

Minutes of Meeting at Walton-in-Gordano Village Hall Monday 13th April 2015 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs B Cannell (Chair), M Ralston, A Charlesworth, A Brellisford, F Morgan

In Attendance: Don Hill (Clerk).

3818 APOLOGIES: Claire Leandro (NSC Liaison), Cllr Nigel Ashton (NSC), PC Jen Clarke

3819 DEPARTURES

- i. **Ann Charlesworth:** Having joined this Council in May 1985 (see minute 235), this, Ann's last meeting attendance as a Councillor, marked the completion of 30 years serving the Parish in this capacity. What started off as a formal thank you and recognition of Ann's outstanding and devoted contribution, ended as a hubbub of enthusiastic and grateful exchanges combined with a dip into nostalgia. Those present had contributed to a small gift, organised and presented by Floss Morgan. Ann will be sorely missed.
- ii. **Claire Leandro:** Claire is moving to Cornwall. Her time as NSC's Parish Liaison Officer (an entirely voluntary role) has been given unstintingly, and with quiet, assured competence. There were many occasions when she was ahead of the Clerk in nudging NSC staff into getting things done for the Parish! News of her departure was greeted with a universal murmur of disappointment, but an equally universal voicing of good wishes for her future in such a wonderful county. Floss produced a card for signature and dispatch to support the individual messages Members had e-mailed to Claire.

3820 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None

3821 LAST MEETING MINUTES of March 9th 2015 were agreed, and signed by The Chairman and Clerk.

3822 MATTERS ARISING: None.

3823 EMERGENCY SERVICES, TRAFFIC & TRANSPORT

Police: No reported crime. A burnt out trailer in the lay-by opposite the golf course was taped off as a crime scene but related to a crime registered in Portishead. The trailer has been moved but **Clerk to contact Jen Clarke/Chris Joannou to arrange for clearance of debris.**

NSC Anti-Social-Behaviour Liaison: Chris Joannou (based in Streets & Open Spaces) is WalG PC contact for the "civil" end of things, including fly-tipping etc.

3824 PLANNING

New: 15/P/0675/WT - Manor House 1 x Cypress - remove competing stem, west side. Members looked at the paperwork and were happy to note the application without comment.

Enforcement: 2014/10100 Hill Cottage. It is not known to Members how this matter came to the notice of enforcement officers but, according to the latest enforcement report, the issuing of an enforcement notice is imminent.

3825 STREETS AND OPEN SPACES

Cliff Path: Slippery wooden bridges. **Clerk to chase Andy Carroll.**

Walton Bay Birch's/Two Acre junction onto highway: NSC Highways assessment awaited. **Clerk to follow up post May.**

3826 OTHER MATTERS

Cycling on Footpaths: Cllr Brellisford is checking the legalities before pursuing this worry. He and Cllr Morgan will liaise re the possible replacement of damaged "No Cycling" signs - at the Springhead footpath entry - that Cllr Morgan has re the Cliff Path.

Walton Bay Notice Board: Clerk and Henry Baker, of Walton Bay, "forced entry" and unjammed the lock.

Village Agent: Emma Edwards has the Gordano+ group of Parishes as her area in a new role with West of England Rural Network (WERN). She will introduce her work at the May Annual Parish Meeting.

3827 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Cllr Ralston: Gordano Greenway - considerable work is continuing behind the scenes, both via meetings with property owners and in seeking feasibility study funding from Clevedon and Portishead Town Councils. An ecological and environmental study has been done via NSC's David Fish, and a report in due soon.

Cllr Cannell: A power-line pole in Moor Lane is leaning over. It is known that Western Power react more promptly to private residential complaints than to "official" notifications, so Cllr Cannell agreed to report the matter to them himself.

3828 FINANCE

Accounts:

- i. **2014-15:** Internal Audit completed; paperwork approved, and signed by the Chairman and Clerk. **Clerk to send to External Auditor.**
- ii. **2015-16:** Accounts to date reviewed and noted.
- iii. **Bank Mandate:** submitted.
- iv. **Revised SO re Clerks pay:** submitted.
- v. **Cheques:** 699 ALCA Subscription £51.74 700 Village Hall £6.00

The meeting closed at 8.20pm

**Minutes of The Parish Council Annual General Meeting at Walton-in-Gordano Village Hall
Monday 11th May 2015 at 7.00pm
(The meeting started at 7.10pm)**

Present: Cllrs B Cannell (Chair), M Ralston, F Morgan

In Attendance: Don Hill (Clerk).

Public Attendance: Grahame & Alison Stott, Andy Brellisford, Nigel Wyliman

The three members present were elected on May 7th last, via an uncontested election. Before the meeting proper commenced, each member completed a Declaration of Office form and a Register of Member's Interest from which was lodged with the Clerk.

