

WALTON PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of Walton Parish Council was held on Monday 19th July 2010 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Present: John Evans (Chair), Robert Ridley, Alan Armstrong, Andrew Vaughan, Gordon Kyle and the Clerk.

Also present were City Councillor Cyril Bowman, Mel Warwick representing Walton Play Area Working Group, Linda Watson, Linda Wilson and her two sons representing Talkin Tarn Rowing Club and parishioners Brian Hogg, Tom Winter, Pam Cronin, Rodney Hodgson and Phil Jones.

Action

- 10/015 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
Resolved that apologies be noted and accepted for Margaret Sutcliffe (attending to Parish Council business planting trees).
- 10/016 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
A non-personal interest was declared in the Play Area by Councillor Vaughan. A non-personal interest was also declared in the Village Hall by Councillor Evans.
- 10/017 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**
The Chair welcomed everyone and noted the good turnout. Mr Jones stated he had attended to discuss the Play Area redevelopment. This was noted by the Chair and would be discussed as an agenda item.
- 10/018 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING HELD MONDAY 17th May 2010**
Signed as a true and accurate record by the Chair.
- 10/019 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**
- 10/019/1 Grass Cutting.** Service had experienced minor disruption due to the contractor's equipment being damaged by fire. He was therefore going to be cutting to the Village boundaries when possible free of charge. He had also cut and collected the grass for the Big Picnic.
- 10/019/2 Land Registry.** Forms have been completed to register Walton Village Green as the property of Walton Parish Council. **CLERK**
- 10/019/3 Gully on the Green.** Update deferred to the next meeting. **JE**
- 10/019/4 Tree Planting.** Trees were being planted that evening in various locations around the Parish. It had been decided not to plant adjacent to the football pitch to ensure drainage problems were not exacerbated.
- 10/019/5 Probation Service for Woodland Area.** It was noted that the Probation Service had spent a few hours over two days tidying up the area.
- 10/020 MINUTES FROM COMMITTEES/GROUPS**
- 10/020/1 Planning Committee 21st June.** Resolved that the previously circulated

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minutes were received.

10/020/2 Play Area Working Group 21st June. Resolved that the previously circulated minutes were received.

10/020/3 Play Area Working Group 3rd July. Resolved that the previously circulated minutes were received.

10/021 CO-OPTION OF NEW COUNCILLOR

It was resolved to co-opt Rodney Hodgson as a replacement Councillor for Steve Reynolds.

10/022 NOWT (NO WIND TURBINES) PRESENTATION

Deferred to next meeting.

10/023 TALKIN TARN ROWING CLUB PRESENTATION

Linda Watson gave a brief summary regarding plans to redevelop the boat house at Talkin Tarn which needs to be built before end March 2011. It was stated that four members of Walton Parish are members of the Rowing Club and recreational rowers can attend on Thursday afternoons with the next nearest similar facility at Hexham or Dumfries. It was also stated that the British Rowing Club will match fund all the monies received by the Club to a maximum of £120,000.

10/024 WALTON PLAY AREA WORKING GROUP

10/024/1 Propose Changing Status of Group. It was stated that information had recently come to light that meant that if the project grant was to be obtained the Group would have to separate from the Parish Council. The Parish Council would remain landlords and the Group would operate under a tripartite land agreement, a signed maintenance agreement (allowing the Parish Council to remain sole maintenance providers), and a signed partnership agreement (outlining working arrangements) but the Play Area Group would become a properly constituted legally independent body with their own bank account. (Copies of the documents are all available from the Clerk). Resolved:

- A consultation paper would be distributed to all Councillors for comments regarding the terms and conditions of the dissolution before 31 July to allow for the dissolution to become effective as of 1 August 2010.
- The existing play area funds (from CFM Cash for Kids) would be given back to the Play Area Group immediately
- That Councillor Vaughan be appointed onto the Play Area Group as a Parish Council representative
- That the Parish Council would continue to act as the Accountable Body for the Group in order to reclaim the VAT

10/024/2 Planning Permission. It was noted that plans had been approved on 16 July. This was with an amendment following the Planning Committee meeting that the swings were moved 2m east.

