



**WALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL
INCLUDING FONTWELL AND BINSTED**

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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD IN THE
PAVILION AT 7.30pm ON TUESDAY 14 NOVEMBER 2023.**

1. Record of attendance and apologies

530/23 In attendance: Cllrs Titmus (Chair), Vawer, Hewson and McAuliffe.
Apologies: Cllrs Smyth and McElvogue.
C Stevens – Clerk.

2. Declaration of interests in items on the agenda

531/23 Cllr Titmus declared a personal interest in agenda items 18.b. – Fontwell allotments.

3. Confirmation of Minutes

532/23 The minutes of the General Purposes Committee meeting of 19 September 2023 were confirmed as being a true record of the business conducted.

4. Actions review

533/23 Actions from the GP meeting of 19 September 2023 were reviewed and updated. To follow under separate cover.

5. Matters arising

534/23 It was confirmed that there were no matters arising.

6. Public questions

535/23 The clerk asked a question submitted by a member of public via email regarding ownership of a particular bush.
Resolved: It was confirmed that it was on Parish Council owned land and therefore the responsibility of the Parish Council to maintain. It will be inspected and pruned as necessary.

7. Business activity review/CIL funding

536/23 It was noted that a couple of items have been added to the business activity spreadsheet, but a full update on it was deferred to a future meeting once current actions had been completed.

8. Review asset register

537/23 Nothing to report.

9. Goal Store

538/23 There was a discussion about how best to proceed with Barnham Trojans Football Club's (BTFC) proposition to use the outside space behind the pavilion as a goal store and to then remove the current wooden goal store.
Resolved: It was agreed to allow BTFC to use the outside space behind the pavilion to store their goals. Memorandum of Understanding needs to be updated further with a break clause, along with maintaining the access as a fire exit.

10. Environment

- 539/23** a. Public space ownership – nothing to report.
b. Trees and verges – Verge at Blacksmiths Corner was discussed further.
Resolved: To ask for Walberton Parish Council to be given responsibility for this verge to complete planting as planned and ongoing maintenance.
c. Litter and dog bins – It was reported that some dog waste bins have been overflowing before being emptied. This needs to be monitored as to whether more bins are required or more frequent emptying needs to be scheduled.

11. Rights of Way

- 540** Nothing to report.

12. Pavilion maintenance

- 541/23** Lighting quotes are ongoing along with blinds for the office. No other maintenance concerns regarding the pavilion.

13. Playing field / carpark

- 542/23** a. Path – It was agreed that an update is required as to where the path project is at.
Resolved: Clerk to contact project manager for an update.
b. Tree works – John Bentley provided a quote for tree replacements in the car park.
Resolved: Clerk to confirm size of trees that have been quoted for, if they are 2-3m the go ahead is to be given.
c. Rebound goal – this was removed and is being stored until spring at which point it will be sited in a more appropriate location on the playing field.
d. EV Charge points – nothing heard back from electrician regarding the quote for EV charge point installation.
Resolved: Clerk to contact national installers Connected Curb and Pod Point for full site survey and quote to install to charge points using power from the pavilion.
e. Green waste – Agreed there is no longer a need to discuss this as a solution has been confirmed.
Resolved: Item to be removed from future agendas.

14. Village Green, Pond and Community Orchard

- 543/23** a. Village Green – fence repair complete. Awaiting confirmation of when the archway repair will be completed.
b. Pond maintenance – headwall repair is holding well. Quote for various laboratory tests in relation to soil sampling from the pond was accepted.
Resolved: Clerk to email to accept quote and to confirm that the samples are to be taken from within the pond itself and that enough samples should be taken in case a full WAC test and report is required.
c. Community Orchard – Plans were made to plant around the trees within the orchard.
Resolved: Proceed with bulb planting around trees by M C E Groundcare.
d. Update on management plan – await results from soil sample testing before further work is to be done on the long term management plan.

15. Play areas

- 544/23** a. Walberton – There was a further brief discussion on replacing the teacup twister.
Resolved: Proceed with replacement spinner via Foster Landscapes Ltd and accept their quote of 18 October 2023.
b. Fontwell – Yet to open, but it is looking promising that the snags that had been reported are now fixed and it will open imminently.

16. General maintenance

- 545/23** No further maintenance requirements
Resolved: To remove this item from future agendas as all areas of maintenance are covered under other items.

17. Community Resilience including climate change and flooding

- 546/23** A discussion was had about how to proceed with this, especially considering the recent stormy weather. Walberton Parish Council should liaise with other local Parish Councils to work together.

18. Allotments

- 547/23** a. Walberton – Various attempts have been made to secure a quote for the work required at Walberton allotments, unsuccessfully.
Resolved: Clerk is to contact the allotment secretary to ask if they are happy to carry out the repairs themselves with an offer of financial support from WPC.
b. Fontwell – A further inspection is required as the allotments failed the previous one.

19. Communications

- 548/23** Cllr Vawer confirmed various communications have been sent out via Facebook and the Walbfont Newsletter. It was suggested to try and canvas for some more Councillors to join WPC. Possibly at Avisford Grange as it is a new development and residents may not know about WPC. Suggestion of installing a noticeboard and dropping some flyers. Clerk is to research where it would be possible to install a noticeboard.

20. Fontwell Meadows Community Liaison

- 549/23** Nothing to report.

21. Correspondence

- 550/23** Clerk presented an email received from a member of public regarding their concerns over the state of the paths from the village hall car park to the school and the path from the car park to the pavilion. These should be addressed when the new path is constructed around the playing field to link Avisford Grange to the playing field past the tennis courts. Update on path plans required, see minute 542/23.

22. Quotes and payments

- 551/23** 5 quotes and 3 payments were presented.
Resolved: Accept 3 quotes as follows: blinds from Regnum Blinds Ltd, Teacup Twister including installation by Foster Landscapes Ltd and soil sampling and laboratory analysis from Southern Testing. All 3 payments were authorised.

23. Agree meeting actions

- 552/23** A number of actions were agreed, to be circulated under separate cover.

24. Any other business

- 553/23** Cllr Hewson mentioned the concerns over the safety and accessibility of the new housing development off Tye Lane, having attended the 'meet the builders' event prior to the General Purposes Committee meeting. It was suggested that section 106 monies could be sought to try and address the issues. Cllr Hewson also mentioned his next meeting with Community Playcentre at Walberton on 1 December 2023. WPC are awaiting further information on their proposed temporary solution to their need to expand.
Cllr McAuliffe informed WPC of a new piece of play equipment having been installed by Arun.
Cllr Titmus updated after his meeting with Walberton Village Hall. They mentioned the poor state of the village hall roof and were seeking financial assistance. They are to be directed towards looking for external grants.

25. Date of next meeting

- 554/23** The date of the next meeting was confirmed as 7.15pm on Tuesday 30 January 2024.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.18pm.

Signed.....

Chair

Date.....