



# Walton-in-Gordano Parish Council

Walton-in-Gordano – Walton Down – Walton Bay

**Clerk: Donald M Hill**

**18 Mitford Slade Court, Mendip Road, Yatton, Somerset BS49 4JG**

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## Minutes of the Meeting at The Village Hall - Monday 8th April 2013 at 7.30 pm

*Next Minute 3604*

**Present:** Cllrs Brian Cannell (Chair), Ann Charlesworth, Floss Morgan

**In Attendance:** Don Hill (Clerk)

**3594 APOLOGIES:**, Cllr Kent, Cllr Ashton (NSC), PC Clarke, Claire Leandro (NSC Liaison)

**3595 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** none

**3596 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:** agreed, and signed by Chairman and Clerk.

**3597 MATTERS ARISING:** None.

### 3598 EMERGENCY SERVICES, TRAFFIC & TRANSPORT

**Police:** No reported crime.

**Speeding Drivers:** Clerk wrote to Clevedon Riding Centre and Vine Cottage Stables per minute 3591 (April '13) with email copies to Clevedon TC, Clapton PC and PC Clark (who will keep an eye on the situation).

### 3599 PLANNING

**New: 13/P/10438/WT** Fell ash at footpath entry beside Springhead. No objection.

### 3600 STREETS AND OPEN SPACES

**Reported Issues: Moor Lane** - Subsidence - Mud/Trees - Harley Hill pothole. **B3124:** Loose gully near sub station. Verge overgrowth. **Coast Road:** verge Brighton Cot to Dully's Wood. Potholes below Hill Cot. Somerset Stone above Myrtle Cot. **Cross Tree Junction:** Stop/no-entry. **Chased Liam Abercrombie 22<sup>nd</sup> March.**

**Cliff Path Stile:** Done

**Crosstree Finger Post:** Finger posts ceased to be approved signage some years ago and there is currently no maintenance budget. However, their heritage value is recognised by NSC (and valued by members) and as budgets improve, restoration can be looked at again.

**Brown tourist road sign:** Cllr Morgan following up via NSC's Liam Abercrombie.

**Walton Bay Gullies:** The ones up to Squires Cottage from the bus stop were cleared on March 26<sup>th</sup>; it remains the case, that the ones from the bus stop towards Brighton Cottages are not capable of effective clearance.

**Walton Street Gullies:** Cllr Morgan reported that these had not been done. **Clerk to follow up.**

**Footpath by Plumtree Cottage:** The stile, and the one above it, under the common, are unstable and could cause a user accident.

### 3601 OTHER MATTERS

**Portishead/Clevedon Cycle Path - NS Cycle Forum (NSCF):** Chairman and Clerk met WelG PC Cllrs Jon Bennett and Peter Yates-Round (Chairman) on March 19<sup>th</sup>. The session was useful in terms of "getting to know the neighbours (over a pint!)" and specifically, of rehearsing the pros and cons of the Portishead/Clevedon cycle path idea. It was agreed that the NS Cycle Forum were completely out of order in the way they minuted the roles of WelG/WaIG and the landowners to date: although no reaction has emerged from the Clerk's email to NSCF, WaIG, as the "active" party, will pursue an appropriate correction. The arguments rehearsed during our Feb/March meetings were covered and added to (a new right of way, stock proofing, long term maintenance, reliance on volunteers, ragwort control, owner/tenant compensation, grant availability, the dangers of Clapton Lane, the inaccessibility of Clapton Lane



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## Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Walton-in-Gordano Parish Council held at The Village Hall; Monday 13th May 2013 at 7.00 pm

**Present:** Cllrs Brian Cannell (Chair), Richard Kent, Floss Morgan

**In Attendance:** Claire Leandro (NSC Liaison), Mike Brown (NSC Area Officer) for minute 3611, Don Hill (Clerk)

**3604 APOLOGIES:** Cllr Ann Charlesworth, Cllr Nigel Ashton (NSC), , PC Jenny Clarke

**3605 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN:** The Clerk reported that the election was uncontested: there being no other nominations for these posts than the existing holders - Cllr Cannell, Chairman and Cllr Charlesworth, Vice-Chairman. Cllr Morgan and Cllr Kent agreed that Cllrs Cannell and Charlesworth should continue in their posts and Cllr Cannell duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office that his position required of him. Cllr Cannell took the Chair.

**3606 APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES:** The existing representatives, to Walton-in-Gordano Village Hall Committee of Management, Cllrs Charlesworth and Kent will, by unanimous agreement, continue as representatives. Cllr Morgan (minute 3530, Sept 2012) agreed to continue as representative to NSC Standards sub-committee.

**3607 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:** agreed, and signed by Chairman and Clerk.

**3608 MATTERS ARISING:** None.

### **3609 EMERGENCY SERVICES, TRAFFIC & TRANSPORT**

**Police:** no crime reported during the month.

### **3610 PLANNING**

**Granted: 3/P/10438/WT** Fell ash at Springhead

**New: 13/P/0597/F** Taggart, Walton Street - Detached garage. New roof incorporating 1st and ground floor alterations. Supported by Audrey Hollingsworth, the only direct neighbour: there may be reservations as to loss of view from Hill Cottage. No objections. **13/P/0601/NMA** Golf Club Non material amendment re 12/P/0437/F keeper's store - noted.

**Arodene:** The Clerk has received a complaint relating to issues at Arodene as under:

**New development:** A large gravelled/retained area has appeared at the top north west of the property, with breeze blocked walls and fencing. This is alongside recently erected garden sheds. Is this a threat to the greater greenbelt, and village character, and, perhaps more particularly, is it the 'thin edge of the wedge' that will lead to yet more permanent buildings being established on the site that will need retrospective planning permission on a section of the property that is designated as agricultural land? **Waterlogged footpath at Arodene:** Walkers complain that the footpath beside this agricultural land is continuously waterlogged, since the erection of the boundary wall and pond. Under PC prompting, Bristol Water did checks to ensure they have no leakages around this area. Might the Arodene developments have disturbed the flow of known springs at this point? Despite the dry weather, the footpath - always wet - remains waterlogged. Clerk to report these concerns to the NSC enforcement officer.

### **3611 STREETS AND OPEN SPACES**

The matters below were covered and are being addressed, albeit slowly under current circumstances. Clerk to e-mail Mike Brown details of outstanding matters - cc Claire - to keep the active list agreed and "active".

**Moor Lane** - Subsidence - Mud/Trees - Harley Hill pothole.

**B3124:** Loose gully near sub station

**B3124:** Verge overgrowth. Clerk to re-send e-mail to Mike Brown

**B3124:** Fly tipping Reported.

**Coast Road:** Potholes/verge decay from The Ship to Walton Street are booked for repair.

**Walton Street Gullies:** These have not been done. Awaiting response to e-mail.

**Walton Street Sunnybank Hedge:** the hedge opposite Myrtle Cottage is to be cut back by hand - there is not enough there to flail up against the fence behind - by NSC. This was to be done at no charge to the owner of Sunnybank, but, would undermine the ability of the Council to request other residents to do similar work - which requests the Clerk has to issue from time-to-time. Mike Brown will re-look at this particular case and consider re-charging the Sunnybank owners for the work. *(Clerk's note: Arguments against asking Sunnybank to cut back the hedge at the moment were minuted at 3580 and 3602)*

**Cross Tree Junction:** Finger post repair. Stop/no-entry. Clerk chased Liam Abercrombie, 8<sup>th</sup> May.

**Shops signage:** Cllr Morgan following up possibilities via Liam Abercrombie.

**Plumtree Footpath:** The stile, and the one above it, under the common, are unstable. Reported.

**Cliff Path:** "no cycling" signs (Cllr Morgan)

**Walton Street:** Entrance to Sunnybank/Parsonage Hayes: repair done.

**Moor Lane:** Cable drum opposite tip road gate. Reported to Miles Estate and on to Natural England.

**Cliff Path:** Bridge repairs near Two Acres done, undergrowth currently being cut back.

### **3612 OTHER MATTERS**

**Fracking in Somerset:** There are 4 exploration licences in the Mendips/Keynsham areas. "Frack-free-Somerset" (frackfreesomerset.org) provided basic information which was circulated and noted.

**WalG Social Club:** A letter of thanks for marquee donation received from Treasurer, Rosemary Tucker.

**Pylons:** National Grid consultation re the Environmental Impact report (745 pps) to hand. Noted

**NS Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (NSC/NHS):** rolling examination of current and future population health and wellbeing needs short term (3-5 years) and the longer term (5-10 years). Noted

**Police & Crime Commissioner:** Police & Crime Plan 2013-17. A commitment to the fundamentals of policing. Noted.

**NSC Affordable Housing Sup Planning Doc 2013:** Noted

### **3613 COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS**

There were no reports this month.

### **3614 FINANCE**

**Accounts 2013-14:** Accounts to date were circulated prior to the meeting and noted.

**HMRC:** Written confirmation of fine cancellation on file.

**2012-13 Audit:** Final paperwork approved and signed, for dispatch to External Auditors Grant Thornton. The Chairman thanked Roy Betts for his continuing support to the Council as Internal Auditor.

**Cheques:** 654 Village Hall hire for this meeting and the Annual Parish Meeting which followed £15.00

**The meeting closed at 7.50 pm**

to WelG residents - they only have the B3124 in either direction, use of wide roadside verge from Toggert's Stile (the parish boundary) and highway marked cycle lane through WalG. It was concluded that the principle of a cycle path was less the issue, than the route it would take - with a field-side route being absolutely discounted from a WalG perspective. As a next step, Cllr Bennett agreed to work up a paper that will attempt to represent a joint view between WelG and WalG (obviously pointing out the differences), the result to be shared with and agreed by members before being finalised.

**Local Government Boundary Commission:** NSC Councillors will be reduced from 61 to 51. A review of Ward Boundaries is now out for consultation - to June 17<sup>th</sup> - for an Autumn decision. Jan minute 3571 refers.

### **6302 COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS**

**Cllr Charlesworth: Moor Lane:** a broken marker post by the bridge has been repaired - a thank you to NSC.

**Cllr Morgan: 1. Residents** on Barton's Home Park have reported that cyclists are using the Cliff Path at night. The delivery and erection of "No Cycling" signs, planned some time ago, didn't happen: Cllr Morgan will chase the signs from NSC so that she can erect them. **2. Walton Street:** The Sunnybank hedge opposite Myrtle Cottage remains a matter of concern following discussion in the February meeting and the resulting Minute 3580. The traffic calming arguments set out in Minute 3580 were re-rehearsed. Cllr Morgan said cars were being damaged by the hedge, that this outweighed its traffic calming benefits, and that pressure should be brought to bear for its pruning. Cllr Cannell argued case as set out in minute 3580. As there was no consensus, a vote was taken on the motion that the owners of Sunnybank be asked to prune the subject hedge. Cllr Morgan voted for the motion and Cllrs Cannell and Charlesworth voted against, with the caveat that if summer growth was not pruned back to ensure it did not encroach upon the highway, then the Council will have to ask Sunnybank that it be pruned.

**Cllr Cannell: 1. Walton Bay:** disintegrating highway verge opposite Brighton Cottages is now dangerous. **Clerk to press for its repair.** **2. Walton Street:** Verge break-up at the entrance to Sunnybank/Parsonage Hayes: **Clerk to press for repair.** **3. Moor Lane:** Cable drum off road opposite the tip road gate. Cllr Charlesworth noted that this had been in the undergrowth, probably for years. **Clerk to bring it to the notice of Miles Estate.** **4. B3124:** Fly tipping in the second left hand gateway past the Village Hall towards Clevedon. The ditch here is an NSC responsibility and **Clerk to report the tipping to them for clearance (and also the leylandi prunings on the opposite verge).**

### **3603 FINANCE**

**Accounts 2012-13:** Final Accounts for the financial year were circulated. Roy Betts has the paperwork for the internal audit.

**HMRC:** £100 fine cancelled after telephone discussion with their assessor. Written confirmation awaited.

**2012-13 Audit:** paperwork is to hand from the new auditors, Grant Thornton. Pre-audit notices are up.

**Cheques:** **651** WalG Social Club - Fete Marquee Donation £500.00. **652** Village Hall hire £6.00. **653** ALCA re-joining subscription £50.96

**The meeting closed at 8.20 pm**



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### Minutes of the Meeting at The Village Hall - Monday 10th June 2013 at 7.30 pm

**Present:** Cllrs Brian Cannell (Chair), Ann Charlesworth, Floss Morgan

**In Attendance:** Don Hill (Clerk)

**3619 APOLOGIES:**, Cllr Kent, Cllr Ashton (NSC), PC Clarke, Claire Leandro (NSC Liaison)

**3620 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** none

**3621 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:** agreed, and signed by Chairman and Clerk.

**3622 MATTERS ARISING:** None.

#### 3623 EMERGENCY SERVICES, TRAFFIC & TRANSPORT

**Police:** no reported crime during the month. As part of plans for a No Cold Calling Zone in the valley, the Police want to distribute a letter to each household. The Clerk put Jenny Clarke in touch with Audrey Hollingsworth, who looks after the publication and distribution of the Monthly Information Sheet on behalf of the Parish Council. Provisional schedule of meeting attendances to Dec 2013 supplied by Jenny Clarke: 9/9: PCSO Graham Roberts 14/10: Sgt Jim Robinson 11/11: Inspector Sharon Bennett 9/12: Sgt Jim Robinson.

#### 3624 PLANNING

**Decision Due: 13/P/0597/F** Taggart House, Walton S - Garage, roof/Internal rebuild. The planned extension is significantly over the 50%-of-original size that can be passed via delegated authority. The applicants contacted this Council, who put them in touch with Cllr Ashton. Cllr Ashton sits on the North Area Committee - the ultimate pre-appeal arbiters in such a case. The meeting confirmed its support of the application as reported to NSC planners **13/P/0601/NMA** Golf Club Non material amendment.

**Enforcement:** Arodene: new works-waterlogged footpath being investigated by NSC Enforcement - Mark Heppenstall under Case Number 2013/0235. It will be some 2 months before the investigation report is available.

#### 3625 STREETS AND OPEN SPACES

##### *Highways - Mike Brown*

1. **Moor Lane** - Subsidence - Mud/Trees - Harley Hill pothole. Work being programmed
2. **Coast Road:** Potholes/verge decay. Cllr Morgan reported yellow markings are down - i.e. work is imminent.
3. **B3124: Loose gully** near sub station getting worse - Clerk awaiting a date.
4. **B3124:** Fly tipping in the second left hand gateway past the Village Hall. **Clerk to press for its clearance.**
5. **B3124: Verge overgrowth.** response re minute 3552 - (e-mail De 4th 2012) pressed for.
6. **Walton Street Gullies:** These have not been done. Frank Cox awaiting a contractor's report.
7. **Walton St Somerset Stones:** some lifting rods broken and dangerous. Reported.
8. **Cross Tree Junction:** NSC provided flood signs - Clerk has asked if they be replaced.
9. **Walton Street Sunnybank Hedge:** Cllr Cannell asked when this will be cutback, as it is now, notwithstanding the situation two months ago, becoming overgrown. **Clerk to check for date.**



**Gully Emptying:** Frank Cox says that B3124 gully emptying is scheduled for each February. Walton Street is classified as "Vulnerable" and is due for gully emptying each April and October. The Clerk has noted these gully emptying months in his diary for future follow-up. See 6. above re non-completion of work this April.

