WALTON PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk: Ian Blythe. 4 The Dell, Talkin. Brampton CA8 1AQ
Tel: 07545086857 Email: clerk@waltonparish.co.uk

Minutes of the Walton Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 13 May 2025 at 7.00pm in Walton Village Hall

Present: G. Shaw, (Chair), T. A. Armstrong, B. Hogg, W. Weaver, W. Wilkinson.

Also present: I. Blythe, Clerk/RFO, One member of the public (MOP).

1. EXTERNAL AUDITOR ANNUAL GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY RETURN (AGAR) 2023/2024 AND EXEMPTION CERTIFICATE

1.1 **RESOLVED** to approve the Annual Governance Statement for year ending 31st March 2025.

1.2 **RESOLVED** to approve the Statement of Accounts for year ending 31st March 2025

1.3 **RESOLVED** to authorise the Chairman to sign Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Return for the year ending 31st March 2025.

1.4 **RESOLVED** that Walton Parish Council can certify itself as exempt from a limited assurance review and the Chairman can sign the Certificate of Exemption to be submitted to the external auditor.

1.5 ASSETS - reviewed and agreed

2. ELECTION OF CHAIR – There were no nominations or candidates for the office of Chair. For the purpose of ensuring the meeting progressed through its business G. Shaw continued as Chair indicating his resignation would be effective from the close of the meeting.

3. DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE OF CHAIRMAN –G. Shaw signed the Chair's Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

4. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR – T.A. Armstrong proposed and seconded for the office of Vice Chair by W. Weaver and B. Hogg.

5. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – None received.

6. REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS - No requests received since the previous meeting for dispensations to speak and/or vote on any matter where a member has a disclosable pecuniary interest.

7. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – To receive declarations by elected and co-opted members of interests in respect of items on this agenda. Members are reminded that in accordance with the revised Code of Conduct, they are required to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests or other registrable interests which have not already been declared in the Council's Register of Interests. (It is a criminal offence not to declare a disclosable pecuniary interest either in the Register or at the meeting). **None received.**

8. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC (Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960) To decide whether there are any items of business which require exclusion of the press and public. **None.**

9. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

9.1 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11TH MARCH 2025 – RESOLVED To authorise the Chair to sign, as a correct record, the minutes of the meeting held on 11th March 2025.

10. REPRESENTATION ON OUTSIDE BODIES – Representatives on the following outside bodies **AGREED** as below,

- Walton Village Hall Management Committee – W Weaver and B Hogg

11. STANDING ORDERS AND FINANCIAL REGULATIONS – **RESOLVED** to adopt standing orders and financial regulations.

12. SUBSCRIPTIONS –

12.1 CALC/SLCC – **RESOLVED** to renew the CALC/NALC (£172.43) and SLCC (£85.00) annual subscriptions for 2025/26.

13. POLICY REVIEW – RESOLVED that the Clerk would review the Parish Council Policy Documents and report back.

14. MEETING CALENDAR – RESOLVED the future dates and start time of future Parish Council meetings.

2025

July 8
Sept 2 **(note change of day)**
Nov 11

2026

Jan 13
Mar 10
May 12 (Commencing with the **ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH)**

Start time 7.00 p.m. for all meetings.

15. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - To receive comments and representations from members of the public in relation to any item on the Agenda. (*Members of the public are permitted to speak on any Agenda item for up to 15 minutes. Members of the public are not permitted to speak at any other time during the meeting unless invited to do so by the Chairman*).
MOP requested and was provided with clarification on the publication of minutes and agenda.

15.1 REPORTS – To receive reports, if applicable, from Unitary Authority Councillor. **NONE**

16. REPRESENTATIVES' REPORTS & GRANT APPLICATIONS - To receive reports by representatives on Outside Bodies and to discuss the issue of Grant applications by third parties requesting support, financial or otherwise.

16.1 Grant request re Mother & Toddler Group – RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY to approve request for £500.00 under LGA 1972 s137; the request being supported as in the opinion of Council it was in the interests and direct benefit to the parish and inhabitants.

17. TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING APPLICATIONS – NONE

18. FINANCE

18.1 Banking signatories – Resolved to add W. Weaver, T.A. Armstrong, I. Blythe as signatories.

18.2 Unity Bank – RESOLVED that Unity Trust Bank is the principal bank for the Parish Council and that accounts held elsewhere be closed, transferring balances as appropriate.

18.3 Scribe Accounts – RESOLVED to subscribe to Scribe Accounts.

18.4 Resolved to authorise the following payments:

VN	Inv. Date	PAYEE	CHQ. NO/ Ref no	Purpose of Expenditure	AMOUNT £
1	30/4/25	Green Team		Parish grass cut	825.00
2	1/5/25	SLCC		SLCC membership	85.00
3	30/4/25	CALC		CALC/NALC membership	172.43

19. COUNCILLOR VACANCIES – RESOLVED to commence action in accordance with section 87 Local Government Act 1972 to advertise vacancies created by the resignation of, G. Shaw, T.P. Hodgson, R. Reynolds, S.Matthews.

20. LEAPS RIGG SOLAR FARM – the outgoing Clerk reported that there were to be upgrades to the power station to facilitate the additional requirements of Solar Farm.

21. TRAINING – **RESOLVED** that training for Council Members and the Clerk would be funded.

22. CORRESPONDENCE AND LITERATURE RECEIVED BY THE CLERK – **None.**

23. NEWSLETTER

23.1 NEWSLETTER – No update provided.

24. CLERK / RFO APPOINTMENT – RESOLVED to approve contract of employment for Ian Blythe as ParishClerk/RFO.

25. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING - To submit items for the next meeting and note that any further items for consideration should be submitted to the Clerk in writing at least 7 working days before the next meeting.

26. DATE OF NEXT MEETING(s) – July 8 2025 to be held in Walton Village Hall at 7.00pm. Meeting closed at 20:15.

Signed …….

Date …….