3829 APOLOGIES: Claire Leandro (NSC Liaison), Cllr Nigel Ashton (NSC), PC Jen Clarke

3830 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING FORMALITIES

Election Of Chairman And Vice Chairman: Cllr Morgan was expected to be late, the meeting would not be quorate without her, and there was an Annual Parish Meeting immediately following this one: therefore, pre-discussion had taken place re the disposition of offices and representations. Cllr Cannell confirmed his willingness to continue as Chairman and this was agreed to unanimously without a vote. Cllr Cannell duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office that his position required of him. Cllr Cannell took the Chair. Cllr Ralston confirmed himself willing to continue in the role of Vice Chair and, this was unanimously confirmed without a vote.

Appointment Of Representatives To Outside Bodies: Cllr Ralston agreed to continue as representative to the Village Hall Committee of Management (a 2nd vacancy remains) and to the Gordano Greenway Steering Group (a second vacancy remains). Cllr Morgan (minute 3530, Sept 2012) agreed to continue as representative to NSC Standards sub-committee.

3831 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None

3832 LAST MEETING MINUTES of April 13th 2015 were agreed, and signed by The Chairman and Clerk.

3833 MATTERS ARISING: None.

3834 EMERGENCY SERVICES, TRAFFIC & TRANSPORT

Police: No reported crime.

3835 PLANNING

Granted: 15/P/0675/WT - Manor House 1 x Cypress - remove competing stem.

Enforcement: 2014/10100 Hill Cottage: an enforcement notice is imminent.

3836 STREETS AND OPEN SPACES

Cliff Path: Slippery wooden bridges - Andy Carroll in investigating possible solutions.

Birch's/Two Acre junction: NSC Highways assessment awaited.

3837 OTHER MATTERS

Cycling on Footpaths: Andy Brellisford continues to check the legalities surrounding cycling within the woods above Springhead.

3838 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Cllr Ralston:

- i. **Broadband:** Cable Broadband is delivered to homes via copper cables run from a traditional telephone "cabinet" at a speed of around 2-5mb. Fibre cabling is needed to carry true "fast" (*as opposed to superfast*) broadband speeds of around 15mb. To join a fast broadband service, a customer's in-coming cable has to be upgraded to fibre cable from the cabinet to their home (*and ideally they should get their home upgraded as well*). There is a fibre-upgraded BT cabinet near the Old Inn that supplies Walton-in-Gordano, but Walton only has a copper wire link to that cabinet. If a "fast" broadband signal was transmitted from the cabinet to Walton via the existing copper wires, it would provide a broadband speed of around 9mb. "Connecting Devon and Somerset" is an organisation set up to facilitate the rural provision of fibre broadband; however, they ducked out of the problem of fibre-cabling from the Old Inn to Cross Tree (where the central BT manhole is), and passed the problem to BT. BT does not want to commit to the expense either. It is technically possible to double or triple speeds to Walton to around 9mb via the existing wires, but BT's charging "system" does not allow for this as it cannot be legally described as fast broadband at this speed, but is faster than ordinary broadband. Cllr Ralston continues to put pressure on BT's Louise Wallace (louise.wallace@bt.com), and the ombudsman, to progress the possibility of getting a 9mb service. He urges those interested to e-mail Louise Wallace at louise.wallace@bt.com to press this cause. Cllr Ralston has also shared his efforts with NSC at Castlewood in Clevedon, who are looking at a possible privately provided wi-fi solution based on equipment that operates there.
- ii. **Gordano Greenway:** This project continues, but slowly. Whilst there is apparently no fixed route proposal, the Shoot and the Miles Estate continue to be the prime objectors within the parish to the presumed preferred route. Cllr Ralston has suggested, to other Steering Group members, that an idea of the route including a section of the Manor Drive from its entrance to the Church footpath is a non-starter and this was agreed with.
- iii. **The White Hart:** New tenants have been installed by Enterprise Inns (who are not selling the pub); Mr & Mrs Mike & Chris Yeatman also run Venga, a tapas bar and restaurant in Portishead.

3839 FINANCE

- i. **2014-15:** Accounts posted to external auditor.
- ii. **2015-16:** Accounts had been previously circulated and were noted.
- iii. **Cheques:** **701** Zurich Insurance, Annual Premium £212.00 **702** Village Hall £18 (includes APM)

The meeting closed at 7.30pm

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

website: waltoningordanopc.org.uk

Minutes of The Meeting at Walton-in-Gordano Village Hall Monday 8th June 2015 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs B Cannell (Chair), M Ralston, F Morgan, A Brellisford (after Minute 3843)

In Attendance: Don Hill (Clerk).

Public Attendance: Kevin Edwards

Former Chairman, Ken Dilley died peacefully, in his sleep on 11th May 2015: he was 81. Ken served this Council throughout the 1970s, being variously Councillor, Chairman, and Vice-Chairman during that time: he also gave generously of his professional architectural skills over the years, in the service of the Village Hall. Ken recently moved from the parish - from Taggert, which he designed and built for himself - his strong, positive and kindly presence is missed, although his memory will long endure.

3839 APOLOGIES: Claire Leandro (NSC Liaison), Cllr Nigel Ashton (NSC), PC Jen Clarke Nigel Wilyman (cooption candidate)

3840 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: Cllr Ralston at Minute 3848 re supply of fast broadband.