***Signage - Liam Abercrombie***

**Cross Tree Junction:** Finger post repair.

**Cross Tree Junction:** Stop/no-entry. A 28 day order has been issued.

**Shops signage:** Cllr Morgan following up possibilities via Liam Abercrombie.

***Footpaths - Andy Carroll***

**Plumtree Footpath to Common:** Loose stiles. Reported. **Clerk to follow up.**

**Cliff Path:** "no cycling" signs Andy Carroll dealing, via Cllr Morgan.

***Queries from Annual Parish Meeting***

**Notification of work to be done:** Could Clerks be notified of work being done in their parish?

**Flooding & drainage:** Clerk in touch with Frank Cox at NSC. John Inman has retired and is to be replaced; Darren Gilbert is the contact pro-tem. The IDB only contracted for work to help out NSC post the floods. There is no on-going contract between IBD and NSC re Walton Brook. Once again, there is an issue re ownership. The two open sections running beside the highway are not IDB responsibility; neither are they believed to be part of the road curtilage; ergo, they are the responsibility of the landowner - The Miles Estate. To clarify this, Frank Cox is preparing a map marked up to indicate the exact boundaries of NSC Highways responsibility. He has also written to the Estate's Agents, Fowler-Fortescue, to seek their cooperation in clarifying the situation. Frank does accept that it is NSC's responsibility to ensure that necessary work is done to protect the highway - even if that means NSC having to do the work and re-charge the owner. However, until ownership is resolved, no regular maintenance scheme under NSC control can be put in place. **Clerk to keep pressure on for an outcome to this issue.**

**NS Contractors:** Operatives arrive to do work, they do not know what they are supposed to be doing, consequently, arrive without the right kit and leave with the work not done. Frank Cox is investigating - see under Highways 6. above.

**3626 OTHER MATTERS**

**NSC Ward Review (handled with Members via e-mails 28-30 May):**

**The Issue:** The Boundary Commission (TBC) has proposed the reduction of North Somerset councillors from 61 to 51 at the next election. As part of the consultation process on this proposal, Clevedon Town Council has made a submission to The Boundary Commission. Clevedon currently has 7 wards, ergo, 7 NSC members (11.5% of the total). Under the new proposals, their number of wards/members will be reduced to 5 (9.8% of the new total), which is deemed representative of their urban population on the basis of some 3000-3500 voters per ward. Cllr David Shopland has suggested 6 Clevedon wards/members (11.5% of NSC seats) in a proposal that Clevedon TC has adopted and put as a submission to TBC. To achieve the extra Ward, it is proposed that the 4, essentially rural, parishes of Kenn, Kingston Seymour, Walton-in-Gordano and Tickenham be incorporated into the Clevedon Town Council ward structure. It may be, although this is not clear, that the residents of those 4 parishes will cease to elect their own parish councillors, but will elect representatives to membership of Clevedon Town Council. In any event, there are likely to be longer term implications in the form of increased urbanisation of the 4 parish areas, and a possible isolation of them from the rural context of their neighbouring parishes/wards. For a report on this, see page 10 of the May 22nd 2013 North Somerset Times - attached below - which stresses the want of Clevedon to extend its management of its boundaries to include the management of the approaches to its boundaries). I do not have sight of the Clevedon submission, but the NS Times report gives no mention of benefits to the 4 parishes that would be joining Clevedon. It refers to Clevedon RETAINING 6 wards - not LOSING 2 and ACQUIRING 1. One of the TBC criteria for justifying boundary change is the joining of populations to their "natural" centre of gravity. The majority of WalG population is at Walton Bay, many of whose residents gravitate towards Portishead, not Clevedon. Cllr Ashton is urgently seeking reactions from his Gordano Ward Parishes.

**Cllr Cannell's Reply, endorsed by Cllrs Morgan, Kent and Charlesworth:** We definitely DO NOT want to be a ward of Clevedon. As the smallest parish in North Somerset we have very little in common with Clevedon

and the interests of the parishioners of Wa-i-G would be totally subsumed by those of Clevedon. Most of the recent government legislation has been targeted at handing greater autonomy and control to local residents in how they see their locale developing. This suggestion not only blows that philosophy out of the water it also rapidly progresses the degeneration of rural wards into one big urban sprawl. I know that there is a huge apathy in the parish regarding the workings of the PC, but I cannot believe that the parishioner's interests, short, medium or long term, will be served better by being part of Clevedon Town Council rather than having an autonomous rural voice. The only people that this proposal is good for is Clevedon Town Council, who, with an increased catchment population, will be in a better negotiating position for future resources, very few of which are likely to be spent within the current boundary of Wa-i-G, as well as being able to use more of the surrounding countryside as part of their development plans.

**Governance Documents:** A complete set of updated documents, as listed under, was adopted under minute 3530 of the Council's meeting on September 10th 2012. There is no change required to any document. It should be noted that the Clerk's signed Contract of Employment refers to his address in Pill, but that via notification and change of header address to the May 2012 minutes, that address became the present address in Yatton. The Annual Risk Assessment form, AK below was reviewed, agreed, and signed by the Chairman and Clerk at the meeting. Given the circumstances of the current Clerk's employment it was not deemed necessary to conduct the annual staff appraisal per form BB below last December. The meeting agreed that the Chairman and Clerk will, as has been the practice to date, raise issues that need airing during each December as they are preparing the budget papers for the following January meeting, rather than conduct a formal appraisal.

**AA** PublicationsScheme - **AB** Who We Are and What We Do - **AC** Declaration of Acceptance of Office (Councillor) - **AD** Declaration of Acceptance of Office (Chairman) - **AE** Code of Conduct - **AF** Register of Members' Interests - **AG** Standing Orders - **AH** Financial Regulations - **AJ** Complaints & Equality Procedures - **AK** Risk Assessment - **BA** Clerks Employment paperwork - **BB** Staff Appraisal Form

**Casual Vacancy:** An application for co-option as a Council Member, from Mike Ralston of Sunnybank, Walton Street, was received and considered. Members (including Cllr Kent via prior discussion) were unanimous in wanting to pursue this application. The Clerk was asked to invite Mike to attend the meeting on July 8th so that he can experience the Council process. If there is a mutual want to progress the application, paperwork can be completed in time for Mike to attend the September meeting as a co-opted member.

### **3627 COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS**

**Cllr Cannell: Walton Street Issues** - 1. The broken Somerset Stone above Myrtle Cottage is impeding water flow and **needs removing** if placing the new stone is delayed. 2. Below Whispering Chimneys, there is, when the road is quiet enough, a distinct audible alteration of flow under the Somerset Stones, as if that flow is being in some way inhibited. **Can this be checked and any problem resolved?** 3. The new Somerset Stones at the Sunnybank/Parsonage Hayes entrance are uneven and poorly laid - not helped by the 45 degree chamfer on all their edges. As they are, **they present a trip hazard that needs resolving. Clerk to pursue these problems with Mike Brown.**

### **3628 FINANCE**

**Accounts 2013-14:** Accounts to date reviewed and noted.

**Cheques:** **655** HMRC PAYE £79.20 **656** Zurich Insurance Premium £212.00 **657** Village Hall hire £6.00

**The meeting closed at 8.25 pm**



## Walton-in-Gordano Parish Council

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**Present:** Cllrs Brian Cannell (Chair), Ann Charlesworth, Richard Kent, Floss Morgan

**In Attendance:** Don Hill (Clerk) Claire Leandro (NSC Liaison)

**3629 APOLOGIES:**, Cllr Kent, Cllr Ashton (NSC), PC Clarke

**3630 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** Cllrs Cannell, Charlesworth & Kent re Walton Brook. Cllr Kent re Gordano Valley Cycle Path.

**3631 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:** agreed, and signed by Chairman and Clerk.

**3632 MATTERS ARISING:** None.

#### 3633 EMERGENCY SERVICES, TRAFFIC & TRANSPORT

**Police:** No reported crime in month. Information from PCC re annual Neighbourhood Policing Awards - noted.  
**Cycle Races Through the Parish:** These periodic events are proving dangerous and disruptive. The speed of contestants, particularly down Walton Street - and the sheer rudeness and dangerous manoeuvres of some - being the subject of general complaint. Race Marshals will follow up complaints if they have the riders' numbers. The Clerk has shared these worries with the police, who are also concerned - also by the possible lack of an associated risk assessment; they suggest contacting NSC who licence such events. Claire undertook to find out the name of the person the **Clerk should contact to follow this up.**

#### 3634 PLANNING

**New:** 13/P/1050/F Holme View, Walton Bay, rear extension. (see 08/P/0422/F replacement). No objections.

**Decision Due:** 13/P/0597/F Taggart - Garage, roof/Internal rebuild. 13/P/0601/NMA Golf Club amendment.

**Enforcement:** Arodene: new works-waterlogged footpath Case Number 2013/0235.

#### 3635 STREETS AND OPEN SPACES

##### *Highways - Mike Brown*

1. **Moor Lane** - Subsidence - mud - grips
2. **Trees** - done - but not cut back hard enough or high enough. The two small machines used were not up to the job. A single larger machine would have done the work faster and adequately - the extravagance of sending out the wrong teams to do do work - as registered in the Annual Parish Meeting - seems to be the result of poor management and/or of poorly negotiated contracts. **Clerk to relay this concern with NSC.**
3. **Moor Lane - Harley Hill pothole** - Marked up for doing.
4. **Coast Road:** Potholes/verge decay. **DONE**
3. **B3124: Loose gully** near sub station getting worse - Clerk awaiting a date.
4. **B3124:** Fly tipping in 2nd left gateway past the Village Hall. Awaiting news of clearance.
5. **B3124: Verge overgrowth.** response re minute 3552 - (e-mail De 4th 2012) pressed for.
6. **Walton Street Gullies:** These have not been done. Frank Cox awaiting a contractor's report.
7. **Walton St Somerset Stones:** some lifting rods broken and dangerous. Reported.
8. **Cross Tree Junction Flood Signs:** Awaiting news of their replacement.
9. **Walton Street Sunnybank Hedge:** Awaiting news of cut-back date.
10. **Walton Street Issues** 1. Removal of broken Somerset Stone above Myrtle Cottage awaited. 2. Below Whispering Chimneys, audible alteration of flow under the Somerset Stones, as if that flow inhibited.



Requested to be checked. 3. Somerset Stones at Sunnybank a trip hazard - needs resolving. Update due post Clerk's 20<sup>th</sup> June e-mail.

### **Signage - Liam Abercrombie**

**Cross Tree Junction:** Finger post repair.

**Cross Tree Junction:** The "order" referred to last month was for an investigation into what may be possible. Halt/one way signs can only be erected via an order from the Secretary of State. Cllr Kent witnessed a vehicle pass on the right of the Cross Tree, coming down Walton Street, as recently as the evening of July 6th - this is not an uncommon - but one day WILL BE a fatal - occurrence. If there is no alternative, members may wish to press for an order from the Secretary of State. **Clerk to share members' thinking with NSC.**

**To Shops signage:** Erected. However, it took 3 vehicles and six men to do the work on a very wide pavement with no apparent traffic risk to those doing the work. How can such extravagance of labour / cost be supported by NSC / their contractors? The management message going out to observing electors is far from good. **Clerk to press this concern with NSC**

### **Footpaths - Andy Carroll**

**Plumtree Footpath to Common:** Loose stiles. Reported. **Clerk to follow up.**

**Cliff Path:** "no cycling" signs Andy Carroll dealing, via Cllr Morgan.

**Squires Cottage to Cliff Path:** Cllr Morgan reported that this has become overgrown. It is being used a lot this year, and the Clerk has contacted Andy Carroll to get the path cleared and/ the sides - either directly, or via the responsible landowners.

### **Queries from Annual Parish Meeting**

**Notification of work to be done:** Could Clerks be notified of work being done in their parish?

**Moor Lane - Walton Brook maintenance along highway:** It is simply not good enough that each time there is a change of County Authority and/or a change of staff, that the new brooms have ducked, dodged, agreed to accept and subsequently denied responsibility for maintenance of this small stretch of brook. The cost of its maintenance would be significantly cheaper than the cost of the ongoing battle that has ensued for years. The Miles Estate has a history of being scrupulously careful and exact about its boundaries and responsibilities - as was evidenced when a similar issue over boundaries arose recently at Dully's Wood. This issue must, now, be driven to a final, written, and sacrosanct conclusion. **Clerk to press via Cllr Ashton.**

**Moor Lane - Walton Brook piping through Rivendell:** The Clerk's information re silting up of the new pipe appears not to have been correct - the pipe is not silted - but the section highway brook is. Rivendell owners Nigel & Barbara Wilyman will be happy to meet Frank Cox on site to study their pipework, the existing culvert, and possible alternatives (see below). **Clerk to provide Frank Cox/Nigel Wilyman with contact details.**

**Moor Lane - Walton Brook existing highway culvert:** This has not been checked. As the last major flood was due to its blockage, it needs to be checked and, if needed, jetted, before the onset of winter weather. **Clerk to ask Frank Cox to ensure this happens.**

**Moor Lane - Walton Brook Proposed New Culvert (account has to taken of Western Power Interest):** The meeting agreed to press for a new culvert. Reflecting on NSC concerns about the fitness for purpose of the new Rivendell pipe, the existing under-highway culvert is certainly NOT fit for purpose - despite claims in the associated drainage report - it is neither large enough to cope with the increased flows and increased detritus that emerge from the re-engineered Walton Street section, nor does its square, rough construction allow free flow of both water and detritus - as evidenced in the most recent floods. A new culvert is, therefore, proposed. This culvert will need to be at a shallower angle - 30°? - to avoid the blockage effect if the existing arrangement; it will need to be of a capacity equal to the Walton Street pipes to ensure free flow; and by virtue of its re-angling and the need to prevent flooding of the adjacent Western Power electricity sub-station, it will be significantly longer across the highway than the existing one assuming re-entry to the brook at the same point on the Portishead side of the highway. The IDB never fail to do a good job of maintaining their sections - it appears that NSC always fail to maintain theirs! There will need to be a categoric assurance that the new culvert it will be jetted - as the Walton Street ones are supposed to be - twice per year. **Clerk to pursue.**

### 3636 OTHER MATTERS

**Casual Vacancy:** Mike Ralston on holiday, but will attend September meeting with a view to being co-opted for attendance as a member in October.