JE

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10/024/3 Parishioner Objections. Formal objections that had been submitted to the City Council planning department had been previously circulated and were noted. An additional complaint regarding the lack of consultation with teenagers in the Parish was also acknowledged. It was stated in response to comments about the Mother and Toddler Group folding that the Group had in fact moved to Lees Hill School. Mr Jones and Mr Winter also raised concerns that the equipment was still too far west and too near their properties and they raised further objections to the layout of the equipment (preferring the swings to be in the centre of the Green instead of against the backdrop of the Hall). Mr Jones also requested that consideration be given to spreading the play equipment over a wider area of the green. The Chair stated that he had undertaken a full review of the Play Area project from the start and collated all the results into a report so that it could be proven that all views had been considered. Resolved: To meet on Saturday 24th July at 9am with George Stephenson (Project Architect) to peg out and spray paint the confirmed location of each piece of equipment. It was also agreed that the Chair's report be circulated to Councillors for information.

AV
JE

10/024/4 Public Consultation. The Parish Council have requested that a door-to-door consultation be carried out with all households in the Parish as soon as possible to inform them of developments and that equipment layouts had been marked on the Green. Mr Hogg kindly offered to deliver the leaflets – the Play Area Group to liaise with him to arrange this. Resolved:

- Play Area Group to design leaflet (for approval by Parish Council) for door-to-door distribution as soon as possible
- Parish Council will not sign Tri-Partite Agreement until results from the consultation have been collated and approved.

JE

10/025 SAVE OUR PUB
The Chair apologised for taking an incorrect view at the Open Meeting and said that having a pub in the parish was in the interest of the parish and the PC would support the opening of a pub no matter who the owner was. A discussion was held regarding possible business activities taking place within the Centurion Inn and the terms of the current license, if any. Resolved: To write to the owner of the Centurion asking for his future plans for the pub and offer PC support in developing the pub. If there is genuine concern about the business activities taking place in the pub the PC may write to the Planning Department at Carlisle City Council to request further information.

JE

10/026 CLERKS TRAINING
It was resolved that the Clerk was to undertake the Certificate in Local Council Administration. Likely costs were discussed (£60 for training and approx. £150 approx for registration).

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- 10/027 VILLAGE HALL UPDATE REGARDING TOILETS**
 It was noted that the Village Hall Management Committee were in the process of trying to obtain a grant from Hadrian's Wall Heritage Management for opening up the toilet block. Concerns had however risen over on-going cleaning costs – the Village Hall Management Committee were therefore going to cost it out before progressing. It was also noted that the Reading Room had been cleared out of all rubbish and tidied up. Plans were being discussed as to whether to progress with updating the Reading Room (as a potential youth room) or whether to concentrate on making the Hall more usable. This will be a matter for the Village Hall Management Committee to progress.
- 10/028 PARISH COUNCIL PROJECTS**
 Deferred to next meeting.
- 10/029 VILLAGE GREEN**
- 10/029/1 Encroachment Issues.** Complaints regarding vehicles parking on the Village Green had been received. Resolved: To put an article in the next newsletter stating that parking or driving on the Green was illegal and asking Parishioners to kindly refrain from doing this. **CLERK**
- 10/029/2 Community Litter Picking Group.** Litter picking equipment had been obtained from Carlisle City Council to allow for the formation of a litter picking group, to take place on agreed dates in the future. Resolved: The Parish Council to act as a liaison point for the Litter Picking Group which will be advertised in the next newsletter or on the notice boards. **CLERK**
- 10/029/3a Additional Litter Bin - Football Pitch.** Concern had been raised over the growing amount of litter due to the increased use of the football pitch. Councillor Bowman informed the meeting that the City Council policy was now that a charge of £400 was made for positioning a bin and he was willing to help towards this cost. Resolved: To contact Carlisle City Council with a view to having a bin placed near the football pitch road area and to take up Councillor Bowman's very kind offer of paying £200 towards this. This to be confirmed and discussed further at the next meeting. **CLERK**
- 10/029/3b Additional Litter Bin – Play Area.** A bin had been previously requested by the Play Area Group for positioning after the redevelopment. Resolved: The Play Area Group to arrange a bin in the newly refurbished area. The expected £400 cost to be met out of the Play Area Sustainability Grant. **AV**
- 10/029/4 Abandoned Vehicles.** The offending vehicle from beside the Hall had been moved but had re-appeared behind Rose House. Resolved: To investigate whether vehicle has been abandoned again. **CLERK**
- 10/029/5 Football Pitch.** A request had been made by a parishioner to upgrade the football pitch and fix the drainage problem. Funding streams had not proven to be available however the issue will be re-visited should the current football team develop further.

