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| Logo  Description automatically generated with low confidence | **WALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL**  **INCLUDING FONTWELL AND BINSTED**  Parish Council Office, The Pavilion, The Street,  Walberton, Arundel, West Sussex, BN18 0PJ  Tel: 01243 554528  email: [clerk@walberton-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@walberton-pc.gov.uk)  [www.walberton-pc.gov.uk](http://www.walberton-pc.gov.uk) |
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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WALBERTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE PAVILION AT 7.00pm ON TUESDAY 10 JANUARY 2023.**

**1. Record of attendance and apologies**

**1/23** In attendance: Cllrs Ratcliffe (Chair), McElvogue, Hewson, Titmus and Smyth.

A Peppler – Clerk.

Cllr Bence – WSCC.

Two members of the public.

Apologies: Apologies were received from Cllrs Vawer, McAuliffe and Wicks, and ADC Cllr Roberts.

**2. Declarations of interest in items on the agenda**

**2/23** Cllr Titmus declared a personal interest in agenda item 21 - Fontwell Community building.

**3. Confirmation of minutes**

**3/23** The minutes of the Full Council Meeting of 8 November 2022 were confirmed as being a true record of the business conducted.

**4. Matters arising from previous minutes**

**4/23** None.

**5.** **To receive reports from Arun District Council**

**5/23** In a report, Cllr Roberts said that his main focus is trying to hold National Highways to account for what he sees to have been an inadequate supplementary consultation and that they continue to misrepresent , manipulate, and fail to correct known errors they have made. ADC will meet shortly to discuss its response and he will continue to say how he feels that NH fails to listen.

**6.** **To receive a report from West Sussex County Council**

**6/23** Cllr Bence had nothing to report. He will continue to keep WPC informed as things develop on the A27 and A29.

**7.** **Public questions (max 15 minutes)**

**7/23** None.

**8. Councillor vacancy**

**8/23** The Clerk reported an application had been received from Mr William Redwood to fill the vacancy recreated by the resignation of Cllr Skillicorn in July 2022.

Mr Redwood was present and confirmed his eligibility and that he was willing to stand for co-option. Cllr Ratcliffe proposed that Mr Redwood be co-opted as a councillor, seconded by Cllr McElvogue. The matter was discussed in private and put to the vote by a show of hands and was carried.

Resolved: To appoint Mr Redwood as a co-opted councillor.

Cllr Redwood joined the meeting.

**9/23** Project consultant Amy Nation gave an overview of her scope of work and an update on the benefits of using Parish Online as a tool to record parish assets. She referred to her previously circulated progress report and said that she had been in discussions with Landbuild regarding the proposed playing field path, which she is taking forward.

**9. Planning Committee**

**10/23** 1. The meeting acknowledged receipt of the draft minutes of the Planning Committee meeting of 15 November 2022 (previously circulated), and the date of the next meeting on 17 January 2023 was noted.

2. There were no councillor questions.

**10. General Purposes Committee**

**11/23** 1. Cllr Titmus commended the draft minutes of the General Purposes Committee meeting of 6 December 2022 (previously circulated), and the date of the next meeting on 21 February 2023 was noted.

2. There were no councillor questions.

**11. Finance & Legal Committee**

**12/23** 1. Cllr Ratcliffe reported that the committee had met in December to prepare and propose the budget and precept for the financial year 2023/24. He gave an overview of the proposal and had previously circulated the key points. The committee commended the proposal to Full Council. The F&L meeting set for earlier today could not take place as it wasn’t quorate.

2. There were no councillor questions.

3. The Clerk reported that some significant approved spending had reduced the amount the council’s current bank account. He recommended that consideration be given to transferring some funds from the Public Service Deposit Fund to the current account.

Resolved: To transfer £25,000 from the PSDF to the council’s current bank account.

**12. Budget**

**13/23** 1. The meeting considered the proposed budget for the financial year 2023/24 (previously circulated) prepared and recommended by the Finance & Legal Committee. The proposal was put to the vote by a show of hands and was carried.

Resolved: To accept the proposed budget.

2. The meeting considered a proposed precept of £725255 for the next financial year 2023/24 as recommended by the Finance & Legal Committee. This represents a nett Zero increase for Band D properties over the present year.

Resolved: To submit to ADC a precept requirement of £72525.