**Good Councillor's Guide:** NALC 4th ed, e-mailed to members. Noted.

**North Somerset Health & Wellbeing Board:** some data via Cllr Ashton. Claire Leandro spoke briefly to this topic. Clerk to e-mail Cllr Ashton's information to Members.

**Distribution of Minutes via E-Mail:** A piece to go in the August or September Information Sheet, then an ongoing invitation to readers, alongside the information of Councillor's telephone numbers, saying... "If you would like to receive copies of Approved Parish Council meeting minutes, please e-mail your request to The Clerk at [waigpc@icloud.com](mailto:waigpc@icloud.com)." If the e-mailing list grows, it will give an indicator as to how many might support the work and cost of the Parish Council running a website, which idea could then be pursued.

**Electrical Appliances Amnesty:** NSC are picking key population centres to encourage people to bring their electrical appliances to a central point for disposal during a fixed period. This will enable them to get grass roots reaction to the present lack of collection facilities for this equipment - residents have to take it to their local recycling centre. Noted - WalG is very near a recycling centre.

**North Somerset Cycle Forum Incorrect Minutes:** Two things got Cycle Path discussions off on the wrong foot and perhaps gave the impression that the Parish Council was against the idea: 1. No stakeholders in the Parish have been approached by those driving the idea (nor is it entirely clear who the actual "drivers" are): 2. The NS Cycle Forum minuted that landowners and the Parish Council were in agreement with the idea and the route - even though they had not been consulted. The PC was understandably irate about being so blatantly mis-represented. The Cycle Forum April minute correcting the earlier claim of PC/landowner support has been amended and forwarded to their members in the Forum e-mail of June 28<sup>th</sup>:

#### 4. Minutes of previous meeting 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2013 & matters arising

1. Previous minute correction; Walton-in-Gordano PC's misrepresentation recorded in January's meeting minutes concerning Clevedon-Portishead routes. KS explained the PC's concern over assumptions for future routes and Ben Searle has provided the following amendment which was read out to the meeting; "A proposal for a cycling and walking route has been proposed by John Grimshaw (formerly of Sustrans). The proposed route largely follows the former narrow gauge railway. The proposed route is included in the draft emerging proposals map currently being consulted on and will form part of the Core Strategy. We are seeking £10K JLTP funding in either 2013/14 or 2014/15 (now confirmed for 2014/15) to pay for a detailed feasibility study. We won't be doing any more work on this until we have this funding but are of course open to comments on the proposed route, other route/link suggestions. The initial feedback from John Grimshaw is that **it is an achievable project with land mainly owned by a couple of supportive land owners**. Rough cost if largely built by volunteer work camps around £200K."

Cllr Cannell shared his reaction to this via an e-mail with Members which was discussed. **The Clerk was asked to summarise the outcome - as under - and relay it to Kevin Speakman, of the Forum, at NSC.**

*"In spite of our robust criticism of the previous minutes, and our meeting with WeiG councillors to explore our concerns, the amended version of the minutes as above represent a grossly biased and inaccurate position of the stakeholders along at least half of the proposed route. Whilst removing reference to WalG PC, the minute will lead every reader to conclude that the proposed route has no objections from the majority land stakeholders. We all know this is categorically not the case. (We have information that at least one of the main landowners in WeiG was not and is not in favour of the proposed use of a sizeable swathe of his land for the cycle way - this also in contradiction of the view promulgated by the WeiG councillors whom our Clerk and Cllr Cannell met with earlier in the year.)"*

This is not about the pros & cons of the project, it is about accurate or non-accurate minute making, and being honest with Forum members and our electors about the steepness of the hill to be climbed.

**Gordano Valley Cycle Path -** The Council received requests for information from Andy Brellisford at Myrtle Cottage, Andrew & Rachel Francis at Taggart House and Emma Edwards at Cross Tree Cottage. The Clerk responded to these and copied members.

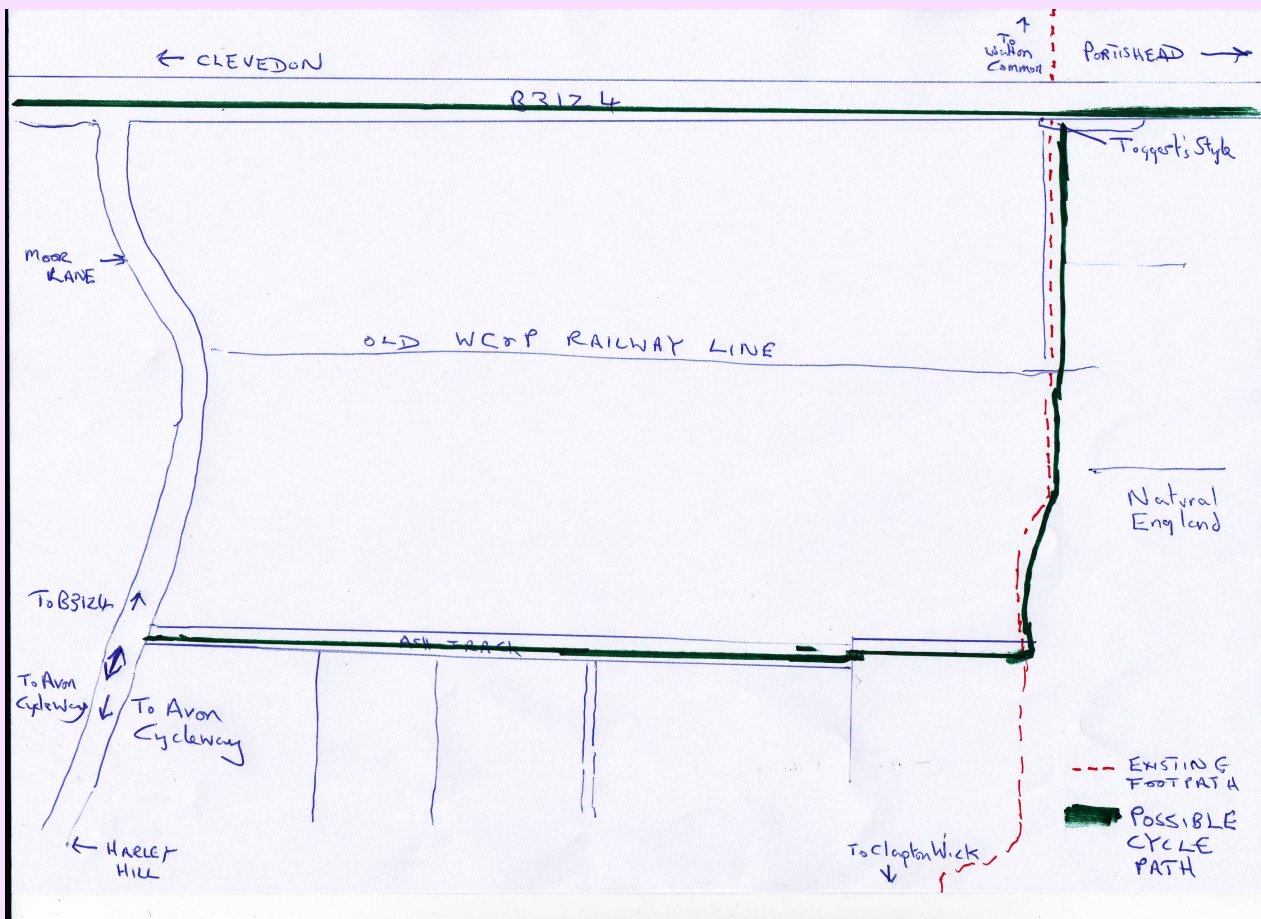
There was alarm when the Cycle Path idea surfaced in the village in January, because of its proposed routing via an old wood-haulage rail path through woods half way down Moor Lane which is very boggy... alternatively via the firm railway bed of the old Portishead to Weston-s-Mare railway line. This alarm was relayed to the Parish Council, who's minuted position at its January meeting (which minute was shared, and discussed with Weston-in-Gordano Parish Council) is that it is supportive of the idea of a Cycle Path in principle but doubts, for a variety of reasons, the viability of the proposed route(s) and does not, therefore, support those routes. It has minuted the possibility of an alternative route along the B3124. The PC has not purported to be a "driver" of the idea, but it has indicated a willingness to contribute to its development in the context of its routing through the Parish. **The hard decisions revolve around the support of the landowners and tenants.** Cllr Kent has discussed a proposal below, which the **Clerk was asked to share with interested parties.**

**Who are the users?** Racers, commuters, leisure cyclists.

**What do they want?** Racers have their own agenda; commuters want a direct and safe access between two points (proposed B3124 option); leisure cyclists will tend to prefer a more scenic route that puts them in touch with their surroundings and the oft-times fascinating things that can be seen there.

**Alternative/Additional Route:** Catering to the leisure user might be achieved by modification of the existing footpath that runs along the WeIG/WaIG parish boundary from the Cliff Path, across Walton Common to the B3124, across Toggert's Stile and onwards towards Clapton Wick. Starting at Toggert's Stile and moving towards Clapton Wick, leave the present footpath by turning right into the ash track (formerly the Clevedon UDC tip road) and follow it along to Moor Lane. Beyond that, users could either turn right, along Moor Lane, to rejoin the B3124 - and increase "footfall" past village amenities, or turn left, up Harley Hill to join the existing Avon Cycleway at the top of Harley Hill. (see sketch map below).

This route crosses land managed by Avon Wildlife Trust, Natural England, and the Shoot. The obvious concerns of the Shoot have been expressed via contact of Cllrs Kent and Cannell with the Keeper, who's





e-mails are on record. The sanctity of the Nature Reserve is believed to be safeguarded to some extent as a permit is needed to enter it.

### **3637 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

**Cllr Kent: Speeding emergency vehicles through Village:** From the Manor gate to Plumtree Cottage the B3124 is narrow, tortuous and complicated by an, at best, dangerous crossroads. The problem of speeding emergency vehicles - police cars in particular - has been perennial. Some of the speeds would not allow the skills of the best of drivers to get them out of an accident given the mix of scenarios that might be being played out through this "blind" section of road. OK, it hasn't happened... yet. However, this is precisely the reasoning applied to ordinary drivers in an effort to encourage them to moderate their speeds. We know how frustrated enforcers are at their message not being heard, we know their need for speed in special circumstances, but please, please heed this plea for common sense in this instance. **Clerk to relay this concern to Jenny Clark for upward transmission.** **Walton Brook:** Cllr Kent feels NSC are trying to wriggle out of a responsibility re the highway section in Moor Lane and asked that the **Clerk press NSC to resolve once and for all.**

**Cllr Morgan:** Black rubbish bag in gateway opposite golf course above Walton Street. **Clerk to report.**

**Cllr Charlesworth:** Tall grass hiding the highway section of Walton Brook in Moor Lane was cut on July 8th.

**Cllr Cannell:** a wagon wheel has been dumped on the verge just past the ash track gate. **Clerk to report.**

### **3638 FINANCE**

**Accounts 2013-14:** Accounts to date circulated prior to the meeting and noted.

**Cheques:** 658 Village Hall hire £12.00

**The meeting closed at 9.10 pm**



# Walton-in-Gordano Parish Council

Walton-in-Gordano – Walton Down – Walton Bay

**Clerk: Donald M Hill**

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## Minutes of the Meeting at The Village Hall - Monday 9th September 2013 at 7.30 pm

**Present:** Cllrs Brian Cannell (Chair), Ann Charlesworth, Richard Kent, Floss Morgan

**In Attendance:** Don Hill (Clerk) Claire Leandro (NSC Liaison) Mike Ralston (Co-opted Cllr Elect)

**Public Attendance:** Mr & Mrs Grahame Stott, Kevin Edwards, Nigel Wyliman

**3639 APOLOGIES:**, Cllr Ashton (NSC), PCSO Graham Roberts

**3640 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** Cllr Kent as tenant farmer re Gordano Valley Cycle Path.

**3641 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:** agreed, and signed by Chairman and Clerk.

**3642 MATTERS ARISING:** None.

### 3643 EMERGENCY SERVICES, TRAFFIC & TRANSPORT

**Police:** A theft was reported from Church Farm Shop. The accused was apprehended. The matter was not prosecuted.

**Emergency Vehicle Speed through WaIG Village:** PC Clarke was briefed on this concern by the Clerk. She responded: *I have passed your email to my Inspector, Sharon Bennett. I'm afraid we will always need to drive at speed and only do so through the villages if it's absolutely necessary. When we're taught to drive the Police way we're told to drive as fast as possible dependent on the road conditions. We have had several complaints over the years from Weston in Gordano which led to the training school stopping any driver training coming through the villages. This has been agreed by all departments at HQ that run driver training. We, as Portishead Police Station, now operate out of HQ and have to respond on a daily basis. Also, specialist units such as firearms are often called to HQ to give advice during live firearms incidents so they obviously have to get there asap. I will send out another message to the relevant departments once again reminding them of the agreement to not carry out training through the villages but am confident that they are not the ones that have been seen. It is likely to have been a response car that works out of Nailsea but covers Portishead and Clevedon as well. It could also have been a traffic unit. I'm afraid there's not a lot more I can add but we are continuously monitoring road conditions and hazards when we're responding and only drive within our capabilities. Accidents do happen from time to time but thankfully there are a lot of experienced Officers working around here and are able to prevent crime and save people from all kinds of danger by driving to incidents at speed.*

*A suggestion from our driver training unit, who say they definitely don't train drivers through the villages, can anyone wishing to complain about a vehicle please take some details of the vehicle and give approx. time and date that they have seen it. This allows us to look into the complaint further.*

**Moor Lane Parking:** Cllr Morgan asked dog trainers that their clients do not park too close to the Moor Lane junction. This request appears to have been heeded.

**Cycle Races through WaIG (Darran Mason, NSC):** 2 triathlons take place which cycle through Walton-in-Gordano. - the Portishead Triathlon (30 June) and Portishead Try-a-Tri (9 June). For these events NSC grants permission to use land at the rear of Portishead outdoor swimming pool. The race itself is permitted by the British Triathlon Association, to gain this permit organisers must submit risk assessments and plans to them. Permits are not granted without landowners consent and police approval. British Triathlon rules state: 'All competitors must follow the normal rules of the road the highway code, obey all traffic signals and follow any instruction given by the police. Any infringement of the law and subsequent legal action is the sole responsibility of the competitor.' 'Competitors must conduct themselves in a proper manner and not bring the sport into disrepute. Failure to do so may result in disqualification from the race and further disciplinary action being taken against the permitting Home National Association or British Triathlon.' 'All Competitors, officials, volunteers and spectators must be treated with respect and courtesy. Threatening, abusive or insulting words or conduct are not permitted and competitors will be disqualified for using such behaviour, either directly or indirectly.'

