WALTON PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk: Ian Blythe. 4 The Dell, Talkin. Brampton CA8 1AQ
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Minutes of the Walton Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 8 July 2025 commencing at 7.35pm in Walton Village Hall

Present: Cllrs. T. A. Armstrong, B. Hogg, W. Weaver.

Also present: I. Blythe, Clerk/RFO, Cllr. J. Mallinson Unitary Authority

27. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – received and accepted apologies for absence from Cllr. W. Wilkinson.

28. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN – T. A. Armstrong was elected to the office of Chairman.

29. DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE OF CHAIRMAN – received the Chairman's Declaration of Acceptance of Office from T.A. Armstrong.

30. MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING held on 13 May 2025 – authorised the chair to sign, as a correct record, the minutes of the meeting held on 13 May 2025.

31. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST/REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

1. Register of Interests: Councillors are reminded of the need to update their register of interests
2. To declare any personal interests in items on the agenda and their nature.
3. To declare any prejudicial interests in items on the agenda and their nature.

(Councillors with prejudicial interests must leave the meeting for the relevant items)

4. To make any requests for dispensation

None received.

32. 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.

33. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (20 MINUTES ALLOWED) - this agenda item enables Parish Councillors to hear the views, comments and/or complaints from the public. The Parish Councillors can respond. However (unless the items are already on the agenda) no council decisions can be taken at this meeting but, if appropriate, the matters can be put onto a future agenda for decision. Comments limited to 5 minutes per person. None

34. CUMBERLAND COUNCILLOR REPORTS– received a verbal update on the request made to Government by Cumberland Council to defer the Mayoral election to May 2027 and to align local elections with that date in view of the significant financial savings that would be made.

35. POLICE MATTERS – to resolve whether to submit any matters to the Local Focus Hub. None

36. PLANNING APPLICATIONS - You may view the details on the Planning Authority website (Cumberland.gov.uk) where parishioners can submit their own observations directly

a. To resolve whether to submit any observations on applications received. None received

37. FINANCE

a) Payments – previously authorised - noted

VN	Inv. Date	PAYEE	Purpose	Amount £	VAT inc. £	Net Amt. £
11	1/06/2025	Zurich Insurance	PC Insurance	823.85	-	823.85
12	30/04/2025	Green Team	Grass cutting contract	825.00	-	825.00
13	1/06/2025	Green Team	Grass cutting contract	550.00	-	550.00
14	14/05/2025	Starboard Systems	Scribe accounting	417.60	69.60	348.00
15	1/06/2025	Starboard Systems	Scribe accounting	28.80	4.80	24.00
16	1/04/2025	CALC/NALC	Membership fee	172.43	-	172.43
17	1/05/2025	SLCC	Membership fee	85.00	-	85.00
18	5/06/2025	HMRC	Income tax	80.40	-	80.40
19	5/07/2025	HMRC	Income tax	49.40	-	49.40

b) Payments – authorised

VN	Inv. Date	Payee	Purpose	Amount £	VAT inc.£	Net Amt. £
9	June	Ian Blythe	Salary &Exps	244.58	-	244.58
10	April/May	Ian Blythe	Salary &Exps	359.58	-	359.58
21	March 2025	Lees Hill School	Printing Parish newsletter	11.63	-	11.63
22	March 2025	Ivan Whetton	Printing Parish newsletter	26.17	-	26.17
23	13 May 2025	Allan Dawes	Clerk exps & Int. Audit	67.06	-	67.06

24	June 2025	Ian Blythe	Clerk's expenses	70.49	6.65	63.84
28	June 2025	Unity Bank	Bank charge	6.00		6.00
30	29 June 25	Green Team	Grass cutting	616.00	66.00	550.00

c) Noted the Unity Trust Bank Charges of £24.00 for 4 months March, April, May and June2025

d) Monthly reconciliation(May & June 2025) – checked and reconciled bank balances (attached)

e) Noted that the Clerk transferred £25,000 to Savings from Current account.

f) Noted receipt of interest to Unity Trust Savings Account of £35.39.

g) Noted and authorised setting up the following monthly standing orders and direct debits.

- Scribe Accounts (Starboard Systems Ltd.) £28.80 p.m.(inc. VAT)

Council also noted that 2 additional payments had been received after the agenda was issued – SLCC Training £144.00 and Village Hall hire £25.00 – and approved payment.

38. SAPPP Practitioner's Guide - Website and GDPR – resolved that councillors would transition on an individual basis to an email linked to the council owned domain. Interim arrangements would necessitate hard copies of agenda and minutes where applicable, and full meeting package access via website.

39. Funding request from St. Mary's Church Committee – resolved - Clerk to extend an invitation to church committee members to attend a future council meeting and provide a fuller explanation of their plans for the churchyard, and to aid understand of what level of community support/involvement there is for these before committing to provide funding.

40. Damage to Parish Notice board – resolved that repairs would be undertaken to make good the locks and payment for the locks was authorised.

41. Clerk and Councillors' reports and items for future agenda

Village Hall - An update was provided on the Village Hall AGM, plans to re-instate the Tea Room, and progress being made on an application for funds from the National Lottery. An agenda item will be added for Village Hall updates in the future.

Councillor vacancies - The Clerk reported that no applications for co-option had been received. It was noted that with 4 vacancies there was a high risk that future meetings may become inquorate. Managing this risk may result in the

appointment of co-opted members from outside the parish being necessary in order for meetings to proceed and to conduct business. A further appeal is to be made

42. Date of next meeting:
The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on **Tuesday 2 September 2025 in Walton Village Hall at 7.00pm. – PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DAY!**
Agenda items to be submitted to the Clerk by 12 noon on 25 August 2025.