**13. Review of council assets**

**14/23** Cllr Titmus has nothing to report.

**14. Policies**

**15/23** The meeting considered the review of the below policies. No changes were recommended:

* + Complaints Policy
  + Financial Regulations

Resolved: To accept the policies as recommended.

**15. Business activity**

**16/23** The Clerk reported that he had recently circulated updated the activity spreadsheet. No new activities were suggested.

**16. A27 Arundel Bypass**

**17/23** Cllr McElvogue reported that WPC had submitted its response to the supplementary consultation and the reply from National Highways is awaited. Cllr Ratcliffe will ask them to still do their noise assessment and to lead WPC through the DCO process as soon as possible. Meeting to be held in the evening. It is important that WPC engages with the local MP for support regarding mitigation for the parish. It was agreed that the WPC consultation response be sent to the MP, Southdowns National Park, WSCC and ADC. A revised intro section version will be sent to PINs. WPC will respond to Transport Select Committee inquiry into the Road Investment Strategy. Deadline for reply is 6 February 2023.

A discussion took place on the provision of a 9- or 18-hole golf course at Avisford Park.

Cllr Ratcliffe thanked Cllr McElvogue for his hard work leading up to and after the supplementary consultation.

**17. Village pond**

**18/23** The delay in Landbuild’s repair of the headwall due to high water levels was noted.

**18. Community Resilience including Climate Change and Flooding**

**19/23** Cllr McElvogue reported that he is reviewing WPC’s draft community resilience plan to align it with WSCC’s Community Resilience Policy.

**19. To receive additional reports**

**20/23** 1. Village Hall

Cllr Titmus reported on the last meeting of 5 December 2022.

2. Community Play Centre

Cllr Hewson reported that he has a meeting tomorrow evening and was hoping to have received their report beforehand. The last meeting was on 5 November 2022 when it was reported that their finances were sound. Over the year the staff have experienced good and not so good times and praised the manager Kelly Thompson in seeing them through.

3. Allotments

Cllr Ratcliffe reported that the replacement fencing had been completed. The committee has been notified of WPC’s intention to increase the annual rental for 2023/24.

4. Walberton & Binsted CofE School

Cllr Hewson reported that has asked the school to meet to discuss the road and the school getting bigger. He has ex-councillor Jo Shackleton, the previous WPC / School liaison, to talk to about things

5. Police Liaison

The Clerk reported that he had received an update from the local PCSO. She referred to reports of youths congregating at one of the picnic benches. She had attended at the material times on several occasions but hadn’t found anyone.

6. Communications – web site, emails, social media

Cllr Vawer had reported on several updates to the website, including WPC’s response to the A27 supplementary consultation. The latest Mailchimp missive was sent out on 2 January. The latest contribution to the Parish News had been submitted which includes who residents should contact for issues with road, flooding, litter etc.

7. WalBinFont

Cllr Ratcliffe had nothing to report. He asked members to give consideration to whether anything should be arranged to celebrate the King’s coronation on 6 May 2023.

**20. Arun District Council parish briefings**

**21/23** Cllr Ratcliffe had nothing to report.

**21. Fontwell Community building**

**22/23** Cllr Titmus reported that the existing wall of the old bottle store is going to be demolished on 16 January, followed by work commencing on the foundations for the new building. The work will take about 6 weeks. The allotments seem to be nearly ready, and thoughts should be given to setting up a committee.

**22. Staff matters**

**23/23** None.

**23. Correspondence received**

**24/23** The Clerk reported on an email received from a resident regarding continuing sewerage flooding in Barnham Lane. She had reported it on several occasions to Southern Water and WSCC, but nothing has been done and neither seem to accept responsibility. The Clerk has responded, and has asked Southern Water to comment

**24. Quotes and payments**

**25/23** The Clerk presented a draft payment list of thirteen payments for authorisation.

Resolved: To approve the payments as per the draft payment list.

**25. Any other business**

**26/23** Cllr Smyth tended his apologies for the Planning meeting on 17 January.

Cllr Hewson attended his apologies for the next Full Council meeting.

Cllr Ratcliffe said that he had referred the Platinum Jubilee Halls Fund to the Village Hall

**26. Date of next meeting**

**27/23** The date of the next meeting was confirmed as 7.00pm on 7 March 2023.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9pm.

Signed…………………………………………………………………… Date………………………………………………………………….

Chair