

# Walton on Trent Parish Council

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## MINUTES OF WALTON ON TRENT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 9 October 2023 AT 7.00PM AT THE VILLAGE HALL

**PRESENT** Parish Councillors P Byron, R Mizuro, M Rafferty, N Forrest, Cllr A Wheelton (SDDC), Cllr G Jones (SDDC), Parish Clerk, W Simms, A Needham (Remedi) & 2 Representatives of Oaklands Solar Farm Project

Cllr P Byron welcomed everyone to the October Parish Council meeting.

### **23/82 To receive apologies for absence**

Cllr S Hilton, Cllr C Mousley, Cllr H Hearn & Cllr S Swann (DCC)

### **23/83 Co-option of a Councillor**

Declaration of Acceptance received from Warren Simms. Cllr P Byron proposed that Warren Simms be co-opted to the Walton on Trent Parish Council.

***Resolved: Walton on Trent Parish Council agreed to co-opt Warren Simms to the Parish Council. (Declaration of Acceptance of Office form was completed by Warren Simms and countersigned by the Parish Clerk. A Register of Disposable Pecuniary Interests form which must be returned to the Parish Clerk within 28 days was handed to Cllr W Simms)***

### **23/84 Variation of Order of Business**

None.

### **23/85 Declaration of Members Interests**

None disclosed.

### **23/86 Remedi – Restorative Justice**

A. Needham of Remedi outlined to the Councillors that the recently formed charity group were working with the the Derbyshire Immediate Justice Scheme for the Police and Crime Commissioner and Derbyshire Police. Derbyshire together with 3 other forces have received a grant to focus on Anti-Social Behaviour and were looking to work with local communities to identify potential placements for perpetrators to take part in reparative activities. Suggestions to be sent to [admin@IJservices.org](mailto:admin@IJservices.org)

### **23/87 Oaklands Solar Farm – Update**

Oaklands Solar Farm Project members from BayWa.re provided the Councillors with an update and brochures on the current status of the planning. The brochures identified the updated proposed location of the site, together with access points and traffic management routes. Concern was raised over the additional traffic in the area, specifically via Drakelow and the proposed route for large HGV traffic through the village of Coton in the Elms. A decision on the plans by the Secretary of State for Energy is expected in 2024/25 with construction commencing in 2026.

### **23/88 Public Speaking**

The reports from Cllr S Swann, Cllr G Jones and Cllr A Wheelton had been forwarded by email and circulated to the Councillors.

Cllr A Wheelton reported that the Steering Group for the Drakelow and Bridge Development had been postponed until 27 November 2023

### **23/89 Chairman's Announcements**

Cllr P Byron welcomed Cllr W Simms to the Parish Council

### **23/90 To confirm the minutes of the Walton on Trent Annual Parish Council meeting held on 11 September 2023.**

**Resolved: Walton on Trent Parish Council agreed that the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 11 September 2023 be approved as a true record.**

**23/91 Clerks Report**

**a) Review of Outstanding Resolutions/Actions - Appendix A**

- i. **Speed Watch** – The latest from Derbys Police is that a meeting and training is being organized for some time in October 2023
- ii. **Village Hall – Exterior** – Working Party to tackle the weeds at the rear of the Village Hall and repairs to the garden gate are still required.

**Resolved: Walton on Trent Parish Council agreed for Cllr R Mizuro to arrange.**

- iii. **Traffic Management** – Due to further planning and projects being considered in the area the Council were keen to understand to what stage the agreed work by C. Henning (Derbyshire Highways) had progressed.

**Resolved: Walton on Trent Parish Council agreed for Cllr N Forrest to compose a letter requesting an update from C Henning (Derbys Highways)**

**Resolved: Walton on Trent Parish Council noted all the outstanding Resolutions/Actions and agreed with all entries marked as Completed.**

**b) Correspondence**

- i. **Barr Hall Farm Project** – Letter received from M. Avery at Fairfield Farm over the concern of a proposed Battery Storage Centre on land that he currently farms. M. Avery has offered to provide the Councillors a viewing of the land.
- ii. **Police Incident Figures** – The Council noted the incident figures provided by the Police.

**23/92 Planning matters for consideration**

- a) DMPA/2023/1063 – Erection of a 2 bed bungalow at Silsden, Coton Road, Walton on Trent, Swadlincote. DE12 8NL – **Comments required by 4 October 2023 (Extension requested to 10 October 2023)**

The Councillors raised concerns over the planning application due to the poor stewardship of the existing site, the constant drainage problems due to the lack of appropriate gullies and the regular run-off of water, and the traffic issues in the area due to parking and delivery vehicles.