The essence of Portishead Triathlon's (James Higgs') response to Darran Mason's approach was: *A Marshal is based outside the back of Clevedon Golf Club ensuring that competitors do not cut the corners where the road narrows before the village. Lots of signs tell the riders that it is a narrow road and they must take care and keep well left. They are told all this information in the briefing they receive before the event. However, it sounds like we need to put another Marshal in the village itself. I will add this to the Risk Assessment. With regards to the abuse residents have received from competitors, I am appalled by this. All competitors know that they must abide by all road rules and be polite at all times to other road users and members of the public. Hopefully putting someone in the village will stop this, and if it is reported to us that people are being rude, then they will be disqualified immediately and not invited to the event again. I will ensure that this is also brought up in the race briefing at all future events.*

It is essential that the racer number is noted of any competitor alleged to have contravened the race rules/guidelines so that they may be identified and appropriate action taken by the officials.

The above police items were circulated before the meeting and noted for the minute.



#### 3644 PLANNING

**New:** 13/P/1588/F 3 Manor Cottages - External Insulation render. 13/P/1610/F Holm View WB, Replace garage /carport with new garage. No objections to either of these applications - [Clerk to so inform NSC](#).

**Granted:** 13/P/0597/F Taggart-Garage/roof. 13/P/1050/F Holme View extension. 13/P/0601/NMA Golf Club.

**Enforcement:** Arodene: new works-waterlogged footpath Case Number 2013/0235. An update has been requested.

#### 3645 STREETS AND OPEN SPACES

**Highways - Mike Brown (updates awaited re 1-3)**

##### 1. Moor Lane

- a. Subsidence
- b. Mud & grips

##### 2. B3124:

- a) **Verge overgrowth.** response re minute 3552 - (e-mail De 4th 2012) pressed for.
- b) **Cross Tree Junction Flood Signs:** Awaiting news of their replacement.
- c) **Fly tipping** in 2nd left gateway past the Village Hall. Awaiting news of clearance.

##### 3. Walton Street

- a) **Sunnybank Hedge:** Awaiting news of cut-back date.
- b) **Brook below Whispering Chimneys,** audible alteration of flow as if blocked. **Requested to be checked.**
- c) **Somerset Stones at Sunnybank** a trip hazard - needs resolving. **Update due post Clerk's 20<sup>th</sup> June e-mail.**
- d) **Walton Street Gullies:** These have not been done. Frank Cox awaiting a contractor's report.

##### 4. In Hand

**Moor Lane - Harley Hill pothole** - DONE.

**Broken Somerset Stone** Replaced.

**Moor Lane:** wagon wheel CLEARED.

**Walton Street Flytipping:** Black rubbish bag opposite golf course - gone but 2 new bags have appeared - one each side of the road by the golf course, below Arodene.. **Clerk to report to Mike Brown.**

**B3124: Loose gully** near sub station getting worse - Clerk awaiting a date.

#### **Signage - Liam Abercrombie**

**Cross Tree Junction:** Finger post repair.

**Cross Tree Junction:** The meeting considered the e-mail from Paul Watkins, below. In the light of this e-mail, and giving consideration to efforts over many years to prevent Walton Street down traffic passing to the right of the Cross Tree, it was concluded that the signage solution suggested was not presently affordable. [Clerk to inform Paul Watkins and thank him for his input.](#)

Hello Don,

I can inform that 'No Entry Signs' including a traffic regulation order are likely to cost in the region of £4,130.00, which would be subject to any site constraints and/or any objections to a traffic regulation order. It should be noted that the introduction of signing could also further urbanise the village which may not be to the liking of the community. One other alternative could possibly be the installation of a 'keep left bollard' (I could try and get hold of one of these for the Parish Council to examine if required?) where the location of the Ice cream A board sign is (when looking at the Google earth map). This could improve the situation and be less costly than No Entry signs (in the region of £1000.00), and also less visually obtrusive for the village. For information, a keep left arrow/bollard is enforceable under Section 36 of the Road Traffic Act, it does not need a traffic regulation order.

It should be noted that if the no entry signs or keep left bollard were required to be street lit then additional costs would be incurred in order to provide this (potentially in the region of £1500.00+ for 2 x no entry signs or £750.00+ for a keep left bollard, dependent on the availability of electrical connections). From what I have seen so far, there is nothing to indicate that such signs would require to be street lit but further investigation will be required.

I do understand your comment in relation about realistic evidence, however, as I am sure you can appreciate it is essential that we target the limited funding we get from central government in relation to road safety where there is evidence that there are issues on our road network, this does not necessarily mean road deaths, but our database also holds information recorded by the Police where any injury collisions (except those incurring damage only) have occurred. At cross tree as previously mentioned there have been no recorded injury collisions since the year 2000.

Having undertaken an initial assessment at this location I can inform that this does not meet Local Transport Plan objectives, therefore, it would be beneficial to ascertain if the Parish Council were able to provide any financial support/contribution towards progressing any potential scheme.

Kind regards, Paul.

Paul Watkins, Senior Engineer, Highways & Transport, NSC, Tel: 01934 426652, Email: paul.watkins@n-somerset.gov.uk

### **Footpaths - Andy Carroll**

**Plumtree Footpath to Common:** Loose stiles. Reported and followed up. Inspection and temporary repair in hand. Possibility of new pedestrian gates, but Landlord/Tenants to be approached re permission needed for these.

**Cliff Path:** 10 "no cycling" signs passed to Cllr Morgan by Clerk.

**Squires Cottage to Cliff Path:** Footpath cleared

### **Walton Brook - Frank Cox**

**Walton Brook maintenance:** Ann-marie Wood, John Inman's replacement, has inspected Walton Brook. After some discussion, it was agreed that copies of the report be circulated to residents immediately involved in the problem, and that it be discussed further at the October meeting of the Council once people had had time to study it in detail.

**Walton Brook Riparian Responsibilities:** Frank Cox is pursuing the legal position re brook maintenance, but, in the meantime, has pointed to guidance from a range of County Councils which has been shared with members via e-mail, was noted, and is summarised as under:

## **A Guide to the Rights and Responsibilities of Living by a Watercourse**

### **What is a Watercourse?**

- A watercourse is defined as any channel through which water flows and can be open or enclosed underground as a culvert. Watercourses may be classified as either main rivers or ordinary watercourses.
- Watercourses occur naturally, they serve to drain the land and assist in supporting flora and fauna.
- Historically, watercourses have taken surface water run off from buildings and roads, as well as fields and parks. In the process of development many have been culverted or changed in other ways.
- In normal conditions the watercourse may be a dry channel in the ground.
- In storm conditions it may become a raging torrent.
- Continued development tends to increase water discharge to a watercourse, (even though adequate safeguards to prevent this are available), a process that could lead to increased risk of flooding if not controlled.

### **Who is a Riparian Owner?**

- Under common law you are the riparian owner of any watercourse within or adjacent to the boundaries of your property.
- Where a watercourse is sited between two or more property boundaries each owner may be equally responsible.

### **Riparian Owners Rights**

- You have the right to receive a flow of water in its natural state, without undue interference in quantity or quality.
- You have the right to protect your property against flooding from the watercourse and also to prevent erosion of the watercourse banks or any structures.

### **Riparian Owner Responsibilities**

- As a riparian owner your responsibilities include the maintenance of the bank and bed of your section of watercourse, in order to avoid any obstruction of flow in the watercourse.

### **Riparian Owners and the Law**

- Your responsibilities as a riparian owner are based on legislation. The principle legislation is summarised below:
- The Public Health Act 1936.
- The Land Drainage Acts of 1991 and 1994.
- Water Resources Act 1991.

- Environment Agency Land Drainage Byelaws 1981.

#### **The most common problems affecting watercourses**

- Failing to keep vegetation growth under control.
- Failing to obtain consent for installing pipes or culverting of watercourses
- Disposal or storage of garden or domestic rubbish, waste etc. on the banks of watercourses.

#### **Implementation and Enforcement of Legislation**

To reduce the risk of flooding "The Council" will aim to improve and maintain a watercourse system through co-operation, liaison, advice and assistance. Enforcement will only be used where necessary to resolve problems.

#### **Further Information**

For more on riparian issues, visit the Environment Agency - [www.environment-agency.gov.uk](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk), who's booklet, 'Living on the Edge', a guide to the rights and responsibilities of a riverside owner, is free to download.

### ***Gordano Valley Cycle Path***

#### **The Past**

Periodic meetings about this project are being held at NSC Castlewood to which WaIG PC members have been invited but are unable to attend. WaIG PC does, however, need to be kept in the information loop.

Upon request, WeIG PC/John Grimshaw have provided a document "A Clevedon and Portishead Greenway Route" as the basis of discussions with stakeholders along the route. A letter from Mr & Mrs Stott - who learnt of the proposal from a third party - cogently outlined objections to the use of their Manor Drive as part of the proposal. These documents were discussed.

As the record of WaIG PC discussions indicates, the principle of a cycleway is regarded as admirable, but the tactics used to disseminate information about it have been wanting. Within WaIG, we know the Miles Estate and Tenant Farmers have been approached; the Stotts have not, nor, it seems probable, have many of the other smaller stakeholders along the proposed route. The publication of plans involving people's properties - plans perceived of by the public more as given, than as discussion documents - appear to have provoked significant irritation among elements of the stakeholder group who feel they should have been consulted before such specific plans relating to their property were made public. Be that as it may, we are where we are, and the only way is forward.

#### **The Future**

In July 2013, WaIG PC proposed and minuted a route variation to the organisers of this project. That idea seems to have been displaced by the subject proposal, which has prompted the re-visiting of an earlier proposal as below.

WaIG PC proposed, from the start, that the route should, where possible, take the line of least resistance - the highway verges. This was based on (non-sporting) user need:

There is a non-leisure need for cyclists to travel between Clevedon and Portishead, which requires a direct route. (The specific need to link Clevedon and Portishead schools was not deemed convincing).

There is a need from leisure cyclists who already use the "quiet lane" recognised cycleway route via Clapton-in-Gordano and Nortons Wood Lane and tend to be "out for a ride" rather than travelling specifically between Clevedon and Portishead. Such leisure use is largely outside rush hours.

Within WaIG the B3124 runs from Holly Lane, Clevedon to Toggert's Style, between Walton and Weston.

Measurement indicates that there are sections of the route through the Parish that can run alongside the highway, using existing wide verges originally believed to have been provided for such "future" use. The B3124 verge alongside Clevedon School playing fields is wide enough to accommodate a fenced cycleway. The field beyond the playing fields and through the village of WaIG would have run the gauntlet of a traffic-calmed B3124.

From the Portishead-side village boundary to Toggert's style (the WaIG boundary) - and beyond into WeIG - the highway verge width is amply wide enough to be engineered (despite its "adverse slope" and given a couple of exceptions where some hedge adjustment may be needed) to house the cycleway.

**The meeting asked the Clerk to propose these amendments to the project group.**

### 3646 OTHER MATTERS

**NSC Electrical Waste Amnesty:** Booked for Village Hall, Oct 17th 5-6.30pm.

**NSC Contractor's Work Efficiency:** Re criticism of the sign erection and tree work teams, Frank Cox has replied: *"I will follow up the tree issue with our green team and ask them to contact you. Regarding the signs, as I said in my last mail we pay a set rate for such works, and not for the number of vehicles/people provided, but I appreciate that inefficient working can reflect poorly on the council. I will discuss this with our contractor at our next contract meeting."*

**Notification of work to be done:** Could Clerks be notified of work being done in their parish?

**Distribution of Minutes via E-Mail:** A piece appeared in the September Information Sheet. Cllr Cannell said that Mike Ralston's expertise may prove helpful in extending the Council's electronic reach should that prove to be needed by the demands of residents or the needs of external communication. Cllr Morgan reported that Shaun Berry of Holme View Walton Bay has offered input too. Meanwhile, **Clerk to include Kevin & Emma Edwards, Abby Hodge, Lorraine Sessions Hodge, and Grahame Stott in e-mail distribution of approved minutes.**

**North Somerset Cycle Forum Incorrect Minutes:** Kevin Speakman queried WalG PC concern re the minute re-write. The Clerk responded: *Within WelG and WalG - the bulk of the proposed route - the two key landowners are, I believe, Ray Watson and the Miles Estate - they surely own the bulk of the land under discussion and, according to our information, do not qualify for inclusion in your minutes as proposed. Rather than my re-writing your minutes, I think my Council would feel it more appropriate if your minutes were more, than less, specific about who the two supportive landowners are. This may well mean that Ray and the Mile's can be there - but it would be braver to name them - and the wording would then need - in order not to confuse simple folk like me - to state more explicitly, that they support the idea in principle, but are exercised by the route as proposed - the position of WalG PC, in fact.* Noted by the meeting.

**National Grid:** Final public consultation round (3 Sept-29 Oct 2013) before submission to the Planning Inspectorate in early 2014.

**Winter PC Meeting Venue:** A key hirer of the Village Hall has a series of Table Tennis tournaments that have to be on Mondays and may clash with 3 PC meeting days between December and April. The hirer is attempting to change those dates, but the PC was asked that, if needed, they might meet in the Church on those dates. The meeting agreed that, subject to the PCC's agreement, this would be OK, or, as an alternative, the meeting might be moved to another evening in the week. **Clerk to share this with Bob Baldwin, Hall Booking Secretary, and report back to PC as dates are confirmed.**

### 3647 COUNCILLORS' REPORT

**Cllr Kent: Moor Lane Trees** - Despite recent work by NSC, the trees down Moor Lane continue to create a hazard, particularly for the many horse-boxes using the lane. **Clerk to contact Natural England/Miles Estate/NSC to get the trees and overgrowth cut back.**

**Cllr Morgan: Walton Bay signage:** a new right turning sign has "appeared" but is obscured by overgrowth. The old sign remains in place at its precarious angle. **Clerk to check and report any problem to Mike Brown.**

**Village Hall:** Expensive septic tank repairs may be needed. If this calls for specific fund raising/grant seeking, an approach may be made to the PC for a grant.

