

WALFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council

Held at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 14th March 2012 in Bishopswood Village Hall

Present: Frank Myers – Chairman.

Dave Berry, Cheryl Carpenter, Simeon Cole, Eric Drummond, Heather Evans, Luke Freeman (who left the meeting shortly afterwards) Philip Heath, Terry Snow, Marc Thomas.

Ward Councillor John Jarvis. Lynda Wilcox from HALC. Paul Leighton from West Mercia Police.

In attendance: Clerk – Catherine Murray and approximately 75-80 members of the Public.

1. **To accept apologies for absence:** John Daniels – due to illness, Sandra Cole – no reason given.
Absent without apology: George Jones.
2. **To receive declarations of personal/prejudicial interest:** None received.
3. **To accept the minutes of the previous meeting, held on 11th January 2012:** It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes as a true and accurate record.
4. **Open Session – reports:**
 - 4.1 **To receive a verbal report from West Mercia Police:** The Police representative gave his report – a copy is available from the Clerk. He explained that he was due to retire and the Chairman thanked him for his past contributions, this was followed by an ovation.
 - 4.2 **To receive a verbal report from Ward Councillor Jarvis:** Cllr Jarvis gave his report; a copy is available from the Clerk. Of particular note: The Mill Race Pub has received planning approval.

Alteration to order of Agenda: Due to the unprecedented number of members of the public who had attended to hear the presentation on proposals for the Recreational Field Project, item 8.1, it was proposed and unanimously **RESOLVED** to move items 8.1 and 11 up the Agenda.

8.1 Receive, discuss and respond to the presentation from the Recreational Field Committee: Councillor Carpenter gave a presentation of the proposals for the Recreational Field Committee. The presentation was not made in the format that was agreed at the Recreational Field Committee meeting on 27.02.12, items 5.1 & 5.2 and was given with no visual aids or handouts. The response of The PC was deferred until after the public participation session.

11 Public participation Session: The public were given the opportunity to express their views on the proposals. There was overwhelming public opposition to the proposals as they stand and many reasons were given for this opposition. One member of the public did express support for the scheme, but only if funded by an entrepreneur and not by The Parish Council, one apologised for not responding to the original survey, sent out with the Spring 2011 Parish Newsletter, she felt that those who failed to respond had let the Councillors down and caused them to do a lot of unnecessary work. At the end of this item approximately sixty members of the public left the meeting.

8.1 PC discussion and response to the proposals: Councillors were invited to express their views, in turn and The PC unanimously **RESOLVED** to ‘**Stop any further activity on the proposals, consult with the public by way of a comprehensive questionnaire and then decide on future action**’. It was proposed that this comprehensive Questionnaire should be sent out to the public with the next Parish Newsletter. The Questionnaire should include a list of suggestions for the site and should invite the public to comment on whether they would support each suggestion, or not. Cllr Berry was asked to prepare the questionnaire, which he agreed to do, with the input of Cllr Carpenter and HALC and they were asked to firm up on the questionnaire, and to bring it back to Full Council for approval. <<**Action Cllrs Berry, Carpenter and HALC**>>

The Chairman asked the PC if they wished to suspend standing orders and continue the meeting beyond 9.30pm.

The PC **RESOLVED** not to suspend standing orders, to postpone any non-urgent items to the next meeting and deal with the following, before the end of the meeting, at 9.30pm.

5. **Planning:** See Planning Appendix B.
 - 5.1 **To consider and comment upon the following Planning Applications:**
 - 5.1.1 **S120274/FH** Court View Cottage, HR9 5RJ. There were no objections.
 - 5.1.2 **S102678/F** Wytchways, GL17 9DB. There were no objections.
 - 5.1.3 **S120387/F** Arbour Hill Farm, HR9 7TH. There were no objections, provided that compatible materials are used.
 - 5.1.4 **S120473/F** Paddocks Farm, HR9 5SQ. There were no objections.
 - 5.2 **Planning consents noted:** The Sunday School, HR9. **Application N0:** DMS/11113081/F.
 - 5.3-5.5 **Planning refusals / Planning enforcements / Withdrawn applications:** None were received.

6. Finance: See Appendix A – Finance Statement.

6.1 To receive an update from the Finance Chairman: The Finance Chairman gave his update, that PC Finances were in order, following the Finance Committee meeting.

7. Highways and Rights of Way:

7.1 Highways defects: A pot hole on Bulls Hill needs repairing.

7.2 Lengthsman's report: Postponed to next meeting.

7.3 Rights of Way: The Rights of Way Officer spoke about the P3 Partnership paperwork, which is due to be submitted to Hereford, saying that she could not confirm that she would be able to walk all the Rights of Way twice in each year, as is proposed on the form. She added that she was concerned by the system and wondered whether it was still of benefit to be members of the scheme. The PC unanimously **RESOLVED** that Cllr Evans should fill out the form as she thought appropriate and send it off. <<**Action Cllr Evans**>>

8. Parish Projects:

8.1 Presentation on proposals for the Recreational Field: This item had already been dealt with.

8.2 Parish Plan Project Brief: Postponed to the next meeting.

8.3 - 8.6 Village Agent Scheme / Kerne Bridge Canoe Launch Management Scheme / Walford Links Project / Forest Green. Postponed to the next meeting.

8.7 Diamond Jubilee: There was a brief discussion about the Diamond Jubilee and it was confirmed that, as minuted on 11.01.12, the Clerk had been asked to register a Beacon and to contact the Schools and Village Halls to enquire about their plans, other than that, no mandate had been given by the PC to make plans. Further discussion to be postponed to the next meeting.

9. Communication with the public:

9.1 – 9.2 Meet Your Councillors / Parish Newsletter: Postponed to the next meeting.

10. Information and Correspondence:

10.1 Reports from Councillors on local matters: Postponed until the next meeting.

10.2 Correspondence received: Was noted. See Appendix C.

10.2.1 Parish Milestone restoration: The PC unanimously **RESOLVED** to support the restoration of the Parish Milestones.

10.2.2 – 10.2.3 Refurbishment of Howle Hill War Memorial / Hereford Council's Play Facilities Consultation: Postponed until the next meeting. Response to consultation required by 20th April 2012.

10.3 Freedom of Information and Data Control: Postponed until the next meeting.

10.4 The Clerk's report: Appendix D - was noted.

10.5 Annual Parish Meeting presentations: It was **RESOLVED** to invite presentations on the use of defibrillation equipment, Ongoing National Grid Works and a report from Walford School.

11. Public participation session: This item had already been dealt with.

12. Matters for the next Agenda: Those already postponed, otherwise none were raised.

13. To note date of next meeting – Wednesday 11th April at Walford Village Hall. APM (Meeting of the Electorate) at 7.00pm and Full Council at 7.45pm.

Signed: Frank Myers
Chairman

Date: 11/04/12