3841 LAST MEETING MINUTES of May 13th 2015 were agreed. The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of May 13th 2015 were circulated to all attendees for agreement prior to the meeting and were agreed. Both sets of Minutes were signed by The Chairman and Clerk.

3842 MATTERS ARISING: None.

3843 CONSIDERATION/COOPTION OF TWO NEW MEMBERS

Andy Brellisford and Nigel Wilyman put themselves forward for cooption. Andy was a member before the May elections but his re-nomination papers arrived at NSC - literally minutes - too late for inclusion in the election process. Nigel has lived in the Parish for some 40 years and, during the 1970s, was both a member of this Council and sometime Chairman. Both applicants were unanimously accepted as members without a vote. Andy signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office, agreed his Register of Members Interest form, signed the Attendance Register, and became a participating member of this meeting. **Clerk to complete paperwork for both new members and post to NCS and Parish website.**

3844 EMERGENCY SERVICES, TRAFFIC & TRANSPORT

Police: No reported crime.

Police & Crime Commissioner: Received - the NS Police & Crime Plan 2015-17. Noted. Chairman took a copy.

3845 PLANNING

New: 15/P/1175/F Garden to Old Chapel Walton St - extension to domestic parking area for Old Chapel and Cross Tree Cottages. No objections.

Enforcement: 2015/0208 Cross Tree Cottages - unauthorised skylights. These have already been removed. **2014/10100** Hill Cottage: the container has been removed.

3846 STREETS AND OPEN SPACES

Cliff Path: Slippery wooden bridges - Estimate out for insertion of alternate "non-slip" planks on one bridge. Probable job completion in October; if this works, the other bridges will be done.

Bristol Water Contractors -tarmac repair outside Home Farm: This was noted as having been very shoddy. Clerk reported it to Cllr Ashton and the pavement section was re-done the next day. The roadway section will not be accepted by NSC until it too has been re-done within the next month.

Birch's/Two Acre Lane highway access: NSC highways have responded to the problem here as follows:

Part of the problem described is to do with the steep gradient and alignment of the access roads. However, they are not public highway and any changes would be a matter for the owners. Again, the council can't do anything about visibility as it would require land outside our control, and the cutting back of the hedge is the responsibility of the landowner.

As you know the speed limit here is 40mph and any further reduction would need to be supported by physical measures to have any real impact. However, there is no street lighting at this location so any traffic calming measure could itself constitute a hazard. Also, we don't have a large road safety budget and as there is not a particular accident problem here it would be difficult to justify high expenditure as opposed to other locations where there are accidents occurring.

We could install additional signs and road markings to highlight the accesses, although locating the signs might be difficult. It has also been suggested that we install edge of carriageway lines to make the road look narrower than it is, and therefore reduce speeds. However, there is a risk that we might "urbanise" the area detracting from its rural setting.

Members felt the response was balanced and understandable. There are cases everywhere - more so in "special" locations - where "peep and creep" is the only way to gain access to the highway; the problems at this junction have been "coped with" by residents over the many years their dissatisfaction has been minuted by this Council. Given that access roadways to the point where they meet the highway, are the responsibility of the landowners, members agreed that improved signage might provide the most positive highways contribution to easing the problems. **Clerk to research past discussions on this and draw some possible signage for discussion at the July meeting.**

Review of Governance Documents: Clerk updated/corrected all documents as needed and included them with the pre-meeting paperwork. Members accepted them as definitive until the next review in June 2016 and the Chairman and Clerk signed the annual Risk Assessment Review as being accurate.

ALCA AGM: Information on this was shared with members. **Clerk to let them know that WalG PC will not be represented at the event.**

3847 OTHER MATTERS

Cycling on Footpaths: This is proving to be a complex legal topic. Cllr Brellisford reports that enquiries via Avon & Somerset Police indicate that, unlike on pavements ("footways"), cycling on footpaths is not illegal, so long as there is no by-law to the contrary. However, he has established that this is not a universally held position (e.g. East Sussex) and is exploring the matter further with NSC.

3848 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Cllr Ralston - Gordano Greenway: The feasibility study by NSC officers is completed and its publication is thought to be imminent. Funding is being sought - Portishead and Clevedon Town Councils have been approached - to enable the development of a planning document that Cllr Ralston presumes will form the basis for consultation.

Fast Broadband: There continues to be an impasse to fast broadband supply to the Parish via BT. Cllr Ralston reports that his software company has become agent for the supply of a new commercial satellite fast broadband service: he intends to trial this at his home for possible domestic application. At £30-£60 per month it is not a cheap option, but he will be happy to share his experience with those who feel it might be worthwhile for them.

Cllr Morgan - Sewage leak onto Cliff Path: outside 7 Skylark - having been checked by NSC and found ok, this leak has recurred. It is guessed that there is a leak in the higher regions of a tank that only shows as the tank fills. **Clerk to re-report to NSC.**

3849 FINANCE

- i. **2015-16:** Accounts were circulated prior to the meeting and noted.
- ii. **Cheques: 703** HMRC re PAYE £82.20 **704** Village Hall £6.00

The meeting closed at 8.30pm