clark has produced a series of posters and banners have been ordered.

13514

Correspondence received

1. Sussex Association of Local Councils have arranged New Councillor/Refresher training events.
2. Walberton Fireworks will be held on 2nd November 2014
3. Free microchipping for dogs will be held on 5th April 2014 on the playing field.

13614

Other relevant business

1. The Chairman has been approached by the PTA who wish to provide a defibrillator to be kept between the school and the car park area. A site has yet to be agreed and the Chairman will meet with the PTA to discuss this. The Finance Committee will see if some money can be made available to assist with this project.
2. Councillor Treves has been asked by some residents in Binsted to investigate activities taking place at Marsh Farm.
3. Councillor Mrs. Clark asked if the next GP agenda could include an item for Village Events.

13714

Date of next meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on 25th March 2014 at 7.00 pm in the Pavilion.

Signed..... Dated.....

Chairman of the Council