

Councillors are Summoned to Meeting in the Village Hall at 7pm on Monday September 8th 2025

Nigel Ashton, Gordano Valley Ward Cllr attends when possible

Members of the public may talk with Councillors before or after the meeting.

Residents may submit agenda items to the Clerk by the Wednesday before the meeting at which the item will appear.

Where appropriate, the Chair may suspend Standing Orders to allow residents to contribute to the discussion of an agenda item.

Don Hill - Clerk

Agenda & Agenda Notes

There is a Councillor vacancy - please contact a Councillor or the Clerk if you are interested in becoming involved

Before each meeting Clerk & Chair will Exchange back up disks

1. **APOLOGIES**
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** (Dispensations apply to Cllrs re the setting of the precept, and to Village Hall matters)
3. **LAST MEETING MINUTES**
Minutes of the last meeting on June 9th to be agreed and signed. *(There was no meeting in July)*
4. **PLANNING** *(The NSC website has full details. Applications notified on the meeting day will also be considered)*
 - i. **New:**
 - ii. **Decision Due: 25/P/1198/LBC 2** Manor Cottages temporary removal of listed boundary wall to allow access for building works - to ratify.
 - iii. **Other for information: 25/P/1311/TEN - 25/P/1312/TEN** - Two notifications from Open Reach that they are putting up two telephone poles to carry broadband equipment; one opposite Beckside in Moor Lane, and one in Walton Street on the boundary of Springhead Cottage and Taggart House in Walton Street.
 - iv. **Approved: 25/P/1079/TRCA** Manor House tree work - non-objection to ratify.
5. **PARISH MATTERS**
 - i. **Parish Maintenance:** Hourly rate and protocols for agreeing and paying associated expenses to be agreed with eventual contractor.
 - ii. **Walton Bay Bus Stop erosion:** Still no feedback from NSC.
 - iii. **Highway Signage:** B3124 derestriction sign to Clevedon: 20mph sign at Walton Street/B3124 junction REPAIRED; sign outside Brookside Cottage in Moor Lane repaired?
 - iv. Defibrillator - **Cllr Dickinson will liaise with the Clerk re payment of the service charges.**
 - v. **Drainage pipe from the Coast Road to Walton Bay:** appears to be damaged and taking in sewage. **Cllr Wherrett reporting this to NSC.**
 - vi. **Traffic Along Coast Road:** Advice re reduced speed limit is being sought from NSC by Cllr Wherrett via Ward Councillor Cllr Ashton.
 - vii. **Police Data Collection Box (DCB):** This collects number recognition data leading to direct prosecutions. In terms of motorists exceeding the speed limit and by what mph, the police report that Walton is not significant in terms of some 500 sites that are demanding this sort of police enforcement.
 - viii. **Public Session:** The wording in red at the head of this agenda is per June Minute 045/25viii and is subject to amendment as needed.

- ix. **Blocked Gullies from Springhead to the Cross Tree:** Reported to NSC, via the Council's online account, to their drainage/gully reporting team. On Tuesday May 20th.
- x. **Hedge cutting along B3124:**
- xi. **Faded Road Markings at Walton Street/B3124 junction:** This work has been completed.

6. **COUNCILLORS REPORTS**

7. **FINANCE**

viii. **2025-26 Accounts to date:** to be reviewed and reconciled with the bank statement.

ix. **Payments to be Authorised:**

8. **GOVERNANCE**

i. **Preparing for Assertion 10:** (AGAR 2025/26)

ii. **Community Governance Review** NSC's 2nd consultation.

9. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday October 13th 2025

Minutes of the Meeting Held on Monday 9th June 2025

Meetings are held at 7.00pm in the Village Hall unless stated otherwise - Nigel Ashton, Gordano Valley Ward Cllr, attends when possible

There is a vacancy for a Councillor - contact a Councillor or the Clerk if you would like to apply

Present: Cllrs Brian Cannell (Chair), Rachel Dickinson, Claire Flower

In Attendance: Don Hill (Clerk)

Public Attendance: 1

042/25 APOLOGIES

Cllr Dave Wherrett, NSC Ward Cllr Nigel Ashton

043/25 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST *(Dispensations apply to Cllrs re the setting of the precept, and to Village Hall matters)*

Cllr Flower: Under Minute 047/25 the matter of a Village Hall car park cropped up incidentally. Cllr Flower manages the land on which such a car park would be located.