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- 10/030 NOTICE BOARD**
 Complaints had been raised from a number of parishioners about the location of the notice board. Suggestions to solve the problem included either relocating the board or covering the back in information notices (e.g. play area information). Resolved: To meet to consider alternative locations on Saturday 24th July and discuss at next Parish Council meeting. **JE**
- 10/031 WOODLAND AREA GRANT FUNDING**
 Grants for upgrading nature areas had become available; however concerns over upgrading the pathways were discussed. It was stated that the pathway near the pond was in need of being repaired. Resolved: Paths to be investigated along with any areas that could benefit from being planted with additional shrubbery. Also agreed that a proper management plan be formulated after the next meeting. **GK**
- 10/032 ANNUAL AUDIT**
 It was noted that the external annual audit had been completed successfully with no issues highlighted.
- 10/033 BUDGET STATEMENT**
 The previously circulated accounts-to-date were noted without comment.
- 10/034 DONATION REQUESTS**
10/034/1 Walton Village Hall. It was resolved to donate £422 to pay the cost of the annual Hall insurance.
10/034/2 Talkin Tarn Rowing Club. It was resolved to donate £50 towards their redevelopment.
- 10/035 PORTFOLIO AREAS**
Highways. Councillor Armstrong firstly reported that Walton Lane had been successfully repaired. He also reported a loose manhole cover on a stop tap on the Village Green opposite Newberry. Resolved: To investigate ownership of the manhole cover by consulting with United Utilities. **AA**
- 10/036 ACCOUNTS PAYABLE**
 The following receipts were noted:
 - £100.00 - Recycling (Carlisle City Council)
 - £88.85 - Wayleave (United Utilities)
 The following payments were noted:
 - £17.49 - Wood stain for Woodland Area (S Kyle)
 - £66.31 - Reference book (S Kyle)
 - £3.12 - Expenses for previous Clerk (L Rooney)
 - £12.50 - Commons Search (Cumbria County Council)
 - £40 – Registration of land (Land Registry)

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- £158.63 - Audit (BDO)
- £422 – Donation (Walton Village Hall)
- £50 – Donation (Talkin Tarn Rowing Club)
- £6 – Rental Fees (Walton Village Hall)
- £1026.22 – Play Area Reimbursement (Parish Play Area Group)

10/037 CORRESPONDANCE

10/037/1 Good Companions Thank You Letter. Noted.

10/037/2 PC Open Minutes 2010. Noted.

10/037/3 Play Area Safety Inspection. Noted.

10/037/4 Resignation of Councillor Jones. Noted. The Chair expressed regret on behalf of the Council that she had decided to resign. Resolved: Advertisement of vacancy to be displayed.

CLERK

10/038 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 20th September 2010 at 7.30pm. Agenda items to be received by Friday 10th September. A Councillor will be requested to attend the scheduled Neighbourhood Forum meeting on the same evening.

The meeting closed at 9pm.

Signed Chair:
Date: