

# Walton on Trent Parish Council

Parish Clerk: Ian Bentley

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## MINUTES OF WALTON ON TRENT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 12 February 2024 AT 7.00PM AT THE VILLAGE HALL

**PRESENT** Parish Councilor's P Byron, N Forrest, S Hilton, W Simms, R Mizuro, Cllr A Wheelton (SDDC), Cllr S Swann (DCC), the Parish Clerk and B Cook (Resident)

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

### **23/143 To receive apologies for absence**

Cllr G Jones (SDDC), Cllr H Hearn, Cllr M Rafferty and Cllr C Mousley.

### **23/144 Variation of Order of Business**

None.

### **23/145 Declaration of Members Interests**

None disclosed.

### **23/146 Public Speaking**

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

A discussion took place with regards to the level of disappointment following the SDDC Planning Committee increasing the housing cap on the Drakelow Development prior to the bridge being opened. The concern was around the ability of the SDDC Planning Dept to enforce the conditions/milestones that it has imposed.

Part of the conditions were prior to the bridge opening for the developer to work with Staffordshire County Council to ensure large vehicle are restricted from approaching the Bailey Bridge from the Barton side.

**Resolved: Walton on Trent Parish Council agreed for the Clerk to write to SCC to push for Station Lane, Barton to be narrowed to prevent large vehicles from approaching the Bailey Bridge.**

**Resolved: Walton on Trent Parish Council agreed for the Clerk to also write to SCC to request work be undertaken along Station Lane, Barton as the road is unsafe with the ever increasing amount of potholes and the safety barriers falling away.**

### **23/147 Chairman's Announcements**

None

### **23/148 To confirm the minutes of the Walton on Trent Annual Parish Council meeting held on 8 January 2024**

**Resolved: Walton on Trent Parish Council agreed that the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 8 January 2024 be approved as a true record.**

### **23/149 Clerks Report**

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

- i. **Speed Watch** – Although there has been several persons who have shown an interest in a Speed Watch Group, without a designated Co-Ordinator the Police will not agree to the training.

**Resolved: Walton on Trent Parish Council agreed for the Clerk to advertise again via the website and social media for a Co-Ordinator.**

- ii. **Vehicle Counter** – The Clerk stated that research has not identified any suitable vehicle counter that would not require permission from DCC Highways for its installation and use. A discussion followed with regards to the siting of a permanent vehicle monitor on the Bailey Bridge to identify

and support ongoing traffic concerns in the area. The additional concern is that in 2002 the bridge was given a 25-year life span and what with the increase in the weight and number of vehicles together with the impact of the increasing floods, can the bridge withstand the further impact of more vehicles.

**Resolved: Walton on Trent Parish Council agreed for the Clerk to write to DCC recommending the siting of a permanent vehicle monitor on the Bailey Bridge and to assess the current state of the bridge.**

- iii. **Church Memorial** – Cllr S Hilton reported that work commenced on the Memorial on 3 February 2024 however the stonemason was not completely satisfied so will be returning, at no extra cost.

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

**b) Speed Indicator Devices – Appendix B**

The Clerk highlighted that during the 4-week period ending 21 January 2024 there had been just over 22,500 vehicles through the devices on Main Street and Rosliston Road This was down by almost a 1/3<sup>rd</sup>, believed to be mainly due to the Christmas period and the floods and access roads being closed. However just over 23% in Main Street and 7% on Rosliston Road were travelling in excess of 30mph.

**Resolved: Walton on Trent Parish Council agreed for the Clerk to contact Swarco, the providers, to query at what point is the speed of the vehicle recorded.**

**c) Correspondence**

**i. Church Flagpole – Responsibility**

The Parochial Church Council had written seeking confirmation that the Parish Council were responsible for the flagpole in the Church Yard. Enquiries have identified that the flagpole was donated to the church by residents of the village and that they maintain it and ensure the correct flag is on display. The Parish Council, when the need has arisen, have on request previously discussed and agreed to replace the flags, but have no responsibility for the flagpole itself.

**Resolved: Walton on Trent Parish Council agreed for the Clerk to write to the Parochial Church Council advising them that the Council will discuss any request from the Church for assistance, but that they hold no responsibility for the flagpole.**

**ii. Catton Hall Events**

The organisers of Bloodstock have written, requesting the Parish Council consider having a joint meeting with all the organisers and Parish Councils involved to discuss the proposed Traffic Plans for the 2024 events at Catton.

**Resolved: Walton on Trent Parish Council agreed for the Clerk to contact the Bloodstock organisers to arrange a joint meeting for 7.00pm on Monday 4 March 2024 at the Village Hall.**

**iii. Oaklands Solar Farm**

The plans for the Solar Farm are to be submitted to the National Planning Inspectorate which once accepted will allow interested parties to put forward relevant information and objections. Interested Parties can now log their interest and be updated of the progress of the application.

**Resolved: Walton on Trent Parish Council agreed for the Clerk to circulate details of how to log interest to the Planning Inspectorate via the website and social media.**

**iv. Dog Fouling**

Concern has been raised over the increasing amount of dog mess being left on walkways around the village. A few residents are now refusing to walk their children to school due to the amount of mess on the footpaths and if dog owners are challenged the response is a load of abuse. Also, dogs are now being regularly exercised on the playing field despite a notice at the entrance clearly stating no dogs.

It was highlighted that residents can report dog fouling to the SDDC so that the Enforcement Team can be made aware of issues in the area.

