Changing times

As you may know, there is a Parish Council election every 4 years and this year is an election year. Over the past 4 years I have been very lucky to work alongside many great people who have a passion for Walton and its residents. Each Councillor has been able to bring something new and different to the table and I would like to thank all of them for their hard work and dedication over the years and months.

In particular I would like to thank Alan Marsh, Philip Daniels, Clive Bishop and Jenny Ponsillo, all of whom have decided not to continue on the council for the next term. Their input has been hugely appreciated and we will certainly miss them at meetings.

I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome our newest Councillor - Callum Child, who starts with us this month.

Springing up around the village – over the next few weeks you will notice some planters popping up at prominent places around the village. We were able to secure a grant from HPC Community Fund & the Somerset Community Council in order to carry out this project to make Walton a greener village. We hope that you enjoy these as they come into bloom!

As ever please do get in touch if you have any ideas or feedback - we would love to hear from you! All the best.

Naomi

PARISH INVITATION

You are Invited to Celebrate the wonders of “What happens in Walton ?” with Us!

Friday 24th May 2019
Walton Village Hall from 7pm
With refreshments

There will be displays from village groups and the opportunity to socialise with friends as well as a chance to talk about your village, ask questions and discuss issues with your local Councillors

This annual meeting of the parish will have the following agenda:
1. Welcome from the parish chairman - an introduction to the event, displays and Annual report
2. Minutes of the previous meeting - for you to remember the presentation by the village school and what happened throughout the evening
3. Residents - for you to raise concerns, issues, and generally have the opportunity to make comment about the village
4. Displays and refreshments
Neighbourhood Watch
By Bob Musgrave

Spring is on its way and it’s the perfect
time to plan your garden.

As well as creating a nice space for you and
your loved ones, with a bit of careful
planning, you can also deter burglars.
Follow our tips to make your garden attractive
and also keep thieves at bay:

- Grow hedging to act as a barrier
Plants that have evolved over millions of years to
protect themselves can also help protect our
homes. Species with spiky leaves or thorns will
make burglars think twice before trying to pass
through or climb them. Berberis, Hawthorn or
Blackthorn are ideal for this and there are
evergreen variations available, providing
protection all the year round.

- Use your fruit or veg plots wisely
Fruit or veg plots can act as a secondary line of
defence within your garden. Grow rows of spiky
gooseberries or try exotic Szechuan pepper. They
will make an exit route uncomfortable for anyone
trying to make a quick escape.

- Plant something spiky under your
windows
Plant rose bushes under your windows; not only do
they look pretty but they will also put off burglars
trying to scope out what’s on offer inside your
home.

- Hide outbuildings with bushes and
hedges
Hide small sheds or outbuildings containing
valuables like bikes or electric garden tools so
they don’t become a target. Evergreen hedges like
laurel, escallonia and grisalinia grow quickly to
form a covering, as well as adding more green to
your garden.

- Lock your gate and check fences are
fully secure
Having your gate closed with a lock acts as a great
psychological deterrent. It’s also important to
check that fences aren’t broken, as they create a
physical defence to anyone trying to gain entry to
your garden. Make them doubly secure by adding a
trellis to the top of the fence, which will make a
loud noise if broken and alert you to any
trespassers.

Bob

Latin In Line
No partner adult dance classes
at Walton village hall

Learn to dance the Cha Cha Cha, Samba,
Rumba, Mambo, Paso, Merengue and so
many more, to fabulous Latin rhythms.

Have fun, make new friends and enjoy an
afternoon or evening of dance. A warm
welcome awaits you from lots of dancers
who are already enjoying the music,
dancing and friendship of these groups.

Classes are
Wednesday evenings 7.15pm to 8.30pm
And
Thursday afternoons 2pm to 3.30pm.
Each class costs £5.

For further information and to book your
place, contact Bev on 01458 446565 or
07542 552721

[ Both pictures from at a Saturday fundraiser in April ]
Roads Recently

The recent closure of Main Street once again created chaos around the minor roads of the village - even more so than the previous closure. South Street, Long Lane and Bramble Hill were badly affected with large numbers of cars streaming through these minor local roads. Council reported the situation to both the contractor concerned and Somerset Highways and requested additional signage both for the official diversion route and to identify local roads as unsuitable for diverted traffic - but all to no avail. The situation required the local PCSO to attend, and also the rescuing of articulated lorries from Long Lane where they had got stuck. Damage to walls and verges has also been caused.

Walking Walton Footpaths

Please join us on our walks
Meet outside Walton Church at 10.30am
The Second Saturday of each month
If you would like to know more, including the date of the next walk, call 0771 689 6254

Please be aware that you will need to wear appropriate footwear and clothing for our country footpaths, which may include fields, stiles, muddy conditions etc. Walkers are responsible for their own health and safety!

Walton Walkers

VILLAGE FOOTPATHS...

If you have concerns regarding footpaths in or around the village - like problems with styles or paths being overgrown - then please contact:

Cllr. SIMON LOADER
simon.loader1@tiscali.co.uk

Or leave a message with the Parish Clerk
Helen 07399 040 667

Roads Recently continued.....

