
WALTON-IN-GORDANO PARISH COUNCIL

Walton-in-Gordano - Walton Down - Walton Bay

Clerk: Donald Hill

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Minutes of the Meeting at Walton-in-Gordano Village Hall Monday 13th March 2017 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs Brian Cannell (Chair), Mike Ralston, Rachel Dickinson, Nigel Wilyman

In Attendance: Colin Medus (NSC Liaison), Don Hill (Clerk)

Public Attendance: 2

4039. APOLOGIES

Cllr Ashton (NSC), PC Clarke

4040. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Mike Ralston, as the applicant re the planning application at agenda item 6 - minute 4044.

4041. LAST MEETING MINUTES

February 6th minutes agreed and signed by Chairman & Clerk.

4042. MATTERS ARISING

None

4043. EMERGENCY SERVICES, TRAFFIC & TRANSPORT

Police: Crime reported on police.uk in December - 0. Jen Clarke away, so no update from her.

4044. PLANNING (Cllr Ralston left the meeting for this item)

New: 17/P/0327/F Sunnybank, Walton Street - Realignment of drive and alterations to access to include additional stone boundary walls to either side, timber shed, timber gates and parking area. The original application of 2012 has lapsed. This re-application was overlaid with the original and found to indicate some minimal but useful realignment of the route. Members reflected on the Council's response to the original application at minute 3526 of September 10th 2012 and unanimously agreed that this re-presentation held to the original view that there was no objection to the application. **Clerk to so submit to the case officer.**

4045. STREETS AND OPEN SPACES

Village Hall Car Park (report shared with Village Hall Committee, Claire Flower and the Miles Estate):

Clerk researched building in the green belt and spoke at length with NSC Planning. Planning permission will be needed for a change of use of the field to a car park. It is, of course, in the Green Belt and therefore, by default, deemed "inappropriate" development. However, a case can be made indicating that there are Very Special Circumstances (VSC) for a car park to be granted planning permission. For the Hall, the particular VSC is the parking chaos and danger that can regularly arise on Moor Lane and the B3124 at this busy and popular venue. There is also a significant community benefit - a car park would enable the long term security of the hall as a positive community asset and would be crucial to its survival as such, given the

historical and future changes in traffic pressures. Someone will need to submit a planning application that will involve quite a bit of work to submit and will need to be accompanied by details of the proposed car park and carefully presented VSCs.

Cleeve Parish Church - in the green belt on the A370 Weston to Bristol road - put in an application in November 1996 (96/1489) - that was granted - for off-road parking, as vehicles were parking on the grass verge which was a highway safety issue. The agent for the project was Roger Ford, of Cleeve. See also: 12/P/2068/F - car park for 173 spaces for GE Oil and Gas at High Street, Nailsea (on the Wraxall side of Nailsea). Although this application was for a much larger car park - and it was controversial at the time - it gives an idea of what is critical. Application 09/P/090F/F – for a car park for village hall at the Burial Ground, Clevedon Road, North Weston is also relevant and has details on the NSC planning website.

A contact to possibly act as agent to the project was suggested as Ben Lewis, Renplan Consulting Ltd, Office 207, The Hive, 6 Beaufighter Road, Weston super Mare BS24 8EE. He handles difficult-to-get-through cases, used to work at North Somerset Council, and knows his way around it. From a highways perspective, the key consideration will be that the entrance has adequate splay, to allow safe access to and exit from the site in both directions. Kevin Edwards reported that two sets of outline plans exist, for two very different size sites (an optimum of some 20 vehicles was floated as a possible guide to size. If there is no provision for an additional gateway onto the road, then agricultural access will need to be through the proposed car park. The plan is to retain the grass surface and to lay a specialist breathable cover over it. There is clearly a lot for the Hall Committee to develop, with their chosen agent, into the plan. Kevin asked what role the Parish Council might play in the process. Discussion resolved this into being one that was positively supportive of those responsible rather than of becoming actively involved. The most positive contribution would perhaps be for the Council to appoint the two representative members to the Hall Committee which it is entitled to do under the Charity Commission scheme via which the Hall is administered. The Clerk and two Members have served significant spells on the Committee in the past but **Clerk to put the matter as an agenda item for the April meeting.**

Parking on the B3124: Issues re February minute 4035 shared with Hall Committee who were asked to point hall hirers to the dangers of parking between the bus stop and Moor Lane.

