
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 14th November 2016 at 7.30pm

Before the commencement of the meeting Andy Brellisford called in to the hall to report that he has been able to move to Cross. He consequently resigned as a Councillor and did not attend the meeting. Members were sorry at their loss, but pleased for Andy; they thanked him for his thoughtful and assiduous contribution and, particularly, his work on cycling issues. The Clerk will instigate the search for a new Councillor via NSC and known interested parties immediately, and will report to the December meeting.

Present: Cllrs B Cannell (Chair), Cllr M Ralston, N Wilyman, R Dickinson

In Attendance: Sarah Friend (Village Agent) for Minute 4000 Don Hill (Clerk)

Public Attendance: 1

3996 APOLOGIES: Cllr N Ashton (NSC), PC Jen Clarke

3997 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None

3998 LAST MEETING MINUTES (October 10th 2016) agreed and signed by Chairman & Clerk.

3999 MATTERS ARISING: None

4000 VLLAGE AGENT: Sarah Friend, Emma Edwards' replacement introduced herself and her work. Members thanked Sara for taking the time and looked forward to cooperating with her. Cllr Dickinson and Sara arranged further contact in relation to Walton Bay.

4001 EMERGENCY SERVICES, TRAFFIC & TRANSPORT

Police: Crime reported on police.uk in August - one anti-social behaviour on B3124 near Hackswood. PC Clarke had no crime to report for October.

Transport: The Clerk reported that the Walton Bay bus stops have been converted to new disability friendly ones. At the 'to Clevedon' stop, there is a vast improvement to access for all passengers.

4002 PLANNING

Decision Due: 16/P/2256/F: Barton - new sewage facility.

4003 STREETS AND OPEN SPACES

The Coast road continues to be watched by the Clerk and Cllr Dickinson. The marked potholes and covers are still awaiting repair - but the Moor Lane work has been done.

4004 OTHER MATTERS

Broadband: BT quote due mid-November. Another company offering a wi-fi service has approached Cllr Ralston and remains an option if BT proves too costly. There may be grant sources available in relation to these quotes that will actually bring per household costs to an affordable level.

Telephone Box: The Cross Tree service is due to cease and the box is again on offer to the Parish Council for £1. Minute 3231 Sept 2009 & 3240 Oct 2009 refer to the previous - rejected - BT offer. Particular concerns related to maintenance costs; the fact that the box sits on private - Miles Estate - land; insurance costs; cleaning costs; vandalism (the Walton Bay box was constantly vandalised until its removal). The meeting decided that these concerns still pertain and that, particularly as it is not a 'collector's item' in telephone box terms, the offer to purchase will not be taken up.

Defibrillator: With the telephone box as a possible home, Cllr Dickinson had suggested installing a defibrillator there. This has been an oft-raised subject over recent years. *Minute 3920 Feb 2016 (part)*

reads: *The majority of the population live on private home parks, where the owners/residents would be the drivers of possible site-based installations and the associated upkeep. Unlike concentrated population zones - Weston-in-Gordano and Kenn, for example - there are relatively low population numbers in the Parish off the home parks, and they are largely strung out along the Coast Road. The meeting felt a single installation, that was effectively only available to a small number of the population was not currently viable.* Whilst this remained the view of this meeting, the matter was considered important. It would need several defibrillators dispersed through the Parish to provide a full service to residents. Siting, maintenance, training, security and funding are among a range of issues that need to be considered. Cllr Dickinson has contacts who could help as and when the decision is taken to start installations. Members agreed to remain alert to the possibility but not to progress the matter at this stage. Cllr Ralston raised the possibility of First Aid courses - possible grant-supported - and Cllr Dickinson agreed to include this on her discussion agenda with Sara Friend.

Information Sheet: The Social Club propose the launch of an information publication in January 2017. As this is likely to eclipse the scope and usefulness of the Parish Council-funded Information Sheet, the meeting decided not to continue publishing its Information Sheet after the December 2016 issue. It was agreed that in recognising that the Information Sheet has proved popular over many years, if its replacement publication falls by the wayside at any time in the future the PC will be prepared to step into the breach and start publishing its own version again.

Traffic Matters: A resident has again drawn attention to the speed of traffic as it passes through the village centre. Although there is a 30 mph speed limit in place, it is rarely adhered to. Historically this has always been the case but, with the massively increased volume of traffic in recent years, the problem is exacerbated to a point where more needs to be done to help manage the situation - ideally within the 'ethos' of the village as a place with a heart, rather than as a racetrack. Features such as WeIG's 'false gates', a central double white line on the B3124 and rumble strips were mentioned. The new SpeedWatch scheme will help. Solar powered VARs were also suggested. Single white site-lines down the edges of Walton Street was another possibility. Blocking off the from-Clevedon entry to Walton Street was also proposed (*but after the meeting someone pointed out essential large traffic from Clevedon could not negotiate Walton Street from the Old Shop side of the tree*). **Clerk to raise the issue in depth with Frank Cox, David Fish etc at NSC and report back.**

Adrian's Project Services: A possible Parish Orderly service. **Clerk to investigate services and costs.**

4005 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Cllr Wilyman

- 1. Moor Lane Brook:** This work has been done thoroughly - thank you to whoever did it!
- 2. Fracking:** licences are being considered within an approximate triangle from Minehead to Clevedon and Street (*they are "under consultation" because they cover environmentally sensitive areas*). The meeting noted that there may be possible cause for concern but did not move to take the matter further at this stage.
- 3. Moor Lane Power Supplies:** Western Power have put in new cables. Open Reach wires from the pole opposite Rivendell are touching these new cables and could become hazardous. Cllr Wilyman's attempts to get the utility companies to investigate have been politely ignored with the usual platitudes. **Clerk to approach Western Power to see if they will 'put right' the work that their operatives were apparently responsible for.**

4006 FINANCE

2016-17: The pre-circulated accounts were reviewed and noted.

Tree Signs: VE Day 50th plaque shown to and admired by members; Bob Baldwin will install it. Cross Tree plaque with Cllr Cannell, who will re-paint the lettering and ask the Miles Estate if it can be fixed to a wall adjacent to the tree.

Cheques: **729** Emma Edwards re Information Sheet Nov/Dec. £18.00. **730** D Hill, reimbursement of Village Hall VE Day 50th plaque cost £89.70. **731** Village Hall hire £9.00

Future Meetings: Clerk produced a schedule of meetings to March 2018 assuming that they would continue to be held on the 2nd Monday monthly except August; the meeting agreed that they should. **Clerk to book the Hall via Bob Baldwin accordingly.**

The meeting closed at 8.45pm