**Cliff Path:** Cattle have damaged some bridgework between Two Acres and Birches, and also eroded the path below Coast Caravan Park. **Clerk to alert Andy Carroll of NSC in the context of the Autumn Cut that is just starting.**

**Cllr Charlesworth: B3124 30mph signs** are obscured at either end of the village (but opposite side signs are visible). These will be cleared via December hedge trimming. **Cycle Races:** The noisy - shouting - progress of the cyclists complained of in July was raised. The Clerk said this formed part of the complaint passed via NSC during the summer, the results of which are recorded at Minute 3643 above. **Horses crossing B3124 at Cross Tree:** Speeding traffic, particularly from the Clevedon direction, causes a real hazard for horses as they cross to or from Moor Lane. Every attempt to slow traffic on this road has only met with partial success. It was agreed that horse warning signs be requested at the B3124 approaches to the Cross Tree - perhaps moving the two horse warning signs in Moor Lane (that were incorrectly located originally and that are mostly pointless where they are). **Clerk to follow up with Mike Brown at NSC and report the problem to PC Clark.**

### 3648 FINANCE

**Accounts 2013-14:** Accounts to date circulated prior to meeting, discussed and noted.

**Cheques:** 659 HMRC re PAYE £79.20 660 Village Hall hire £12.00

The meeting closed at 9.10 pm



# Walton-in-Gordano Parish Council

Walton-in-Gordano – Walton Down – Walton Bay

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## Minutes of the Meeting at The Village Hall - Monday 14th October 2013 at 7.30 pm

**Present:** Cllrs Brian Cannell (Chair), Ann Charlesworth, Richard Kent, Floss Morgan, Mike Ralston

**In Attendance:** Don Hill (Clerk) Claire Leandro (NSC Liaison) Ann-Marie Wood (NSC Engineer)

**Public Attendance:** Grahame & Alison Stott, Kevin & Emma Edwards, Richard & Sara Talbot.

**3649 APOLOGIES:**, Cllr Ashton (NSC), PC Jenny Clarke, for the Police.

**3650 NEW MEMBER:** Mike Ralston signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office and was welcomed as a co-opted member by the Chairman. His Register of Interests has been lodged with NSC.

**3651 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** Cllr Kent as tenant farmer re Gordano Valley Cycle Path. Cllr Ralston re Hedge and Somerset stones at Sunnybank.

**3652 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:** agreed, and signed by Chairman and Clerk.

**3653 MATTERS ARISING:** None.

### 3654 EMERGENCY SERVICES, TRAFFIC & TRANSPORT

**Police:** No crime. A day of Action in Portishead recently uncovered a range of motoring offences. It is hoped to include Walton in a repeat event during November.

**Bus Service 66:** Due to contractual/funding difficulties, this service is - VERY suddenly - to cease on November 4<sup>th</sup>. Walton Down residents have had to walk to Walton Bay to access the service; for residents adjacent to the B3124, the 125 bus will continue to service the Congresbury Portishead element of the route, albeit at different - and for at least one to-work user, non-suitable - times. Walton Bay is to have a twice weekly Nailsea Community Bus service to Portishead - details to follow. This has left Walton Bay, and Walton Down, isolated in terms of regular public transport, with long walks on pavement-less roads (or taxis, lifts etc) in either direction being the only way of connecting to it. Cllr Morgan, in an urgent residents poll identified 6 users who rely on the service probably a tip of the iceberg, given that two thirds of the parish live at Walton Bay/Walton Down. *Clerk to relay serious concerns to NSC about the sudden isolation of this significant element of the Parish and to seek assurances that the problem will be redressed as new contracts are negotiated.*

### 3655 PLANNING

**Decision Due: 13/P/1588/F** 3 Manor Cottages Insulation render.

**Withdrawn: 13/P/1610/F** Holm View, Replace garage

**Enforcement:** Arodene retrospective planning application due. The development of this very visible property from quiet bungalow to the significantly impactive estate of buildings it is now, has come about via a history of retrospective planning applications. All applications, whether presented before work starts, or retrospectively after work has started/is completed, carry equal weight when being considered. However, for a complex of reasons, a retrospective application may succeed where a "regulation" one may not have. Arodene has been a source of much "grumbling" from people who have witnessed its development over the years.

**Arodene:** Waterlogged path - Anne-Marie will visit the site, and report back on any issues.

**NSC Residential Design Guide:** Circulated via e-mail as a useful aid in considering applications.

### 3656 STREETS AND OPEN SPACES

#### **Highways - Mike Brown**

1. **Moor Lane:** Subsidence - Mud & grips

2. **B3124: Verge overgrowth.** re minute 3552 - still no response to e-mail Dec 4th 2012.

3. **Fly tipping** in 2nd left gateway past the Village Hall. Awaiting clearance.

4. **Walton Street - Sunnybank Hedge:** Awaiting cut-back: there is believed to be a reflective post behind the hedge. Cllr Ralston to liaise with Mike Brown. Notwithstanding earlier minuted



discussions, Cllr Cannell reflected that the position of Myrtle Cottage boundary stones also plays a significant element in traffic calming, even if the hedge is cut back.

5. **Somerset Stones:** Broken lifting eyes present a user hazard. Paul Smart/Mike Brown to respond

6. **Cross Tree Junction Flood Signs:** Replacement... Or not? Paul Smart/Mike Brown to respond  
Ann-Marie raised items 4-6 with Mike Brown on October 7<sup>th</sup>, following e-mails from the Clerk to Frank Cox; she kindly offered to follow up further with Mike Brown/Paul Smart to help progress.

### **Matters in Hand**

**Walton Bay signage:** new right turn obscured by overgrowth. Cleared.

**Walton Street Fly tipping:** Cleared.

**B3124:** Loose gully sub station marked for repair.

**Moor Lane Trees** - Job with Natural England contractor to complete before Christmas.

### **Signage - Liam Abercrombie**

**Cross Tree Junction:** Finger post repair.

**Horses signs at Cross Tree:** are not deemed compatible with large road narrows/cross roads signs already in place. There are, as ever, visibility and speeding problems, at this junction. These need addressing by specific people/animal/farm warnings rather than the more general signage presently in place and usually ignored. Clerk to seek more specific clarification of the reasons for not adding a horse sign and to indicated the Parish's concern to get more effective signage in place.

### **Footpaths - Andy Carroll**

**Plumtree Footpath:** Farmer repaired upper stile to secure stock. Road stile repair/replacement due.

**Cliff Path:** Autumn cut done. Repairs at Birches/Two Acres bridge and path below CCP to be chased.

### **Walton Brook - Frank Cox/Ann-Marie - Ann-Marie Wood report was discussed**

**Springhead Trash Screen:** There is an outcrop just inside this, to be cleared this month.

**Walton Brook - Moor Lane Maintenance:** The Miles Estate acknowledge responsibility for the roadside section on Moor Lane and that running through their field from the B3124. They advise that responsibility for maintenance (**recommendation 1** of Ann-Marie's report) is with their tenant farmer, but they are arranging to contract the IDB to maintain these sections for them; they will address the scouring and the rocky outcrop in the roadside ditch (**recommendations 3 & 4** of Anne-Marie's report). Ann-Marie was asked to let the Clerk know what timescale will apply to this work and to confirm that the arrangement with IDB will not be a one-off, but ongoing.

**Walton Brook Utility Cables at Church Farm:** (**recommendation 2** of Ann-Marie's report) NSC will use highway powers to remove cables blocking the culvert if they have no response from the utility company. Although the cables run through electricity ducts, they are believed to belong to BT. The re-engineering in 2010 worked around and under these cables, but they still present an obstruction when the brook is full.

**Wire Fencing at "Benbrook":** (**recommendation 5** of Ann-Marie's report) IDB have cleared roots so that it swings with the water flow and should not now be an inhibition to flow.

**Walton Brook - Old Rectory Farm to Church Farm:** Further to an e-mail enquiry from the Clerk to Frank Cox, Anne Marie reported that the highway was re-engineered at some stage, with a retaining wall being built. This removed the riparian responsibilities from the Miles Estate and NSC confirm that they have the maintenance responsibility.

**Additional Pipe at Moor Lane Culvert:** Following an initial assessment by Ann-Marie, designers will work on an additional (250mm) pipe to increase flow capacity under the road. Members asked that the angle of this pipe not be too sharp and that the capacity of the brook beside the road and out onto the moor be increased to cope with the potential capacity provided by the additional pipe. Details and timetable will follow. Ann-Marie found the residents' knowledge of the problems on the ground very useful; it is hoped that those charged with designing the additional pipe will visit the residents at the site to pick up similar useful input.

**Walton Street Gully Emptying:** Cross Tree to Rose Bank, scheduled for October. (exact date is depends on the gully emptying team's September progress)

**Moor Lane Culvert inspection:** No regular inspections of Moor Lane culvert or similar, but NSC (Structures Team) respond to public reports of blockages. This is not deemed satisfactory; neither in

Walton Street, or Moor Lane, are non-specialists able to observe the culverts. It is the lack of inspections, general blockages and calcification that have historically led to blockages and flooding - however well engineered the system. Regular inspections have always been promised, but never done. Ann-Marie noted this concern and will liaise with colleagues and with the Clerk regarding it.

**Walton Brook below Whispering Chimneys** - audible flow change - as if flow inhibited. Anne-Marie could not pick this problem up, but will monitor the site as flow rates vary, and report back.

**Somerset Stones at Sunnybank:** New work has settled unevenly - the stones are chamfered and brittle and break up easily. Anne-Marie will investigate via the engineer who designed the work.

### **Gordano Valley Cycle Path**

The agreed record at minute 3645 was shared with WeIG PC, John Grimshaw and Kevin Speakman of NSC. An e-mail stating the Miles Estate position was circulated to Members on Sept 11th. Kevin Speakman, from the NSC Cycle Forum, will attend the November 11th meeting to speak to this topic. Detailed summaries of minutes from January 2013 to date have been issued to enquirers on this topic, but, for clarification to those present, various elements, such as Cllr Kent's proposals, the Parish Council's consistent position, the liaison history between the Parish Council and the parties "driving" the proposal, the positions of the Miles Estate, the Walton Shoot and the tenant farmers, the need or not for a "public" meeting (as opposed to the attendance of Kevin Speakman at a Parish Council meeting in November next), were re-visited. There was a distinct "open session" conclusion that John Grimshaw Associates Ltd were driving this proposal - presumably prompted and shaped by European funding opportunities - very much on a divide and rule basis that was not acceptable to this Parish and its residents. Because the possible routes through the Parish are held by so few landowners, the role of the Parish Council is less significant than it might be were they representing the concerns of many small property owners. Nevertheless, the Council has remained consistently supportive of a positive outcome to what is a fundamentally sound idea.

### **3657 OTHER MATTERS**

**Parish Council Communication:** Minutes are posted to noticeboards, items are inserted in the monthly Information Sheet (run by the residents but funded by the Parish Council and delivered to nearly all homes in the Parish) and word-of-mouth contact is maintained with what is a very small if rather widespread community. A view was expressed that Parish Council Information Sheet items might more directly relate to minuted items (it was pointed out that these were, usually, hugely routine and that more substantial entries will mean re-formatting and re-costing the publication - which could be done); the September Information Sheet asked readers to let the Clerk know if they would like to receive copies of approved minutes, but it only prompted one response. Cllr Ralston has offered to look into the provision of a website, which he is in a position to set up; he will **liaise with the Clerk to pursue this idea.**

**Inefficient Contractor Working:** this concern was raised again. Anne Marie said that each job is the responsibility of an NSC engineer, who puts the work out to a contractor, who's managers are supposed to brief their workers. Frank Cox is already discussing this issue with contractors.

**Winter PC Meeting Venue:** Nov 11th/Dec 9th/ Feb 10th meeting to be held in St Paul's Church.

**Local Government Boundary Commission Consultation:** proposing 50 NSC Cllrs for 20 single-member and 15 two-member wards. Gordano Ward to be Gordano Valley Ward and include EIG.

### **3658 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

**Cllr Ralston:** 20 mph rather than 30mph is more appropriate for the narrow section of Walton Street. This has been raised in the past - most recently when the Brook engineering was done.

**Cllr Charlesworth:** Tipping in rhyne at Cassie's Gate, Moor Lane. **Clerk to report to Miles Estate.**

### **3659 FINANCE**

**Accounts 2013-14:** Accounts, circulated before the meeting, were reviewed and noted.

**Cheques: 661** Village Hall hire £12.00

**Bank Mandate:** Cllr Ralston took a completed bank signature mandate for presentation re identification at a Lloyds branch.

**The meeting closed at 9.30 pm**

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## WALTON-IN-GORDANO PARISH COUNCIL

Walton-in-Gordano - Walton Down - Walton Bay

**Clerk: Donald Hill**

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Tel: 01934 835578 Mobile: 07774 125578 e-mail: waigpc@icloud.com

### **Minutes of the meeting held at St Paul's Church Monday 11th November 2013 at 7.30 pm**

*(PC Meetings on Dec 9th and Feb 10th also to be held in St Paul's Church)*

**Present:** Cllrs Brian Cannell (Chair), Ann Charlesworth, Richard Kent, Floss Morgan, Mike Ralston

**In Attendance:** Don Hill (Clerk), Frankie Mann (NSC Sustainable Travel), David Fish (NSC Highways)

**Public Attendance:** Reggy & Jo Van Romunde, Kevin & Emma Edwards, Richard Talbot, Darrell Moores.

#### **3660 APOLOGIES**

Cllr Ashton (NSC), Claire Leandro (NSC Liaison), PC Jenny Clarke.

#### **3661 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr Kent as tenant farmer re Gordano Valley Cycle Path. Cllr Ralston re Hedge, Somerset stones at Sunnybank & Parsonage Hayes planning application 13/P/1911/F, as an immediate neighbour with a shared driveway.

#### **3662 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

Agreed, and signed by Chairman and Clerk.

#### **3663 MATTERS ARISING**

None.

#### **3664 EMERGENCY SERVICES, TRAFFIC & TRANSPORT**

**Police:** No crime reported in Parish. Graham Roberts is researching the possibility of setting up "speedwatch" on the B3124, but is constrained by a history of police safety concerns as minuted in February, March, May (APM) and December 2007.

**Walton Bay Bus Service:** The Community Bus runs on Tuesday afternoons and Thursday mornings, with two journeys in each direction, allowing some 2 hours in Portishead. Bus passes are not taken and journey cost is £1-2 per single journey. Cllr Morgan is attending a meeting at Castlewood on December 13th, to discuss the problems of Walton Bay residents arising from withdrawal of the 66 service.

#### **3665 PLANNING**

**New: 13/P/1911/F** Parsonage Hayes, new/replacement barn/shed. This application is on ground that formerly housed a barn, greenhouses and water tanks. The site is "out of sight" and the proposal seems logical.

However, discussion revolved around two issues:

1. the scale of the proposal, its fit to the original building footprint, as the plans do not match the size and extent of the proposed build if it is to conform to old foundations (this may be due to a presentational problem with the drawing in relation to the plot boundaries - making the proposal seem larger than it actually is); and
2. a fear that it may, at some future date, invite use as a dog kennels (the applicants presently train dogs elsewhere), or some other commercial venture by the present or future owners. Such a change - if it did not come about by "creep-of-use" - would require an application for change-of-use to commercial. The present access to the property has planning permission to be diverted to a route close to Old Rectory House: increased traffic along the drive is likely to be unwelcome to that property and put pressure on this constricted part of Walton Street. The meeting decided, unanimously, to present no objections to the application, provided that the concerns raised in this minute were taken account of in the conditions that will apply to granting the permission. **Clerk to so report to NSC planning.**

**Withdrawn: 13/P/1588/F** 3 Manor Cottages Insulation render.

**Enforcement:** Arodene retrospective planning application due.

**Arodene:** Waterlogged path - awaiting Anne-Marie's report.

### **3666 GORDANO VALLEY CYCLE PATH**

Frankie Mann (NSC Sustainable Travel & Road Safety Team), and David Fish (NSC Highways Engineer overseeing cycle schemes) attended the meeting and spoke to this topic. Minutes to date covering the topic were circulated prior to the meeting.

