

WALFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 9TH March 2011
In Walford Village Hall

Present: Frank Myers – Chairman.

Ward Councillor - John Jarvis.

Marc Thomas, Heather Evans, Geoffrey Symonds, Michael Downey, Bridget Vine, Simeon Cole, Derek Allen, Eric Drummond, Luke Freeman.

In attendance: Clerk – Catherine Murray. Several members of the public.

1. **To accept apologies for absence.** Alan Whitlock, Philip Heath, Sandra Cole.
2. **To receive declarations of personal/prejudicial interest.** Councillor Simeon Cole on Thorny Orchard.
3. **Open Session - reports**
 - 3.1 **To receive a verbal report from West Mercia Police and to consider any issues raised which relate to crime, disorder and community safety.** No representative was able to attend, due to operational duties, but a verbal report was delivered by the Clerk.
 - 3.3 **To receive a presentation by Richard Brown from National Grid on the Ross on Wye cable replacement project:** Item 3.3 was brought forward and the representatives from the National Grid made an informative presentation accompanied by slides, to the Council. There was a Q+A session after which the National Grid team agreed to pass on any queries raised up the chain of command.
- 7 **Planning Items 7.1 – 7.6.** These were brought forward to give the representatives from National Grid time to pack up their presentation and leave the hall.
 - 7.1 **To consider the following Planning Applications:**
 Application N0: DMS/110198/F
 Site: Arbour Hill Farm, Lincoln Hill, Ross on Wye, HR9 7TH
 Description: Demolition of existing farmhouse and construction of new farmhouse with detached garage/store. Grid Ref: OS 358802, 222621.
 There was general support, the use of sympathetic materials – particularly natural stone – was noted. The council asked if there might be a section 106 opportunity for the Recreation ground project.
 - 7.2 **To note any Planning consents given.**
 DMS/101580/N. Porters Lodge Coughton, noted by council.
 - 7.4 **To note any Planning refusals.** None received.
 - 7.5 **To note any Planning enforcement notices.** None received.
 - 7.6 **To note any withdrawn Planning applications.** No withdrawn applications.
- 3 **3.2 To receive a verbal report from Ward Councillor John Jarvis. And to discuss any issues raised therein.** Councillor Jarvis made his report, a copy of which is available from the Clerk.
- 4 **To adopt minutes of previous Parish Council meeting – 09.02.11 and 28.02.11.** It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the minutes as a true record.
- 5 **Finance:** See Appendix A – Finance statement. The Finance statement was noted by council.
 - 5.1 **To receive an update from the Finance Chairman:** Cllr Thomas gave an update to the council, which was noted.
- 6 **Roads:**
 - 6.1 **To discuss any items to be brought to the attention of Amey.** There was a report of very bad pot holes at Norland Place on the main road – the B4234 and by the bus stop at Coughton. Cllr Jarvis agreed to look into it. <<**Action Cllr Jarvis and Clerk**>>.

- 7 Planning: Had already been dealt with after item 3.1 and 3.3.**
- 8 To receive an update from the Lengthsman Co-ordinator:** It was reported that rubbish had been cleared in the bus shelter at Coughton.
- 9 Rights of Way:** The Rights of Way officer reported that all funds from the current tranche had been spent. He also reported a gate, which had been allegedly illegally installed across the footpath at Coughton, near to the junction, which the nearby property owner had put a padlock on. Herefordshire council knows about the gate. WPC **RESOLVED** that the Clerk should write a letter to Herefordshire Council stating that there had been at least two objections from the Public and that WPC also objects to the gate being across a right of way. <<**Action Clerk**>>
- 10 To receive an update on the progress of the Parish Plan:** There was nothing further to report.
- 11 To receive an update on the Kerne Bridge Canoe launch site:** After a report of the meeting which took place on 23/02/11, there was a general discussion about the proposed management of the site. There was a unanimous agreement that management of the site was a good idea and it was **RESOLVED** that the working group should develop a business plan. <<**Action Kerne Bridge working group**>>
- 12 To receive an update on the Recreation ground proposals:** The report from the working group meeting was considered and the Council **RESOLVED** to move forward with a business plan and detailed cost analysis. <<**Action working group – Chair**>> The provision of affordable housing was not considered to be relevant to the discussion linked to the Recreation ground.
- 13 S106 Funds for the Recreation ground project:** The ward Cllr explained that he did not have the information yet and it was **RESOLVED** to defer this item until the next meeting.
- 14 Sale of Thorny Orchard:** A lengthy discussion took place about the upcoming sale by Auction, of Thorny Orchard and the implications for footpath WA50. It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk should write to Andrew Ashcroft copying the letter to Lisa Hughes, Geoff Hughes and John Jarvis. The letter should express in the strongest possible terms that the Parish Council unanimously agreed that a condition of the sale should be that the new owner must adhere to all conditions of the original Planning permission and that all breaches of the original Planning permission should also be dealt with. These conditions should be publicised to any potential purchasers by the Planning department and by the Auctioneers. <<**Action Clerk**>>
- 15 Community Litter pick:** Walford Parish Community Litter pick will take place on Sunday April 10th at 10am, meeting at Walford Village Hall.
- 16 To decide on whether to request Polling cards for the upcoming election:** It was unanimously **RESOLVED** not to request polling cards.
- 17 Marking the occasion of the Royal Wedding:** It was unanimously **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council did not wish to organise anything to mark the occasion of the Royal Wedding.
- 18 Councillors reports on local matters:** Pot holes on the Footway between Walford Village Hall and Walford Court. The nuisance caused by incessant dog barking to some residents. The verges at the bottom of Cats Hill are very overgrown. It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk should report these matters to the relevant departments. <<**Action Clerk**>>
- 19 Correspondence:** Was noted by council.
- 20 Newsletter:** The Clerk was asked to send a final reminder about the deadline for the Newsletter to all Councillors in good time. <<**Action Clerk**>>
- 21 Next Agenda:** No matters were raised.
- 22 Open session:** Members of the public raised the following: Recreation ground: What about car parking and access to the recreation ground and where would the funding come from? It was suggested that as there was no focal point for meeting in Walford it is a good idea to pursue the

project. Funding for the Cycle way was also mentioned – and it was explained that grants and other funding would top up any money that WPC put aside for it. It was explained that these questions will be answered by the business plans and cost analysis and that there would be open meetings to discuss developments before either of the projects moved forward significantly.

23 To note the date of the next meeting: Annual Parish meeting [Meeting of the Electorate] on Wednesday 13th April at 7.30pm at Bishopswood Village Hall.

Signed: Frank Myers (Chairman) Date: 18/05/11

Catherine Murray - Clerk to the Parish Council

KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS:

WPC = Walford Parish Council

HC = Herefordshire Council

PC = Parish Council

BVH = Bishopswood Village Hall

WVH = Walford Village Hall

BVS = Bishopswood Village Stores.