Council has again requested that the damage to the local verges and lanes be repaired, either by highways or the contractors who failed to sign the diversion route sufficiently. Questions will also be asked of the District and County councillors as well as your local MP.
Walton Short Mat Bowls Club
Mondays 7pm to 9pm at Walton Village Hall

The club has recently welcomed some new members but would really love to enrol more, especially from our own village.

All equipment is supplied and coaching given so a golden opportunity exists for folk to socialise with a friendly group of people and learn a new sport at the same time.

Club members recently enjoyed a wonderful lunch at the Royal Oak, and we have arranged to play a few friendly matches at home and away with neighbouring clubs

Why not come and “Have a go”?

You’ll find the game of bowls can become addictive but very enjoyable.

We have two sessions of play with a break in between for refreshments, and you will be made very welcome.

For more information please call the club secretary on 01458 442748

Greening Walton

Following receipt of the grant from the HPC Community fund and the Somerset Community Foundation, you will soon be seeing raised beds being installed in various spots around Walton. This will happen over a period of time as the work is being carried out by Councillors and others volunteering their time and expertise. Wild flower seeds will initially be sown followed by native bulbs later in the year. It is hoped that a colourful display will be achieved. The parish council is also looking at tree planting in East Mead field - in the area that is not suitable for expanding the allotments into - ideas and plans are being considered to create an area with trees and informal seating for all residents of the village to enjoy. Ideas for the creation of small micro parks in more central areas of the village are also being looked at.

FOXLANDS CLOSE
Council were recently asked by Mendip district council to comment on names proposed for the new road into the housing development being built to the rear of what was Pursey’s garage. Local knowledge informed us that the site was formerly used as a chicken farm and was called Foxlands and therefore Council responded that an appropriate name would be Foxlands Close.

The developer has agreed to use the parish proposal.

The Benefice of Street, Walton and Compton Dundon

May Services

Holy Trinity Walton

Sunday 12th 10am Holy Communion
Sunday 19th 10am Morning Praise
Sunday 26th 10am All age worship

[ from swcd-churches.org.uk ]
The recent village litter pick was a positive and well attended event with a large number of people turning out to spring clean Walton - A big Thank You to all who attended -

The parish council has received many reports lately about the amount of dog mess being left around the village - either not cleaned up at all or small bags of it being thrown into hedges or left laying around.

These dog walkers are giving the all dog owners a bad name - even the ones who do clean up after their pets.

What can you do?
Clean up after your dog and encourage others to do the same - put the bags of waste into the village bins and do not leave it laying around - remember young children walk these footpaths and play in the green areas, a health hazard is being created not just the look of the village being spoilt. Do not exercise your dogs in the village play areas or the MUGA - these are dog free zones!

What is the parish council doing?
Council is purchasing and installing two new dog waste bins to encourage dog owners to dispose of waste appropriately - they will also be installing more signs to remind everyone to clean up after their dogs.
Walton W.I.

Five members were lucky to be able to attend the County organised ‘Crime Lunch’ held at Somerset Cricket Ground where the food was excellent & talks from crime writers Claire Donoghue & Chris Ewan were interesting. Members have also supported County Roadshows in Odcombe & Draycott where the speakers have proved to be very entertaining.

In our ‘Explore Your Local Area’ series we have visited the Somerset Heritage Centre for an evening tour, had an afternoon walk with a challenge in High Ham & toured the Toy Museum in Montacute followed by a cream tea.

Our Sunday charity garden visits have taken us to Lambbrook Manor & Rose Garden, Harptree.

In the last three months, where our evening meetings have averaged forty-four attendees, we have been entertained by the Glastonbury Town Crier, learnt about ‘The Emotion of Fragrance’ courtesy of Fragrant Earth & had an in depth talk on ‘Cider Making’ by Hecks Cider with samples. The latter two talks being changes to the programme due to speakers’ illnesses.

Socially, we have organised an away kurling session for Curry Rivel W.I. as well as one in Walton Village Hall for the Polden Group, thoroughly enjoyed singing & dancing during the Spring Group meeting hosted by Westonzoyland W.I. & held a home friendly skittles evening attended by twenty-six of our members in the Royal Oak.

Our usual pastimes of table tennis (held weekly on Tuesday afternoons) & monthly Monday ‘Ladies who Lunch’ in Street Inn have continued to prove popular whilst our Singing Group is busy practising for a forthcoming event. Local fortnightly croquet sessions on Monday afternoons have also now resumed after the winter break. In addition, craft enthusiasts, who meet every Friday, have been busy making perpetual calendars, visiting the Exeter Craft Fayre & supporting a ‘Crafternoon’ organised by Shapwick Starlets W.I.

In Walton Village Hall our Jumble Sale held in aid of ACWW (Associated Country Women of the World) proved to be extremely successful. Nothing was wasted as the remaining items were collected by another local charity to assist its summer sale.

The next evening meeting after publication will be a 7.30pm on Thursday 13th June 2019 in Walton Village Hall where our return speaker will be Michael Malaghan who will this time be entertaining us with his witty talk entitled ‘Can You Hear Me at the Back’ & the competition will be ‘A Couplet’. As always new members & visitors are very welcome to join us. Further information of forthcoming activities can be found on our blog:

www.waltonwi.wordpress.com

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Walton Top Class 1956?