In the context of this meeting, the Parish Council's starting point was that it is in favour of the concept - its caveat is that it abhors the way that concept has been thus far promoted, certainly within WalG. The Parish Council's ending point is that it will do all it can, (having regard to the concerns of its residents/property owners), to contribute constructively to progress of the concept by appointing two of its number (Cllrs Kent and Ralston) to attend future steering group meetings.

WalG PC approached NSC re a possible shared-use path from Portishead to Clevedon with the aspiration for it to work for road safety, commuting, economic regeneration and leisure. NSC involvement has been limited, as the idea has been community led.

A steering group, meeting at Castlewood, is embryonic: its next meeting will be in January 2014 and the Council agreed that Cllrs Kent and Ralston will represent its interests at future meetings.

The NSC Cycle Forum have not been involved in the idea, but have been informed about it and, as with this Council, have "misunderstood" the formulation of the idea in terms of who had been informed/consulted/agreed-with about it. Frankie Mann believes the Forum minutes to still be incorrect in this matter and offered to get them re-cast again.

NSC and WalG PC shared their histories of involvement - this Council's history being well documented in its minutes, which were circulated to attendees as a briefing document before the meeting.

There seems, thus far, to have been a somewhat viscous approach - one might almost say a divide and rule approach - to the dissemination of the idea as it builds towards a concrete proposal. The outcome has been the paper from John Grimshaw Associates, "A Clevedon and Portishead Greenway Route" (interpreted by some, via the media, as "a done deal"). This paper has taken a cavalier approach to routing, with no form of introductory consultation with those over who's property the route is proposed to pass. On subsequent discussion with those people, an equally cavalier approach seems to have governed re-routing suggestions over someone else's land. Although this may be argued as a way of maturing the paper into a project report, the handling of discussions has infuriated property owners along the route - certainly within this Parish.

There was discussion as to who controls the steering group and who is driving the project; this was, to an extent, answered by the Grimshaw paper showing John Grimshaw as the Route Coordinator and Peter Yates-Round, WelG PC Chair, as Project Chairman. Given proposed highway-based routing amendments through WalG, as presented from this Council, and re-played to the meeting by Cllr Kent, the meeting indicated that it would be more comfortable with a more specific and controlling involvement from NSC. However, protocols at this stage, do not allow of that.

Cllr Kent's work in measuring a roadside route indicated the need for some work on stock proof hedges, particularly between WelG and WalG. It is understood that Cllr Yates-Round and John Grimshaw walked this part of the route recently to assess Cllr Kent's ideas; the route is more functional than one on the other side of the hedge (the WC&P rail-track), but, this Council contends, does seem the one most likely of eliciting progress. The most significant on-going concern for property owners will be maintenance and upkeep of a route, once it is in place - in terms of stock-proofing, litter, vermin control etc. Health and safety issues have made formally run volunteering complicated to administer and run, but, although this formal element of volunteering, by its very formality, has found it harder to attract workers, it still represents the mainstay of such upkeep regimes. In an open session, it was pointed out that, whatever the problems of formal volunteering, informal volunteering was alive and well in Walton-in-Gordano with village cleanups being well supported.

The complexities of routing the cycleway through the centre of the village were raised. Narrow roadways, the need to cross the highway at some point, two-way traffic, the Clevedon-end blind spot approaching Cross Tree; these were acknowledged to be difficult problems to address, maybe by some form of traffic calming, but would be crucial to getting the cycle way through the village in a way that contributed to the increased footfall aspiration.

It was also acknowledged that the attitudes and abuse of a minority of sports cyclists in events routed through the village - an issue addressed by this Council earlier in the year - do little to help a perception of welcome to "cyclists" of whom the sports fraternity are increasingly but a small number, as interest in the activity, for commuting and more sedate forms of leisure, grows.

After a long and constructive discussion, it was felt that "the past is the past", and looking forward, given progress will be via the steering group, membership of that group by Cllrs Kent and Ralston will guide the Parish Council's position and better enable it to be supportive to its electorate in the matter.

Cllr Cannell thanked Frankie Mann and David Fish for their generously given time in attending the meeting and they then departed.

### **3667 STREETS AND OPEN SPACES**

#### **Highways - Mike Brown**

1. **Moor Lane:** Subsidence - Mud & grips. The grips at the open section of Walton Brook in Moor Lane were blocked during recent heavy rains, causing water build up on the highway. Cllr Charlesworth cleared the blockages "with her boot", but noted that delays in getting the grips work done in Moor Lane had led to this problem. **Clerk to report to Mike Brown.**
2. **B3124: Verge overgrowth.** re minute 3552 - no response to e-mail Dec 4th 2012. **Clerk to share via e-mail with Frankie Mann to see what can be done.**
3. **Walton Street-Sunnybank HedgeCutback:** Cllr Ralston awaiting reply from Mike Brown.
4. **Somerset Stones:** Broken lifting eyes; feedback due any day.
5. **Walton Street 20 mph:** rather than 30mph for narrow section. **Clerk still to raise with NSC.**

#### **Matters in Hand**

**Moor Lane Trees** - Natural England contractor to start 7 days work on November 18th.  
**Tipping in rhyme at Cassie's Gate,** Moor Lane. Clerk notified Miles Estate; he and Cllr Kent removed all waste.



**Tipping Permits at recycling centres:** this will not help the fly-tipping problem. People needing to tip larger domestic items can no longer rely on “a friend with a van”. People who, for whatever reason, own a van domestically will now experience waste-disposal problems. Registration appears cumbersome, takes a long time, and appears not to allow for either domestic van owners, or one-off domestic needs. The meeting registered concern about the real effects to ordinary domestic users of what, at face value may have appeared a good, money-saving idea.  
*Clerk to relay those concerns to Cllr Ashton.*

**Cross Tree Junction Flood Signs:** Replaced

**B3124:** Loose gully near Holly Lane sub station now filled in as redundant.

**Walton Street Gully Emptying:** Cross Tree to Rose Bank DONE.

**Fly tipping** 2nd left gateway past Hall. Now completely invisible within undergrowth.

### **Signage**

**Cross Tree Junction:** Finger post repair.

**Horses signs at Cross Tree:** Signage review in hand via Cllr Ashton.

### **Footpaths - Andy Carroll**

**Plumtree Footpath:** Road stile repair/replacement due.

**Cliff Path:** Repairs below CCP - slats rotting - *Clerk to chase.*

### **Walton Brook - Ann-Marie (these matters to be followed up by Clerk during November)**

**Springhead Trash Screen:** There is an outcrop inside this, to be cleared this month.

**Walton Brook - Moor Lane:** Miles Estate scouring and rocky outcrop in roadside. Ann-Marie to tell Clerk timescale & confirm IDB arrangement as ongoing.

**Walton Brook Utility Cables at Church Farm:** believed to belong to BT.

**Additional Pipe at Moor Lane Culvert:** Angle not be too sharp and on-going capacity increased to cope. Details and timetable to follow. Ann-Marie found the residents' knowledge very useful; pipe designers should visit residents to pick up similar input.

**Moor Lane Culvert inspection:** Regular inspections a must. Ann-Marie to respond.

**Brook below Whispering Chimneys -** Anne-Marie to monitor flow and report.

**Somerset Stones at Sunnybank:** Anne-Marie will investigate via design engineer.

### **3668 OTHER MATTERS**

**Council Website:** *Clerk to study comparable sites, and visit Cllr Ralston's offices to progress.*

**Sustainable Communities Act 2007:** Parishes can consult with local people and ask central government (via NSC) to remove legislative or other barriers that prevent them from improving the economic, social and environmental well-being of their area; e.g., provision of local services, increasing involvement in local democracy and improvements in community health. information noted.

### **3669 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

No matters were raised under this heading this month.

### **3670 FINANCE**

**Accounts 2013-14:** Accounts to date, circulated before the meeting, were discussed and noted.

**Cheques:** **662** Church hire £12.00. **663** Audrey Hollingsworth re Information Sheet March - December 2013, £72.50

**Bank Mandate:** Cllr Ralston to visit a Lloyds branch to complete.

***The meeting closed at 9.30 pm***

## **Minutes of the meeting held at St Paul's Church Monday 9th December 2013 at 7.30 pm**

*(The January PC Meeting will be held in the Village Hall. The PC Meeting on Feb 10th will be held in St Paul's Church)*

**Present:** Cllrs Ann Charlesworth (Chair), Richard Kent, Floss Morgan, Mike Ralston

**In Attendance:** Don Hill (Clerk),

**Public Attendance:** Nigel Wilyman, Andy Brellisford

### **3671 APOLOGIES**

Cllr Brian Cannell, Cllr Ashton (NSC), PC Jenny Clarke. Claire Leandro (NSC Liaison)

### **3672 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr Ralston re Sunnybank hedge & Somerset stones, Parsonage Hayes Planning.

Cllr Kent re Gordano Valley Cycle Path, B3124 verges.

### **3673 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

Agreed, and signed by Chairman and Clerk.

### **3674 MATTERS ARISING**

None.

### **3675 EMERGENCY SERVICES, TRAFFIC & TRANSPORT**

**Police:** CPSO Graham Robers has arranged for Speed-watch possibilities at Cross Tree are being investigated by traffic sergeant. Noted in the hope that speed-watch can happen.

### **3676 PLANNING**

**Decision Due:** 13/P/1911/F Parsonage Hayes, barn/shed.

**Enforcement:** Arodene retrospective planning application due.

**Arodene:** Waterlogged path - AM checked but awaiting more significant rains to get a full picture.

### **3677 GORDANO VALLEY CYCLE PATH**

Clerk passed Peter Yates Round, steering group Chair, contact details for Cllrs Kent and Ralston. The next meeting of the Steering Group is January 15th or 16th. The Miles Estate have notified the Steering Group that it will not allow the path to impinge on any of its land: referring them to its land agents, Fowler Fortescue, for future contact. Cllr Kent walked the B3124 from Walton to Weston with John Grimshaw and Weston's Council

Chairman, Peter Yates-Round, to discuss Cllr Kent's ideas for a roadside routing. John Grimshaw produced a proposal for this section, to which Cllr Kent proposed a revision in the light of the Miles Estate decision as above. Existing/Grimshaw/Kent sketches are attached as part of these minutes.

## 3678 STREETS AND OPEN SPACES

### *Highways - Mike Brown*

1. **Moor Lane:** Verge break-up... gets worse.
2. **Moor Lane Mud & grips.** Post Natural England work, grips now urgent. Mike Brown is raising an order for new ones. Clerk asked that open section of brook is included.
3. **Walton Street-Sunnybank Hedge Cutback:** Mike Brown has not returned Cllr Ralston's calls.
4. **Somerset Stones:** Broken lifting eyes; feedback from Paul Smart/Mike Brown now well overdue.

**Recycle-Centre Van Permits:** the Clerk received 2 cogent complaints which have been shared with Cllr Ashton & Adam Wood, together with reminders of this Council's worries and anxiousness for a workable solution.

**Moor Lane Trees** - done by Natural England contractor. The meeting said this work was very well done and asked the Clerk to write to Natural England to express their heartfelt thanks.

**B3124 Verge Overgrowth:** minute 3552; Frankie Mann reviewed and passed back to Mike Brown, with whom the query has been lying for 12 months, unanswered. Contractors are having to clear the verges - at landowners' expense to get at the hedges.

**Walton Street 20 mph:** There is no funding available from the NSC for 20mph zones away from schools. Criteria include transport need, road safety casualty data and speed assessment. Parishes can also be supported but will need to pay for a 20 mph area themselves. Clerk to seek local opinion via January Information Sheet, and to seek feasibility and cost from Frankie Mann. Also to check position re recent national speed limit review and possible 40mph to 30 mph along Coast Road.

### *Signage*

**Cross Tree Junction:** Finger post repair.

**Horses signs at Cross Tree:** Signage review in hand via Cllr Ashton.

### *Footpaths - Andy Carroll*

**Plumtree Footpath:** AC visited tenant farmers. Upper stile ok but to be secured. Road stile needs to be replaced by farmer/Miles Estate. NSC can contribute a stile set but farmer must do work, which is subject to enforcement polices to ensure completion.

**Cliff Path:** Repairs below CCP DONE Clerk to ask for path repair on sea side, where cattle damage occurred.

### *Walton Brook - Ann-Marie*

**Springhead Trash Screen:** Outcrop removed, new screen in place.

**Walton Brook - Moor Lane:** Miles Estate scouring and rocky outcrop; work done by IDB.

**Walton Brook Utility Cables Church Farm:** BT chased. Obstruction now viewed as less critical.

**Additional Pipe at Moor Lane Culvert:** With designers for completion before end March 2014.

**Moor Lane Culvert inspection:** NSC reviewing all smaller culverts to establish an inspection and maintenance regime. Mike Brown will monitor culvert. Issues should be referred to Clerk or NSC.

**Brook below Whispering Chimneys** - Nothing untoward found. Will keep an on-going watch.

**Somerset Stones at Sunnybank:** Repair due via Mike Brown. Present stones were nearest to the original that could be sourced, were specially made and therefore 50 or so were ordered for stock, which must be depleted before any re-order.

### 3679 OTHER MATTERS

**Clevedon Hospital:** The NS Clinical Commissioning Group, based at Castlewood, is researching and consulting on the future of in-patient and out-patient services. In-patient facilities cannot be satisfactorily upgraded on the basis of the existing 18 beds, and there is a suggestion that in-patient facilities be moved elsewhere and the released space used to develop out-patient facilities. Visit [www.northsomersetccg.nhs.uk](http://www.northsomersetccg.nhs.uk) for more information. Meeting noted that these beds are vital, particularly for end-of-life patients who need to be near their loved ones. **Clerk to inform NSCG of the Council's concerns over possible "local" bed losses.**

**Council Website:** Clerk prepared a dummy from which a working website is being prepared for discussion. The "at cost" of £20 per month was agreed for inclusion in the 2014-15 budget. It was noted that some of this cost could be recouped by the provision of dedicated pages to, for example, the Village Hall.

