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**WALTON-IN-GORDANO PARISH COUNCIL**

Walton-in-Gordano - Walton Down - Walton Bay

**Clerk: Donald Hill**

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## Minutes of the Meeting Held on Monday 14th October 2024

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

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

**In Attendance:** NSC Cllr Nigel Ashton, Don Hill (Clerk)

**Public Attendance:** 1

**066/24 APOLOGIES**

Cllr Dave Wherrett

**067/24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** (Dispensations apply to Cllrs re the setting of the precept, and to Village Hall matters)

Cllr Flower re Minute 071/24

**068/24 LAST MEETING MINUTES + MATTERS ARISING**

Meeting minutes of September 9th were agreed and signed.

**069/24 PLANNING** (The NSC website has full details. Applications notified on the meeting day will also be considered)

**New:** None

**Decisions Due:** None

**Approved:** 24/P/0960/LBC / 24/P/0959/FUH: 2 Manor Cottages development. 24/P/1645/LBL Manor House Repairs. 24/P/1756/TRCA Tree reduction 2 Sandstone Cottages.

**Appeal Dismissed:** 24/00020/AT02 Conygar Quarry (Clevedon TC).

**070/24 PARISH MATTERS**

i. **Street Light:** Erection of new light due - no date yet.

ii. **Traffic Speed Issues:** Cllr Flower progressing.

iii. **Village Notice Board:** Cllr Cannell progressing.

iv. **Parish Maintenance:** Clerk working on contractor work schedule and insurance issues.

v. **Walton Street:** Potholes meeting NSC criteria have been filled. Other matters - including the displaced Somerset Stone will be picked up by the NSC Area Officer more quickly than the public reporting system that is currently our only access route to NSC.

vi. **Walton Brook retaining wall repair : Gabion in brook :** Cllr Ashton is pressing NSC for action on these two long-standing problems. Despite the communication problems with NSC highlighted below, these two issues must be resolved, not least because if they result in flooding, peoples' insurance companies will be chasing NSC for recompense which will end up being a significantly more costly outcome for NSC than them actually doing the maintenance work required of them.

vii. **Walton Bay Bus Stop erosion:** Cllr Ashton has chased this urgent problem. The NSC Area Officer has visited the site. Now NSC 'Streetworks' and BT have been informed and will be visiting to assess the problems and how they will need to be dealt with. Due to NCS administrative changes there is a virtual communication breakdown between NSC and its parish councils, councillors and clerks, but even so, we will need to keep pressure on until we are informed that there is a satisfactory outcome to this particular problem.

- viii. **Coast Road drains:** ... As this a strategic problem that NSC are not currently positioned to address, it will be diarised for follow-up at a later date.
- ix. **Defibrillator Service Payments:** PC payment protocol to be decided. Clerk explained the need for the PC, as a Public Service body, to have a self-explanatory invoice or expenses claim as the basis of remitting sums accordingly. Cllr Dickinson to progress.

## 071/24 COUNCILLORS REPORTS

### Cllr Flower

**Speed Limit Signage:** These signs are becoming increasingly obscure across the Parish - across the district - indeed across the country according to contributed observations. The upkeep of this signage appears to be being deemed by local authorities as unaffordable in the current financial crisis. As with so many belt-tightening matters of similar ilk, an adverse attitude to such problems could end up in insurance claims that turn out to be as, or more, expensive than the original replacement costs of the signs.

### Cllr Dickinson

**B3124 National Speed Limit Signage leaving The Village towards Clevedon:** The Village Hall side sign is not there. **Clerk to so inform NSC.**

The to Portishead side sign is obscured by hedge overgrowth. **Cllr Flower being the the farmer connected to the issue took a note to clear the overgrowth.**

*Note: As with obscure signage issues across the parish, now that the Clerk's eye problem prevents him from driving (he used to keep the signs clear), they will have to be dealt with by a parish council designated volunteer, or, as and when appointed, the parish maintenance contractor.*

### Cllr Cannell

**Roadside Hedges:** Some hedges have now been cut back. Clerk will resort to formal letters in relation to others - including three on the formal pavement route from Cross Tree to the Village Hall. **Clerk to action.**

**Soft Plastic Recycling:** Clarification sought via Cllr Ashton as to what is and what is not soft plastic under the NSC trial collection scheme. Apparently the definitions are more complex than they appear at face value. The trial will be expected to expose the complications and come up with clarity of definition before the scheme goes district wide.

## 072/24 FINANCE

- i. **2024-25 Accounts to date:** were reviewed against the bank statements, noted and agreed.
- ii. **Payments to Authorise** (*next ch 846*): none
- iii. **HMRC Payments via Direct Debit:** A direct debit is now in place to effect the quarterly payment of £153.40 authorised at the September meeting. This HMRC direct debit facility was unanimously ratified. Future accounts will indicate if HMRC will be taking the amounts due monthly or quarterly.

073/24 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** Monday November 11th at 7pm in the Village Hall

**The meeting closed at 7.55 pm**