**Resolved: Walton on Trent Parish Council agreed for the Clerk to contact SDDC Planning and object to the planning.**

**23/93 Finance**

**a. Accounts for Payment**

**Resolved: Walton on Trent Parish Council agreed to make the following payments.**

Payee	Expenditure	£	Payment
Parish Clerk	Expenses – Diary – Toilet Lock - Microsoft	55.29	BACS
SDDC	VH – Council Tax	147.00	Direct Debit
Sth Derbys CVS	September Wages	547.83	BACS
British Gas	VH - Electricity	98.86	Direct Debit
Bloomin Gardens	VH – Grass Cutting	84.00	BACS
EDF Energy	VH - Gas	215.00	Direct Debit
Innova	VH – Deposit Return	100.00	BACS
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>£1247.98</b>	

**b. Receipts**

***Resolved: Walton on Trent Parish Council noted the following receipts:***

Village Hall Hire (Sept)	£70.00
Village Hall Hire (Oct)	£165.00
Cosmic – VH Rent (Oct)	£550.00
Cosmic – VH Services (Oct)	£375.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£1160.00</b>

**c. Quarterly Finance Review – Appendix B**

The Clerk outlined the Quarterly Finance Review which had been previously circulated to the Councillors'. As of the 30 September 2023, once the agreed or expected payments had been met, the Parish Council had £49,457.29 at its disposal.

***Resolved: Walton on Trent Parish Council agreed with the Quarterly Finance Review and for the Chair and Clerk to sign.***

**23/94 Speed Indicator Devices - Update**

The Clerk stated that information from SWARCO is that they are still awaiting parts to complete the building of the Speed Indicator Devices.

***Resolved: Walton on Trent Parish Council agreed for the Clerk to regularly check with SWARCO for updates and a delivery/installation date.***

**23/95 Telephone Box – Damage**

The Clerk reported that a pane of glass in the telephone box, housing the defibrillator had been smashed and although it was hardened glass it had now been taped-up for safety but needs replacing. The anticipated cost for replacement parts is around £20.00.

***Resolved: Walton on Trent Parish Council agreed for the Clerk to purchase the necessary replacement parts.***

**23/96 Barr Hall Farm Electric Storage Project**

The Councillors discussed the Community Consultation Event that took place on 3 October 2023 in the Village Hall held by Innova for the proposed Fairfield Energy Centre. A Planning Application is to be submitted in Autumn 2023 with a construction time of 2 years and an operational life span of 40 years. The proposed access will be via Drakelow Road with no construction traffic going through Walton on Trent. A Community Promise is for up to £51,250 to be paid per year to a Community Benefit Fund.

***Resolved: Walton on Trent Parish Council agreed to further discuss once the Planning Application has been submitted.***

**23/97 Village Hall Toilets**

Cllr H Hearn had reported that quotes for the toilets were still to be arranged.

***Resolved: Walton on Trent Parish Council agreed to defer until the next meeting.***

**23/98 Specific Areas of Interest**

**a) Roads and Pavements –**

- i. Concern was raised over the increasingly poor state of Station Road on the Barton side, with some vehicles having to mount the pavement to avoid either oncoming traffic or the potholes. This is creating a danger for those attempting to use the footpath as due to the growth of bushes there is a limited amount of space to walk.

***Resolved: Walton on Trent Parish Council agreed for the Clerk to contact Barton Parish Council and Staffs Highways to report the issue.***

- ii. The surface on the bailey bridge is starting to show signs of a need for repair prior to the winter.

***Resolved: Walton on Trent Parish Council agreed for the Clerk to contact Derbys Highways.***

- iii. Cllr W Simms reported that complaints had been received regarding the parking along Main Street, particularly during the day, with vehicles on the footpath not leaving any space for pedestrians.

***Resolved: Walton on Trent Parish Council agreed for the Clerk to contact Cosmic and request that vehicles parked along Main Street leave sufficient space.***

b) **Footpaths** – Nothing of note

c) **Park** – Nothing of note.

**23/99 Circulated Emails for Information – Appendix C**

***Resolved: Walton on Trent Parish Council noted the other Circulated Emails for Information.***

**23/100 Date of the next Meeting**

***Resolved: Walton on Trent Parish Council approved that the next Parish Council Meeting is to be held at 7.00pm on Monday 13 November 2023, in the Walton on Trent Village Hall.***

**There being no other business to be transacted, the meeting closed at 8.58pm.**