044/25 LAST MEETING MINUTES + MATTERS ARISING

- i. **Annual and Ordinary Council meeting** The May 12th minutes were agreed and signed.
- ii. **Annual Parish Meeting** The May 12th draft minutes were emailed to all meeting attendees for their approval as a true record. They were reviewed here as such and signed by The Chair.

045/25 PLANNING *(The NSC website has full details. Applications notified on the meeting day will also be considered)*

- i. **New:** None
- ii. **Refused:** 25/P/0428/AOC: 2 Manor Cottages - Works Management plan.

046/25 PARISH MATTERS

- i. **Parish Maintenance:** Hourly rate of £20 was mentioned in the context of a 'public service' involvement). Protocols for agreeing and paying associated expenses to be agreed with eventual contractor. The Work Schedule was reviewed and agreed as a document that will need to be adjusted and updated in the light of experience.
- ii. **Walton Bay Bus Stop erosion:** Still no feedback from NSC.
- iii. **Highway Signage:** B3124 derestriction sign to Clevedon: 20mph sign at Walton Street/B3124 junction; sign outside Brookside Cottage in Moor Lane. All three with NSC but not yet timetable for repair.
- iv. Defibrillator - **Cllr Dickinson will liaise with the Clerk re payment of the service charges.**
- v. **Drainage pipe from the Coast Road to Walton Bay:** appears to be damaged and taking in sewage. **Cllr Wherrett reporting this to NSC.**
- vi. **Traffic Along Coast Road:** The imposition of a reduced speed limit is prevented by national guidelines. Cllr Wherrett contacted the responsible NSC officer and was referred to his Ward Councillor. Cllr Ashton is in contact with NSC officers on our behalf.
- vii. **Police Data Collection Box (DCB): Clerk to contact the police about the use of a DCB.**
- viii. **Public Session:** The Council was asked to consider adopting a public session before the commencement of each of its meetings. The hope would be that it would increase public attendance and lead to more resident involvement in the work of the Council. Within the provisions of Standing Orders the session would be 15 minutes, with no contribution being being of more than three minutes and each contribution being related to an agenda item. It was suggested that contributions could be submitted to the Clerk for inclusion some days before the meeting (a common feature in some larger parishes).

Public attendance at meetings has been a burning issue among parish councils, who are always seeking ways to improve it. The practice of this Council over very many years has been that public attendance is welcome, and that discussions with Councillors can take place before and after the meeting. This opportunity is mentioned at the head of every meeting agenda. Two crucial aspects of existing practice were identified as being not publicised: that of involving residents in discussion by suspending standing orders at points in the agenda where their contributions can be made and discussed, and that of considering the inclusion of items on the agenda that have been suggested to Councillors or the Clerk by residents.

Critical to either view of the Public Session debate is the existence for decades of the Parish Council's monthly information sheet, which has been delivered to every household in the Parish and is now put out as a full monthly newsletter called The Cross Tree Chronicle. The Parish Council has always contributed to these publications and now does so by including a summary of Council meeting minutes. This, together with the lively range of interest groups and activities that are the core of Parish life and are also reported in the Chronicle, means that the Parish Council functions within a Community that is far from being 'inert'.

Discussion around ways in which public involvement might be developed resolved into a decision that the hitherto unpublicised elements of the Council's existing procedures should be explained and headlined within its publicity - ie the opportunity of public involvement during meetings and the ability of residents to contribute agenda items to meetings. **The Clerk was asked to progress this unanimous decision.**

- ix. **Blocked Gullies from Springhead to the Cross Tree:** Reported to NSC, via the Council's online account, to their drainage/gully reporting team. On Tuesday May 20th.

047/25 COUNCILLORS REPORTS

Cllr Dickinson

The Village Hall Committee of Management will hold a meeting at 7.30pm on June 17th and, as the Council's representative Cllr Dickinson asked if there were any matters Members wished to raise. Whilst there were no specific issues raised, it was noted with bafflement that, after decades of struggle, the possibility of there being a Village Hall car park seems to have stalled.

Cllr Cannell

Vexatious Behaviour Order: this will continue in the light of further pestilent communications from the subject of the order. Cllr Cannell reported that the order was due to be renewed at the end of June. The meeting noted this with a degree of regret that it was so clearly necessary.

048/25 FINANCE

- i. **2024-25 Accounts:** Posted to website
- ii. **2025-26 Accounts to date:** reviewed and reconciled with the bank statement.
- iii. **Payment Authorised:** Cllr Cannell re transport for Clerk Apr/May/Jun per minute 008/25 iv (C): £35.10.