Gullies: Parish gullies are being emptied during March.

Mounting Stone: NSC have received a complaint asking for it to be removed after a user of the hall tripped over it. Clerk pointed Members to a similar complaint received some years ago and where the Council consulted specialist bodies and considered lighting and painting options, rather than removal, but ultimately voted to keep the stone as it is. Members at this meeting also unanimously decided to keep the stone as it is.

(Clerk's note: Original complaint appeared in the minutes in September 2006, and concluded in Minute 3043 (part), February 12th 2007 as under:

Mounting Stone (Sept 2006)

Consensus is that, as the stone is on the pavement, responsibility for safety (and insurance claims) lies with highways – they accept this. If pressed, NSC would simply remove the mounting stone; they know this would not be a popular move and propose to hold the matter in abeyance.)

4046. OTHER MATTERS

Western Power Supply Lines: Myrtle Cottage Walton Street - reported - **Clerk to follow-up.**

Broadband: Connecting Devon & Somerset (CDS) 2nd phase roll-out workshop date awaits the appointment of a main contractor. With Walton Bay/Walton Down being candidates for BT's fibre-to-home broadband, BT have supplied Cllr Ralston with a new quote relating to Walton-in-Gordano Village (the parish below Taggart House, on Walton Street). This is £38,741.00. However, with the Village now being candidates for supply via CDS, we need to

await information on exactly what the CDS offer is and what grant support might be available to assist in funding it. Cllr Ralston will continue to keep Members alerted to progress.

Traffic Matters: Our Gordano Valley Ward Councillor, Nigel Ashton, toured the Parish with Colin Medus, highlighting various problems and ambitions that are before the Parish Council. The 20 mph for Walton Street remains on the agenda and for more information relating to progress, the **Clerk to contact NSC's David Bailey**.

Governance Documents: A complete set of updated documents, as listed under, was pre-circulated for annual review. Alterations were minimal except that the Financial Regulations we re-cast based on the new NALC model set, issued to coincide with changes to auditing regulations and possible future devolved responsibility opportunities. The Annual Risk Assessment form, CD was agreed and signed by the Chairman and Clerk. The documents as updated were approved by the meeting.

AA **Declaration of Acceptance of Office - Cllr**
AB **Declaration of Acceptance of Office - Chair**
AC **Register of Members Interests**
AD **Code of Conduct**
AE **Standing Orders**
AF **Financial Regulations**
BA **Clerk's Employment Contract**
BB **Staff Appraisal Form**

BC **Disciplinary & Grievance Policy**
BD **Pension Declaration of Compliance**
CA **Publications Scheme**
CA1 **Publication Scheme**
CB **Who We Are & What We Do**
CC **Complaints & Equalities Procedure**
CD **Risk Assessment**

4047. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Cllr Wilyman: queried when culverted sections of the brook were due for inspection. **Clerk to contact NSC's Phil Bush to find out.**

Cllr Dickinson: reported that the **SpeedWatch** team had registered a significant number of offenders so far during March. Despite the initial enrolment of volunteers there are only 4 able to actively participate in the scheme at the moment; more are needed if it is to be sustainable. There are problems being faced by SpeedWatch teams in relation to police liaison; these are being ironed out by the SpeedWatch volunteers' liaison group. Notices - the official SpeedWatch ones and the local, large 'numbers reported' notices such as appear in Weston-in-Gordano to such significant effect, are still proving difficult to find locations for, but the team are working to resolve this problem within the required, very strict, guidelines.

Cllr Cannell: (Matter relating to Portbury Parish Council) - noted that the pothole he reported, past the final roundabout out of Portishead towards Bristol, near the 50mph sign, has not been repaired. Clerk had visited the site but had not yet reported it. Colin Medus noted the problem to take it forward and said that the most effective way to report potholes is via the NSC website. (*Clerk's note: for a whole range of matters, visit <https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/do-it-online/connect/> to see the list of services that can be reported or requested and to select the one you need*).

4048. FINANCE

2016-17 Accounts to date: Noted. A bank error prematurely cancelled standing orders for February/ March re Solsoft and Clerk's pay. Cheques were issued as under to correct this.

Cheques: **736** HMRC re PAYE for Jan/Feb/Mar £83.70. **737** Solsoft re website charges for Feb/March £31.20. **738** D Hill pay & expenses for Feb/March £275.70. **739** Village Hall hire £9.00

The meeting closed at 8.40pm