Your Response...

some of the feedback received about this photograph printed in the last edition.

I have just seen on Facebook part of a photo of Walton School 1956. I was at Walton School in 1956 and would like to see the complete photo. I can confirm that Patrick is the son of Ken Crossman the then landlord of the Globe Inn. I cannot add any names however I think the photo dates from 1955 not 56. Assuming this is the leavers that summer, Mrs Wright was the headteacher and junior teacher in 1956, the lady in the picture is not Mrs Wright. Also Carolyn Jones and her family were our next door neighbours for many years, I was born in 1950, I know she was 6 years older than me which would make her 11 years old in 1955.- Edgar Frampton.

The photo of Class 1956..... my sister Carolyn Jones, shown in the front row, is sitting next to Miss Wright, Head Teacher. My sister would have been age 12 in 1956, her date of birth 26/05/1944 so, do you have the correct year? I believe you are correct in that Patrick was the son of Ken Crossman. I also believe that Miss Crossman who taught at Walton School would have been his Aunt. Di scanes

I am Stuart Bisgrove, stood in the middle row, I believe the teacher to be Mrs Wright, one of the best teachers, the school ever had. The boy next to Parry Jones, I think is one of the Stacey's from the farm at The Batch, just a guess though, I was so surprised and pleased to see the picture, I lived with mum and dad at South Street for many years, before leaving Walton School to go to Dr Morgan’s School for boys at Bridgewater. Great days when things were simpler, happy days, kind regards, Stuart

Walton Parish Council, Air Pollution Monitoring 2018
(Nitrogen Dioxide)

Last year the parish council installed four nitrogen dioxide pollution monitors around the village to compare the variation between Main Street and areas further away from the A39. The actual figures we received back from the independent lab were:

Main Street results 12.948 & 20.916 μg m⁻³
Outer village results 5.727 & 4.482 μg m⁻³

[The concentration of NO₂ is measured in micrograms in each cubic metre of air (μg m⁻³). A microgram (μg) is one millionth of a gram. A concentration of 1 μg m⁻³ means that one cubic metre of air contains one microgram of pollutant.]

Which confirm the obviously much higher levels of nitrogen dioxide present along Main Street. These higher levels do, however, meet the current UK objectives for nitrogen dioxide levels. The parish council is considering following up with further monitoring.
Your Walton...

Your New Council...

Following the recent uncontested elections Walton parish council has the following councillors -

1. Callum CHILD
2. Richard CROSSMAN
3. Naomi JOHNSON
4. Simon LOADER
5. Bob MUSGRAVE
6. Elaine NELSON

An uncontested happens when less people stand for election than the number of spaces available - so all those who DID stand are automatically elected. As there should be 9 councillors representing Walton, your parish council will soon be looking to co-opt a further three people. So if you thought about standing for election but did not get around to it - or if you have an interest in what happens in and around your village please do get in touch!

Photographs of all your councillors [so you can spot them around the village] will be in the next newsletter, along with the areas of responsibility that they have taken on board.

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Dates of future Parish Council meetings -
you are welcome!
7pm at the village hall on FRIDAYS:

- June 14th 2019
- July 12th 2019
- August 9th 2019
- September 20th 2019
- October 11th 2019
- November 8th 2019
- December 13th 2019

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ADVERTISING IN WALTON VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

The Parish Council has advertising in the village newsletter in order to assist with funding it and, hopefully, inform you about the wide range of services and skills that are locally available to residents of Walton. Council is keen to ensure that advertising does not take over your newsletter - therefore the amount of space for adverts will be limited. The process for advertising is:

- Adverts will initially be for ¼ page, black & white and will be placed within the newsletter as seen fit by the editor.
- The cost to be £15 per edition or £50 for the year [4 editions]
- Consideration will be given to requests for larger [½ page at £20 per edition £60 for the year] or smaller [£10 per edition £35 for the year]
- ADVERTS MUST BE WITH THE PARISH CLERK IN TIME FOR THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING IMMEDIATELY BEFORE THE PUBLICATION OF THE NEWSLETTER AT THE LATEST [eg at October parish council meeting for publication within the November newsletter] and be accompanied by a CHEQUE MADE PAYABLE TO WALTON PARISH COUNCIL FOR THE APPROPRIATE AMOUNT.

This newsletter comes out in November, February, May and August at present and currently varies between eight and twelve pages of village news, events and information. It is distributed to every home within the parish of Walton, which is currently around 500 homes.

Contact: clerk@waltonpc.org

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Your Walton... If you want to submit an article for inclusion in the next newsletter please send it to the parish clerk - the deadline for submissions is 31st July 2019

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ARTICLES:

Articles in this newsletter are gathered from the parish council, village & public sources & contributors. The information & views are accepted as factual & honest. Information or views expressed in articles are not necessarily those of the editor or the parish council

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Helen Moore
Walton Parish Clerk
21 Bere lane
BA6 8BD
clerk@waltonpc.org
07399 040 667

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In Touch with... Walton