

Walton on the Wolds Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held at 6:30pm on Monday 8th of May 2024 at Walton on the Wolds Village Hall, Loughborough Road, Walton on the Wolds, LE12 8HT. This meeting followed on from the Annual Parish Meeting.

Present

Cllrs Glenn Archer, Christine Greenall, Julie Lewin and Terry Lewis.

Also in attendance

Emma Andrews – Clerk and RFO

J. Bokor – Borough Councillor

R. Shepherd - County Councillor (via Zoom)

Public participation None

2024/65 To elect a Chair of the Council for 2024-25

Cllr Chris Greenall was unanimously elected.

2024/66 To sign the Chair's Declaration of Acceptance of Office

Signed by the Chair and Clerk

2024/67 To elect a Vice Chair of the Council for 2024-25

Cllr Glenn Archer was unanimously elected.

2024/68 To sign the Vice Chair's Declaration of Acceptance of Office

Signed by the Vice Chair and Clerk

2024/69 To receive and accept apologies for absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Teresa Dixon

2024/70 To receive declarations of interest – Councillors to declare pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests relevant to agenda items. None.

2024/71 To receive and approve the minutes of the meeting held on 8th April 2024

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting are signed by the Chair as a true and accurate record.

2024/72 To receive a report from the Police None supplied

2024/73 To review Standing Orders and Financial Regulations

The Standing Orders, adopted at the March 2024 meeting, were reaffirmed. The 2024 New Financial Regulations were published too close to this meeting to be considered. In line with LRALC advice, these will be reviewed and adopted at a later meeting (June or July 2024).

2024/74 To review and complete the Annual Governance Statement 2023-24

The Annual Governance Statement was discussed and completed.

2024/75 To review and complete the Certificate of Exemption from External Audit (AGAR Form 2)

The Certificate of Exemption was reviewed and signed by the Chair and Clerk.

2024/76 To update on audit arrangements and progress with the internal audit report

The Clerk advised that documentation requested from the Internal Auditor had been sent, along with a completed version of a very comprehensive checklist supplied by the auditor. The report is expected ahead of the June meeting.

2024/77 to report on planning applications received:

A. P/24/0334/2 – Walton Farmhouse, 15 Six Hills Road – installation of replacement timber windows to front and end gables (Listed Building Consent)

RESOLVED not to comment

B. P/24/0655/2 – Tithe Farm, Nottingham Road – Screening Opinion request for proposed solar farm. Noted.

2024/78 To report on planning decisions reached. None

2024/79 To review progress on matters outstanding from the April meeting

- I. Overgrown hedges and hedge trimming – the Clerk advised councillors about the LCC Postcard Scheme for overgrown hedges.
- II. Footpath topping for footpath opposite the Village Hall – ongoing and in hand.
- III. Legal status of the Cricket Ground. The Clerk had studied the deeds of the Cricket Ground. It was very clear that the ground does not belong to the Parish Council but that the Parish Council must be given first refusal if the ground ever came up for sale.

2024/80 To update on any recent burial ground applications and consider any outstanding burial ground issues

No new burial ground applications had been received and all outstanding ones are now in hand.

2024/81 To discuss and approve financial matters

- I. To receive and approve the monthly bank statements
Received and approved
- II. To receive and approve the monthly bank reconciliation
Received and approved
- III. To receive and approve the Schedule of Payments
Received and approved
- IV. To update on changes to the bank mandate and progress with the new bank account
The bank mandate has been updated so the Parish Council now has access to the account and can make payments again. Following approval

of the payment at this meeting, a cheque for the deposit to open a new account with Unity Trust Bank could be sent, the final stage in opening the new account.

- V. To approve the use of an external company to manage the Council's payroll

It was agreed that the Clerk could engage an external company to manage the Council's payroll.

2024/82 To further discuss plans for the 80th anniversary of D-Day commemorations

D-Day 80 will be marked by a Picnic on the Green on Saturday 8th June, starting at 1pm. Fun for all ages, to include welly-wanging, a treasure hunt, and games for children.

2024/83 To note any correspondence None

2024/84 Chair's report None

2024/85 Clerk's report

The Clerk will be attending burial ground training on 4th June 2024, organised through the LRALC.

2024/86 To confirm the date and time of the next meeting

Monday 3rd June, starting at 6:30pm

It was agreed to continue with monthly meetings for the time being, on the first Monday of each month where possible.

2024/87 Close of meeting 8:27pm

Signed by the Chair of the Parish Council: _____

Date: _____