049/25 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday September 8th 2025 - *Note: There will be no meetings in July or August*

The meeting closed at 8.20pm

WALTON-IN-GORDANO PARISH COUNCIL INCOME & EXPENDITURE: 1st April 2025 - 31st March 2026 (Precept £9390)

DATE	BANK (run via deposit account)					GENERAL FUND EXPENSE ANALYSIS												OPERATING FUNDS					
2025	ITEM	CH	IN	OUT	BALANCE	Stmnt	NOTES	Clerk	Clk/Cllr	Hall	Public	Ins/Subs	Parish	Other	Web	Bank	TOTALS	VAT	Election	Capital	General	Total Op	
-2026									Exp	Hire	Light	Audit	Maint	Costs	site	Charge			Pro	Prov	Fund	Funds	
Apr 1	Funds Bought Forward				15,574.39														2335.24	6400.00	6429.81	15165.05	
	Less bal on Treasurer's a/c				500.00																500.00	500.00	
																						0.00	
	OPERATING BAL B/F				15,074.39	Apr													2,335.24	5,000.00	7,739.15	15074.39	
Apr 14	Clerks Pay & Expenses	SO		241.20	14,833.19	Apr		215.00	26.20								241.20				241.20		
	ALCA	BACS		115.16	14,718.03	Apr						115.16					115.16				115.16		
	Bank Charges			4.25	14,713.78	Apr										4.25	4.25				4.25		
	WME re Street Light Feb	DD		15.71	14,698.07	Apr					15.71						15.71	2.62			15.71		
	Precept 1st Half		4695.00		19,393.07	Apr											0.00		200.00	1,000.00	3,495.00		
	Interest		12.43		19,405.50	Apr											0.00				12.43		
	HMRC Jan/Feb/Mar 2025 Prior Yr	DD		153.60	19,251.90	Apr	Agrees	153.60									153.60				153.60		
					19,251.90												0.00				0.00		
May 12	Clerks Pay & Expenses	SO		241.20	19,010.70	May		215.00	26.20								241.20				241.20		
	Hall Hire for year	BACS		144.00	18,866.70	May				144.00							144.00				144.00		
	WME re Street Light Mar	DD		16.79	18,849.91	May					16.79						16.79	2.80			16.79		
	Bank Charges			4.25	18,845.66	May										4.25	4.25				4.25		
	P Smith - Internal Audit	BACS		63.00	18,782.66	May						63.00					63.00				63.00		
	Interest		13.17		18,795.83	May											0.00				13.17		
	Zurich Insurance	BACS		264.00	18,531.83	May	Agrees					264.00					264.00				264.00		
					18,531.83	Jun											0.00				0.00		
Jun 9	Clerks Pay & Expenses	SO		241.20	18,290.63	Jun		215.00	26.20								241.20				241.20		
	WME re Street Light Apr	DD		36.97	18,253.66	Jun					36.97						36.97	6.16			36.97		
	Bank Charges			4.25	18,249.41	Jun										4.25	4.25				4.25		
	Interest		12.43		18,261.84	Jun											0.00				12.43		
	B Cannell Exp re Clerk's Travel	BACS		35.10	18,226.74	Jun	Agrees		35.10								35.10				35.10		
					18,226.74	Jul											0.00				0.00		
Jul 14	Clerks Pay & Expenses	SO		241.20	17,985.54	Jul		215.00	26.20								241.20				241.20		
	WME re Street Light May	DD		37.93	17,947.61	Jul					37.93						37.93	6.62			37.93		
	Interest		10.52		17,958.13	Jul											0.00				10.52		
	HMRC re PAYE Apr/May/Jun	DD		161.20	17,796.93	Jul		161.20									161.20				161.20		
	Bank Charges			4.25	17,792.68	Jul	Agrees									4.25	4.25				4.25		
					17,792.68												0.00				0.00		
Aug 1	Clerks Pay & Expenses	SO		241.20	17,551.48	RT		215.00	26.20								241.20				241.20		
	WME re Street Light Jun	DD		36.52	17,514.96	RT					36.52						36.52	6.09			36.52		
	Bank Charges			4.25	17,510.71	RT										4.25	4.25				4.25		
	Interest		11.33		17,522.04	RT	Agrees										0.00				11.33		
					17,522.04												0.00				0.00		
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RT in Statement Column = Recent Transaction checked online rather than via statement

Monthly bank charges were imposed by the bank after the budget was set.