### 3680 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

**Cllr Charlesworth:** Rubble in gateway ditch in Moor Lane

**Cllr Kent:** Poor work or unfinished filled-in B3124 gully? **Clerk to investigate.**

**Cllr Morgan:** Fly-tipping & large dead animals in road - people need to know who to contact to get things removed. This information is on the NSC website, and **Clerk will put NSC telephone & e-mail details in January Information Sheet.**

### 3681 FINANCE

**Accounts 2013-14:** Accounts to date were circulated before the meeting. Noted.

**Cheques:** 664 HMRC re PAYE £79.20. 665 St Paul's Church - re meeting cost £9.00.

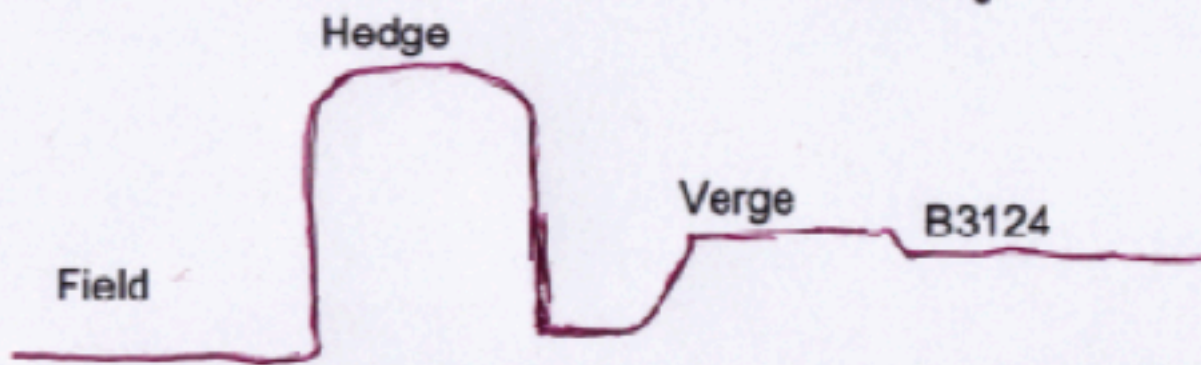
**Bank Mandate:** Cllr Ralston has completed. **Clerk to ensure it is in the Lloyds system.**

**Budget 2014-15:** Request for Social Club 2014 fete marquee donation (£500) - Agreed. £240 for website - Agreed. Clerk to prepare draft for January meeting.

**The meeting closed at 8.45 pm**



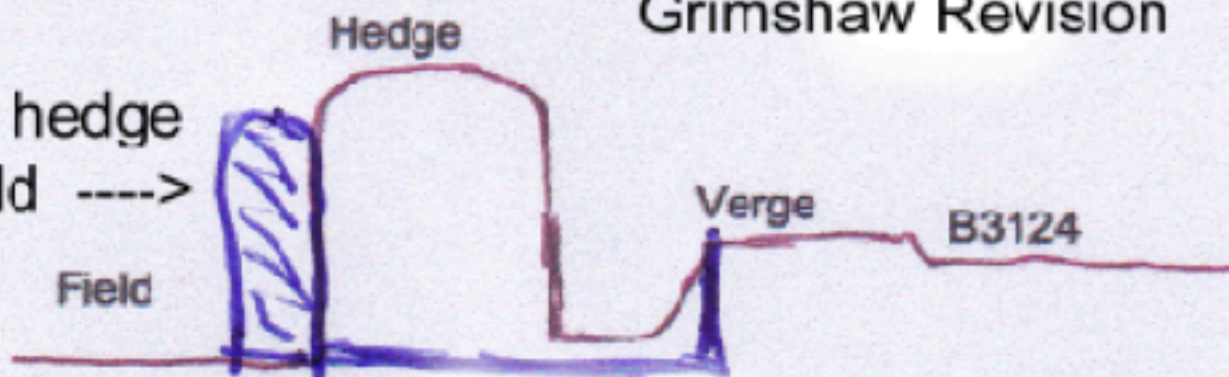
Section looking from Weston to Walton  
Existing



Section looking from Weston to Walton

Grimshaw Revision

New hedge  
in field ----->

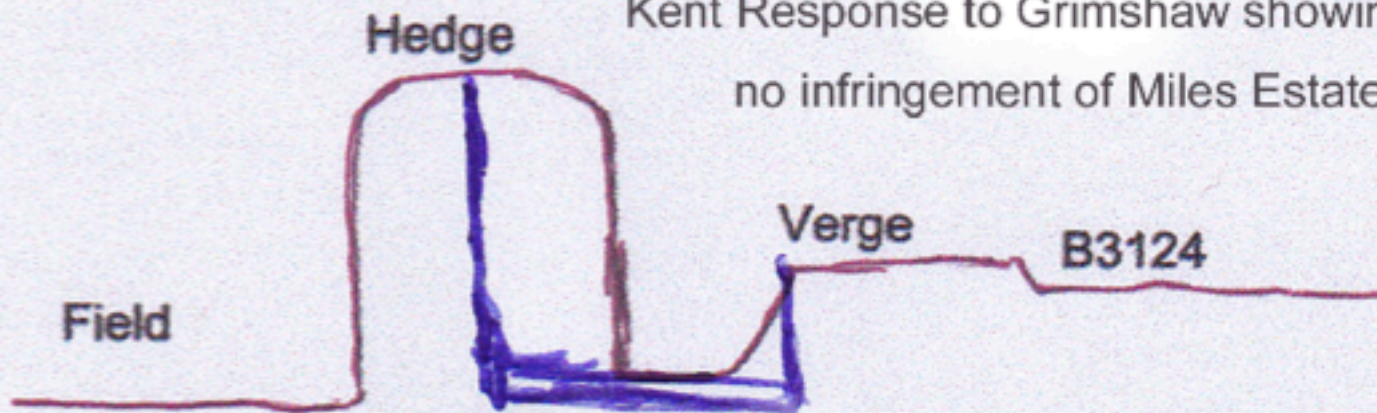


2.5 metre cycle path

Section looking from Weston to Walton

Kent Response to Grimshaw showing

no infringement of Miles Estate property



2 metre wide cycle path



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## WALTON-IN-GORDANO PARISH COUNCIL

Walton-in-Gordano - Walton Down - Walton Bay

Clerk: Donald Hill

18 Mitford Slade Court, Mendip Road, Yatton, Somerset BS49 4JG  
Tel: 01934 835578 Mobile: 07774 125578 e-mail: waigpc@icloud.com

### Minutes of the meeting held at The Village Hall, Monday 13th January 2014, 7.30 pm

**Present:** Cllrs Brian Cannell (Chair), Ann Charlesworth, Richard Kent, Mike Ralston

**In Attendance:** Claire Leandro (NSC Liaison), Don Hill (Clerk),

**Public Attendance:** Nigel Wilyman

#### 3682 APOLOGIES

Cllr Floss Morgan, Cllr Ashton (NSC), PC Jenny Clarke.

#### 3683 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Ralston re Sunnybank hedge & Somerset stones, Parsonage Hayes Planning. Cllr Kent re Gordano Valley Cycle Path, B3124 verges. Walton Common.

**3684 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING** Agreed, and signed by Chairman and Clerk.

**3685 MATTERS ARISING** None.

#### 3686 EMERGENCY SERVICES, TRAFFIC & TRANSPORT

**Police:** A weekend spate of car and garage vandalism prevented police attendance. Clerk has put a warning piece in the February Information Sheet. No reported crime within the Parish.

#### 3687 PLANNING

**Granted: 13/P/2343/NMA:** Taggert House.

**Decision Due: 13/P/1911/F** Parsonage Hayes, barn/shed.

**Enforcement:** Arodene retrospective planning application due.

**Arodene:** Waterlogged path - AM further findings awaited.

#### 3688 STREETS AND OPEN SPACES

##### *Highways - Mike Brown*

**Moor Lane: mud, grips & verges:** Ordered as urgent; open brook section needs including.

**Somerset Stones:** Broken lifting eyes; feedback from Paul Smart/Mike Brown **overdue**.

**Fly tipping:** Moor Lane gateway before 30mph sign - brick waste. Walton Street, gateway opposite Golf Course - black bags and wood offcuts. Reported.

**Fly Tipping:** A note on how to report this to NSC was included in January Information Sheet.

**B3124 Signage:** The left hand Clevedon end entry 30mph sign has slipped down its pole into the hedge. Reported by Clerk.

**B3124 Gully:** what is happening? Queried with Mike Brown.

**Sunnybank Hedge Cutback:** Done.

**Moor Lane Trees:** Clerk thanked Natural England for job well done.

**B3124 Verge Overgrowth:** re minute 3552 - passed back to Mike Brown. Landowners are having to clear the highway verges - at their expense - to get at their hedges for maintenance. Clerk to continue efforts to get an NSC position re these verges, which were originally entered into the minutes as a potential traffic hazard over a year ago.

##### *Signage*

**Cross Tree Junction:** Finger post repair.

**Horses signs at Cross Tree:** Signage review in hand via Cllr Ashton.

**Walton Street 20 mph:** Local opinion via January Information Sheet got 14 (all supportive) responses. Costs awaited from Frankie Mann, also results of national speed limit review. Cllr Ashton has also called for an NSC investigation into the possibility of a Walton Street 20mph zone.

**Footpaths - Andy Carroll**

**Plumtree Footpath:** Stiles repaired.

**Cliff Path:** Repairs below CCP DONE Clerk has asked for path repair on sea side at CCP.

**Walton Common:** Concern has been raised in the Parish about the erection of fencing and the demand that dogs must be on a lead. Access rights were discussed, as was the position of householders with grazing rights and Parish recreational rights. It is understood that the Common managers - Avon Wildlife - plan to repair and re-constitute the boundary fence around the Common and to put cattle up there to aid rejuvenation of the land which has become so woefully out of condition during their stewardship. Clerk has an enquiry out to NSC's Andy Carroll for comment and will contact Dave Horlick – volunteer warden at [david.horlick@btinternet.com](mailto:david.horlick@btinternet.com) for more details of what is planned: he will also glean whatever updates to historical rights that might be relevant.

**Walton Brook - Ann-Marie**

**Additional Pipe at Moor Lane Culvert:** Completion due before end March 2014. Designers have not yet contacted residents. Clerk to follow up as March is nearly here.

**Moor Lane Culvert inspection:** Mike Brown to monitor pending new inspection and maintenance regime.

**Somerset Stones at Sunnybank:** Repair due via Mike Brown.

**Moor Lane Commission Bridge:** Flow appeared blocked by dam of brambles and undergrowth. Simon Clarke of Natural England looked at the problem, did some clearance, and reported subsequent flow as ok.

**Moor Lane Brook Open Section:** highway-edge sandbags, used in repairs during the 2010 work, collapsed into the brook; they were removed by Richard Talbot; the site needs assessment re what remedial action is needed. Reported to Ann-Marie, who has passed to the person responsible in NSC.

**3689 OTHER MATTERS**

**Clevedon Hospital:** Council expressed, to NSCG, concern over possible “local” bed losses.

**Website:** Clerk preparing draft Parish Council pages for site. Start date, April. Cllr Ralston suggested a piece in February Information Sheet, introducing the site and inviting contributions/page additions from interest groups. Clerk to progress.

**3690 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

**Village Hall Parking:** Clerk asked to remind Dog Trainers that their customers must not park close to the B3124 in Moor Lane as, not only does it contravene traffic regulations, but it presents access difficulties for larger vehicle and for Home Farm Cottage.

**Walton Street Road surface:** this is breaking up through the narrow section between the Manor House and Myrtle Cottage.

**Possible Drainage Activity Opposite Golf Course:** Clerk undertook to double-check.

**3691 FINANCE**

**Accounts 2013-14:** Accounts to date circulated before the meeting, reviewed and noted.

**Bank Mandate:** Cllr Ralston put mandate in at Clifton Triangle, but his name still not on. Maureen Rutley still is. Clerk has new form to complete, for signature outside the meeting.

**Budget 2014-15:** The draft was discussed. There is now a central government “cap” of +2%, beyond which, a local referendum is needed before a budget can be approved. Cllr Ralston has organised for a Parish website to go live on April 1st per the last meeting; the £240

annual cost fitted within the draft budget because a small amount was taken from the Parish's standard carry-forward provision of £1500. The draft budget froze the Clerk's salary at £1584: but the meeting unanimously increased it by £30. **Clerk to revise the budget in light of the discussion - done as below).**

	<b>2014-15 Budget</b>	<b>2013-14 Estimate</b>	<b>2012-13 Actual</b>
Clerk's Salary	£1614	£1584	£1560
Meeting Room Hire	£102	£102	£90
Public Light	£50	£50	£48
Cllr/Clerk Expenses	£315	£315	£315
Insurance	£230	£212	£265
Audit	£0	£0	£60
Subscriptions	£60	£51	£29
Donations	£500	£500	£500
Information Sheet	£100	£105	£93
Website	£240	£0	£0
Other Expenses	£32	£0	£0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£3243</b>	<b>£2919</b>	<b>£2960</b>
less prov'n from budget c/f amount	£127 <i>(corrected from £263 (leaving budget c/f of £1500)</i>	£243	£475
less Council Tax Supplement	£100	£124	<i>£1500</i> <i>£1500</i>
<b>Precept</b>	<b>£3016</b> <i>(revised from £2880)</i>	<b>£2552</b>	<b>£2485</b>

*The Council Tax Supplement, which was also applied in the 2013-14 year, was included in "the precept of £2676". It has been separated out above so that the 2014-15 precept now provides a like-for-like comparison, with the 2013-14 precept.*

Historically, the Parish has precepted for exceptional costs, for example election or noticeboard costs - or the website - in total, during the year in which they occur and written capital purchases down to £1 upon acquisition. It may prove necessary to develop future budgets on a more traditional basis, to include planned - annualised - provision for capital replacement. **The Clerk had prepared an example of how this might work, and will consult with NSC's Pete Sloman. He will also find out from NSC's Mike Jones, how a precept referendum would work and what it would cost.**

**Cheques: 666 Village Hall Hire £9.00**

***The meeting closed at 9.00 pm***

## **Minutes of the meeting held at St Paul's Church Monday 10th February 2014, 7.30 pm**

**Present:** Cllrs Brian Cannell (Chair), Ann Charlesworth, Richard Kent, Floss Morgan, Mike Ralston

**In Attendance:** PCSO Julie Lewis, Don Hill (Clerk)

**Public Attendance:** Nigel Wilyman, Kevin & Emma Edwards, Sara Talbot, John, Brenda, & Rachel Dickinson

**3692 APOLOGIES:** Claire Leandro (NSC Liaison), Cllr Ashton (NSC)

**3693 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** Cllr Kent, re the Gordano Greenway Minute 3700 as a tenant farmer over part of the proposed route.

**3694 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING** Agreed, and signed by Chairman and Clerk.

**3695 MATTERS ARISING** None.

### **3696 EMERGENCY SERVICES, TRAFFIC & TRANSPORT**

**Police: Speedwatch:** Efforts by PCSO Graham Roberts to get this set up, have stalled, for the old sight-line reasons.

**Crime:** there was a burglary of jewellery at Walton Bay Park this past weekend - investigations are ongoing. Following recent problems in Portishead and Clevedon, there have been problems in Wrington, Congresbury and Backwell. Neighbourhood Watch alerts are circulated, and the home and property security warning, as mentioned in the February Information Sheet, is stressed whenever possible. There has been no activity on the Farmwatch Scheme recently.