**Resolved: Walton on Trent Parish Council agreed for the Clerk to circulate details of the link to the SDDC Dog Fouling Report on the website and social media.**

**Resolved: Walton on Trent Parish Council agreed for the Clerk to contact the Enforcement Team to highlight the problem in the area and to request additional signage on the playing field and on footpaths in the village.**

**23/150 Planning matters for consideration**

- a) DMPA/2024/0064 - Remove modern partition walls; reinstate former blocked door openings; and to insert new partition walls at 2 Walton Hall, Walton Hall Cottages, Main Street, Walton-on-Trent, Swadlincote, DE12 8LZ – Responses required by 1 March 2024 – **No Objections**
- b) DMPA/2024/0089 - The formation of a vehicular access to serve 13 Coton Road, Walton-on-Trent, Swadlincote, DE12 8NL – Responses required by 23 February 2024

**Resolved: Walton on Trent Parish Council had No Objection but will comment seeking planning consideration on water run-off onto Coton Road and the possible additional traffic hazard on an already busy road.**

- c) DMPA/2023/1187 - Change of use from fabrication of industrial and agricultural fences and gates (use class B2) to storage and distribution and motor vehicle service and repair (use classes B2, B8 and Sui Generis) at Units 1 -4 Old Barn Farm, Rosliston Road, Walton-on-Trent, Swadlincote, DE12 8LR - Responses required by 27 February 2024 – **No Objections**
- d) DMPA/2023/1665 - Proposed Battery Energy Storage System with associated access, landscaping and ancillary works at land South of Walton Road, Drakelow. Land at South of Walton Road, Drakelow – Responses required by 8 March 2024

**Resolved: Walton on Trent Parish Council agreed for Cllr N Forrest to compile the objection due to its position and likelihood to create more flooding in an already problem area.**

**23/151 Finance**

**a. Accounts for Payment**

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

Payee	Expenditure	£	Payment
SDDC	VH – Council Tax	147.00	Direct Debit
M Dughan Electrical Ltd	VH – Electric Repairs	325.00	BACS
ICO	Data Protection Fee	35.00	Direct Debit
Sth Derbys CVS	January Wages	598.27	BACS
Parish Clerk	Expenses & Microsoft	35.36	BACS **
Waterworxs	VH – Window Cleaning	24.00	Direct Debit
EDF Energy	VH - Gas	215.00	Direct Debit
British Gas	VH - Electricity	374.60	Direct Debit
Hampshire Flag Company	Flags x2 for the Church	295.77	BACS
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>£2050.00</b>	

**b. Receipts**

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

Village Hall Hire (January & March)	£455.00 (inc £200 deposits)
Cosmic Rent (January & February)	£1100.00
Cosmic Services (January & February)	£750.00

**Total £2305.00**

### **23/152 Drakelow Development**

Despite objections from local residents and Parish Councils in both Walton on Trent and Drakelow, and a verbal objection to the SDDC Planning Committee by Cllr N Forrest, the Planning Application to amend the housing occupation trigger on the Drakelow Development prior to the bridge completion was passed. It was noted that DCC didn't object based on the independent transport modelling demonstrating that the additional traffic from the extra 395 houses can be accommodated on the existing highway network.

***Resolved: Walton on Trent Parish Council agreed for the Clerk to re-invite Chris Henning (Executive Director at DCC) to discuss previously agreed promises and actions and to provide an insight as to how the Derbyshire roads are going to cope with the additional traffic.***

### **23/153 Public Demonstration – Traffic Issues**

Deferred to next Parish Council meeting.

### **23/154 Parish Council Website**

The Clerk reported that following communication from 2Commune that they were no longer able to provide and support the Council's website and email, several options had been looked into. This included Cuttlefish who in fact were the developers and domain holders of the existing website. Cuttlefish were offering to renew the contract for a further 12 months with no price increase and a promise to upgrade the existing system. Other options, one which also promised to price match, would need time to develop a new website and as the current website had an expiry date in March 2024, it was proposed that the Council sign-up for 12 months with Cuttlefish and review the further developments.

***Resolved: Walton on Trent Parish Council agreed for the Clerk to go ahead with developing a 12-month contract with Cuttlefish.***

### **23/155 Village Hall**

#### **a) Toilets**

Deferred to next Parish Council meeting.

#### **b) Alarm**

The Clerk reported that 9 companies via local research and Checkatrade had been contacted and although 7 were interested and site visits took place only 3 provided quotes. These were discussed with the services offered.

***Resolved: Walton on Trent Parish Council agreed to request M Dughan Electrics Ltd to supply and fit the new alarm system at the price quoted.***

### **23/156 Specific Areas of Interest**

#### **a) Roads and Pavements –**

- i. Concern was raised over the increasing poor state of the roads around the village especially along Coton Road with manhole edges collapsing and a large pothole.

***Resolved: Walton on Trent Parish Council agreed for the Clerk to report the issues on Coton Road via the DCC Portal***

- ii. It was also highlighted that a bush from Hansons Aggregates had collapsed or overgrown, covering the footpath on Station Lane causing pedestrians to have to walk on the road.

***Resolved: Walton on Trent Parish Council agreed for the Clerk to contact Hansons and request that the bush be cut back.***

#### **b) Footpaths – Nothing further reported.**

#### **c) Park – Nothing further reported.**

### **23/157 Circulated Emails for Information – Appendix C**

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

**23/158 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 11 March 2024, in the Walton on Trent Village Hall.***

**There being no other business to be transacted, the meeting closed at 8.59pm.**