### **3697 PLANNING**

**New: 14/P/0143/WT** The Manor, tree work. No objections. Clerk to so inform NSC Planning.

**Decision Due: 13/P/1911/F** Parsonage Hayes, barn/shed.

**Enforcement:** Case 2013/0235 - Arodene; retrospective planning application still not submitted.

**Arodene:** Waterlogged path - AM further findings awaited via NSC Enforcement officers.

### **3698 STREETS AND OPEN SPACES**

**Highways - Mike Brown (Clerk met Mike for a tour of the Parish on Monday 3rd February)**

**Moor Lane: Grips** This work is due.



**Moor Lane Verge:** this has opened out and become less critical; it will be kept under observation.

**B3124 Verge Overgrowth:** Where a property owner's boundary access is inhibited by NSC not clearing the full width of a highway verge, the owner should contact NSC to get the rest cleared. Although this is not "in writing" Cllr Kent understood it to be correct in theory, even if the act of clearance was not promised within "a reasonable timetable" and "without persistent follow-up".

**B3124 Signage:** The left hand Clevedon end entry 30mph Mike to get this re-fitted. The meeting regarded this as important from a road safety point of view and instructed the Clerk to ensure it happens URGENTLY.

**Walton Street Road surface:** The Coast Road, Cross Tree to the Ship is having potholes and loose areas repaired. A bad hole outside Highcliffe was circled for a same-day repair, and has been done.

**B3124 Gully:** This was expected to be done in week beginning 10th Feb. Clerk to monitor.

**Fly Tipping:** Cleared. New tipping opposite Signal Station was ordered for clearance during Parish tour.

**Somerset Stones:** Broken lifting eyes; These are not used for lifting and not perceived of as a danger to road users; stones will not, therefore, be renewed at present. If reports are received of specific stones causing a problem, they will be passed to NSC for specific attention.

**Somerset Stones at Sunnybank:** These stones do not warrant repair as the gaps in-between are minimal and infill would not hold. The bevels are to stop the edges being so prone to chipping. They are deemed currently safe. Again, those effected will keep an eye out and report any problems to the Clerk.

### **Signage**

**Cross Tree Junction:** Finger post repair.

**Horses signs at Cross Tree:** Signage review in hand via Cllr Ashton. Clerk to seek progress report.

**Walton Street 20 mph:** Outcome of NSC review awaited. Clerk to follow up.

### **Footpaths - Andy Carroll**

**Cliff Path:** Repairs below Coast Caravan Park DONE.

**Walton Common:** Andy Carroll, of NSC footpaths, briefed the Clerk based on their mapping information. The Clerk then posted the following in the February Information Sheet

*There have been concerns that Avon Wildlife are to fence off areas of the Common. The legal position with Walton Common is that it is recorded as Access Land and Registered Common. The public have a right of Access but under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, a person who takes a dog on to "access land" is required to keep it on a short lead between 1 March and 31 July and at any time that it is in the vicinity of livestock on such land. It is believed that Avon Wildlife plan to repair an old perimeter fence that surrounded the common and to put cattle up there to aid "repair" of the land which has, during their tenure, fallen into a poor state. Information of the Avon Wildlife plans is emerging and any significant new information will be published here.*

Chris Giles, Head of Land Management at Avon Wildlife Trust rung the Clerk and talked through their hopes for the Common, which are broadly in line with the above paragraph - with water coming up from the Weston side of the Common.

The meeting was opened to discussion of the matter. Workers have been seen wandering around private property, and explained themselves with distinctly casual, un-briefed, explanations of why they were so doing. Notwithstanding the legalities of whether this site is legally "A Common" (beyond the acknowledged rights of the Parish and certain property occupiers), or a piece of open access land that is different from "A Common", Sara Talbot

has undertaken considerable research into what are the responsibilities and best practice obligations of managers such as Avon Wildlife Trust when they are proposing such works as those described above. Communication from Avon Wildlife Trust on “what is going on” has been appalling. It was suggested that Chris Giles, Head of Land Management at the Trust, might be asked to attend a meeting - Council, Annual Parish, or Public - to outline their plans and gain input from those using Walton Common. **The Chairman agreed to give thought, outside the meeting, as to how this might be best handled.**

### **Walton Brook - Ann-Marie**

**Additional Pipe at Moor Lane Culvert:** Completion April 2014. Clerk understood NSC's Brian Adams spoke with Nigel Wyliman at Rivendell. Nigel, whilst realising that the optimum piping solution was not affordable, understood that a 6' pipe was planned to be put in by a team who would not be working to a plan. **This was deemed to be, at best a haphazard approach to what is, for Moor Lane residents, a critical piece of work. It was also felt that, notwithstanding the physical limitations imposed by the levels at the entry and exit points of the pipe, something larger than a 6' pipe would be possible, and needed, to complete what was otherwise such an excellently executed piece of engineering work in 2010.**

**Moor Lane Culvert Inspection:** Mike Brown not being aware of the interim monitoring responsibility that was reportedly passed to him was cause for alarm. Residents need to be assured that an adequate and timely inspection regime is in place. **Clerk to establish the truth of what is intended by NSC.**

**Moor Lane Brook Open Section:** Post last month's report, yet more sand bags have fallen into the brook and been removed by residents to protect water flow. **Clerk is seeking the name of the responsible NSC engineer to establish a repair timetable.**

The meeting was extremely exercised by the three matters raised under this Walton Book heading. After the huge competence shown by Anne-Marie Wood in the matter, it was felt she has not been backed up by those responsible for moving these items forward. Maybe something is happening, maybe nothing is happening - the meeting felt that, at best, there has been a serious lack of communication from NSC engineers to the Parish about what that something or nothing is. **The Clerk was instructed to press - at the highest levels - for communication and action to get these three matters resolved and to get those responsible to attend the March 10th Parish Council meeting to update members personally on the what,when, how - and risk management aspects - of completing these works within the end-of-March timeframe.**

### **3699 OTHER MATTERS**

**Website:** Clerk preparing draft Parish Council pages for site. Start date, April. A piece went in the February Information Sheet, introducing the site and inviting contributions/page additions from interest groups; no feedback at Feb 7th; this may follow more naturally once the site is up and running. **Clerk to progress.**

**The Annual Parish Meeting:** In discussing various elements of this agenda, it was apparent that certain topics are key concerns to residents - the Speed Limits, Drainage, Walton Common, the Gordano Greenway (Cycle Path). **The Clerk will prepare an entry for the March Information Sheet calling for ideas on what of these - or other - matters might be included for specific discussion at the May 12th Annual Parish Meeting; and subsequently invite appropriate persons to attend and to contribute to that meeting.**

**Village Hall, Moor Lane Parking:** Clerk asked Bob Baldwin to remind dog trainers about their customers parking too close to the B3124.

**Possible Drainage Activity:** In field opposite the golf course - upon closer inspection, this appears to be a piece land drainage work.

### 3700 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

**Cllr Morgan:** Along the Cliff Path, (outside no. 6/7 of Barton Homes?) sewage appears and smells to be seeping onto the pathway. **Clerk to report to Andy Carroll for follow-up.**

**Cllrs Ralston & Kent:** attended the first meeting go the Gordano Greenway Steering Group.

**Cllr Ralston** sensed from the meeting that, as reported in earlier minutes, of all the stakeholders involved in the project, it was those of Walton-in-Gordano who were felt to be opposed to the project, which he is finding, both among other - non-private land-owning - stakeholders, and "the public", to be hugely popular. The history of the Parish's involvement is well documented: the meeting felt that the minutes of this Council are evidence both of its enthusiasm for the project in principle, and of its determination - spearheaded by Cllr Kent, one of those who, potentially has most to be concerned about in relation to its passage through the Parish - to develop realistic alternatives for a route through the Parish. The communication problems/divide and rule tactics that launched the project to this Parish are history - we move forward. Cllr Ralston also raised a cogent point: presuming that the Greenway will have to pass through the pinch point that is the Village - plagued for years by speeding traffic and without a traffic calming solution to resolve it - it may be that a real traffic calming solution will be put in place by the needs of the Greenway.

**Cllr Kent** noted that the Greenway will require a width of 4.5 metres - about the width of a traffic lane - on its passage through the Parish. As a road widening project, this would have to go through hugely complex hoops of planning consultation and protest. His proposals to use the verges of the B3124 are do-able and can, with NSC cooperation, be speedily implemented. The hint of compulsory purchase, indicated in the meeting minutes as the ultimate weapon, would take years of wrangling and ill-feeling before it gave the project the space in which to develop. The "direct" route fits well with the needs of the main perceived users - commuters and school traffic - who want to get from a-to-b speedily and easily. The less direct alternatives may appeal to leisure traffic, but may lead to commuters still using the B3124 - thus obviating a core argument in favour of the project.

The meeting thanked the Councillor's for their updates.

### 3701 FINANCE

**Accounts 2013-14:** Accounts were circulated before the meeting and included the final figure work and precept details for the 2014-15 budget as presented in the January minutes.

**Bank Mandate:** Cllr Ralston on, Maureen Rutley off. Form authorised by two Cllr signatures and passed to Cllr Ralston to present at a Lloyds Bank branch.

**Bank Standing Orders:** a revised order relating to the Clerks pay and a new order relating to monthly payments of PAYE to HMRC (now required to be made electronically), were authorised by two Cllrs signatures.

**Cheques:** 667 A Hollingsworth, Jan-Mar Information Sheets £27.00 668 St Paul's Church re PC Meeting Costs £12.00

**Precepts and Referenda:** Future budgets on a more traditional basis, to include planned - annualised - provision for capital replacement to be discussed with Pete Sloman And Referenda with Mike Jones. **Clerk to progress.**

**The meeting closed at 9.20 pm**

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## WALTON-IN-GORDANO PARISH COUNCIL

Walton-in-Gordano - Walton Down - Walton Bay

Clerk: Donald Hill

18 Mitford Slade Court, Mendip Road, Yatton, Somerset BS49 4JG  
Tel: 01934 835578 Mobile: 07774 125578 e-mail: waigpc@icloud.com

### Minutes of the meeting held at Walton-in-Gordano Village Hall Monday 10th March 2014, 7.30 pm

*next minute 3712*

**Present:** Cllrs Brian Cannell (Chair), Ann Charlesworth, Floss Morgan, Mike Ralston

**In Attendance:** Claire Leandro (NSC Liaison), Don Hill (Clerk)

**Public Attendance:** Nigel Wilyman, Kevin Edwards, Richard & Sara Talbot, Alison Stott

**3702 APOLOGIES:** Cllr Richard Kent, Cllr Ashton (NSC) PC Clarke

**3703 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None

**3704 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING** Agreed, and signed by Chairman and Clerk.

**3705 MATTERS ARISING** None.

#### **3706 EMERGENCY SERVICES, TRAFFIC & TRANSPORT**

**Police:** No crime reported in the Parish. Burglaries showing evidence of more professional planning occurred - one in Portbury and one in Portishead.

#### **3707 PLANNING**

**Decision Due: 13/P/1911/F** Parsonage Hayes, barn/shed. Still no news - Clerk has e-mailed Tom French for an update.

**Granted: 14/P/0143/WT** The Manor, tree work.

**Enforcement:** Case 2013/0235 - Arodene; retrospective; NSC's Tom Isbell handling.

**Arodene:** Waterlogged path - AM further findings awaited via NSC Enforcement officers.

#### **3708 STREETS AND OPEN SPACES**

##### **Highways - Mike Brown**

**Moor Lane: Grips** This work is due.

**The Coast Road:** potholes and loose areas due to be repaired.

**B3124 Signage:** New 30mph sign has been ordered.

**B3124 Gully:** Paul Smart is chasing for a work date.

**Fly Tipping:** Tipping opposite Signal Station. Cleared, although Cllr Cannell reported some brushwood had now appeared.

##### **Signage**

**Cross Tree Junction:** Finger post repair.

**Horses signs at Cross Tree:** Signs ordered.

**Walton Street 20 mph:** Cllr Ralston & Clerk/Frankie Mann/Paul Watkins meeting in Walton Street on April 2nd at 10.30.



### **Footpaths - Andy Carroll**

**Cliff Path:** Andy Carroll has inspected. There had been a leak at No 7, but there is no evidence of seepage onto the footpath. A trickle near No 2 is water runoff from higher ground. Cllr Morgan confirmed that sewage repairs were in hand, but will keep a watchful eye to ensure that no future seepage occurs.

### **Walton Brook - Ann-Marie**

**Additional Pipe at Moor Lane Culvert:** Brian Adams met Nigel Wyliman/'phoned Clerk, and explained his plan for 2 x 450mm pipes. Work to start on March 17th and, with a road closure needed, of course, should take about 2 days. The damaged concrete sandbags in the open section will be repaired at the same time.

**Moor Lane Culvert Inspection:** Clerk to seek clarification of procedures once new culvert work completed.

### **3709 OTHER MATTERS**

**Website:** No feedback from Information Sheet. Cllr Ralston gave Clerk some print-outs of WeIG web and Facebook sites. Clerk progressing.

**The May 2013 Annual Parish Meeting:** One response from March Information Sheet, from Emma Edwards, asking for John Grimshaw to come to APM re the Cycle Way. Emma had also previously suggested that Avon Wildlife Trust's Chris Giles be asked to talk about the plans for Walton Common. After some detailed discussion, it was agreed that the Cycle Way proposal was not yet at a stage for such a session. The 1st Project meeting was led by NSC at Castlewood: ideally, NSC will also lead a presentation in the Parish. When the time proves appropriate (possibly in Autumn 2014?), the Parish Council will approach NSC via its representatives on the Project Group. Chris Giles if he could attend the APM, could outline Avon Wildlife Trust Plans for Walton Common, as well as explaining their wider role within the Gordano Valley. Clerk to contact Chris Giles to arrange, if possible.

**NSC Ward Revisions:** Revised draft recommendations propose keeping EIG with Pill and joining Gordano with Wraxall Backwell and Flax Bourton. These proposals were discussed and noted.

### **3710 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

**Cllr Ralston** - High Speed Broadband - asked what plans there were for this. Clerk to provide web address of Connecting Devon & Somerset, the lead information authority.

### **3711 FINANCE**

**Accounts 2013-14:** Accounts to date circulated prior to the meeting, reviewed and noted.

**Bank Mandate:** Cllr Ralston to present to Lloyds.

**Cheques:** 669 HRC re PAYE £79.20 670 Village Hall re Meeting Costs £6.00

**Precepts and Referenda:** Future budgets on a more traditional basis, to include planned - annualised - provision for capital replacement: Clerk still to discuss with Pete Sloman. Referenda with Mike Jones.

**The meeting closed at 8.20 pm**