Minutes of the Meeting of Walton Parish Council of Friday 11th October 2013
That took place at 7.00pm in the Walton Village Hall Lounge

13.14.151 Present

13.14.152 In Attendance
2 Members of the public
H. Moore [clerk]

13.14.153 To accept apologies for absence
Cllr. B. Pletts – for personal reasons
Cllr. R. Crossman – due to work commitments
District & County Cllr. G. Noel
PCSO T. Richards
• Cllr. C. Bishop advised that he needed to leave the meeting early due to other commitments.

13.14.154 To confirm the minutes of the previous meeting
The minutes of the parish council meeting of 20th September 2013 were Resolved [3/nil with 2 abstentions due to non attendance] to be an accurate record and they were then signed as such by the Chairman.

13.14.155 Residents declarations of interest in speaking on agenda items
Both residents present expressed an interest in speaking on Agenda Item Planning – to consider applications received.

13.14.156 Open forum for residents
No items raised

None declared

13.14.158 To receive the County & District Councillors report
The written report provided was read out to those present and is attached as appendix one

13.14.159 To receive the Police Community Support Officer’s report
The written report provided was read out to those present and is attached as appendix two

Councillor Mike King joined the meeting during the reading of this report.

The Chairman rearranged the agenda at this point to take Items Planning / Roads & traffic through the village/ land purchase for allotments next and in that order – no objections were raised.

a) To receive any planning decisions reported
2013/1515 – construction of solar photovoltaic park and associated equipment, Whitley Farm TA7 9QA
APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS

At this point Councillor Mike King formally tendered his intention to resign from Walton Parish Council with effect from the end of this parish council meeting.
b) To consider any applications received

2013/1831 – Pursey’s Garage Limited Main Street Walton – Application for approval of details reserved by conditions 3, 4 & 5 of outline planning permission 011354/010

The Chairman closed the meeting at this point in order to allow residents to speak

Residents raised the following areas of concern

- Shrinking of buffer zone between proposed development and Hempitts road estate
- Variation in height between proposed development plot and the surface level of the neighbouring Hempitts road estate
- Location / design of windows to not allow existing properties to be overlooked
- Risk of flooding due to increased surface water run off
- Lack of information about boundary fence / wall on eastern side of proposed development

The meeting was then re opened

Discussion occurred with regard to the layout of the development and the eastern boundary

Councillor Mike King left the meeting at this point due to this item and remaining agenda being ongoing items in which he will not be involved due to his resignation

Considerable discussion then occurred with regard to the application including site levels, flooding and road and path layouts

It was **Resolved [5/nil]** to recommend **REFUSAL** due to the following concerns:

**Condition 3 [layout/scale/appearance]** -
- Concerns were raised with regard to the margin between the proposed development and the existing Hempitts Road Estate - What boundary treatment was being proposed as this was not stated on the plans provided.
- The Depth [width] of the Eastern buffer zone [planted margin & path] appears to have been reduced from the original proposed width of three metres. The Parish Council recommend that the developments plots 13 to 18 are moved 1 metre westward in order to facilitate this.

**Condition 4 [site levels]** -
- The variation in levels between this side and the surrounding area creates drainage issues.
- There is a steep 0.5metre drop **down** onto the Hempitts Road Estate and flooding of their back gardens already occurs on occasions of heavy rainfall. The Parish Council request an up to date report from Wessex Water and proposals from the applicant that specifically address this issue that could be severely aggravated by the proposed development.

**Condition 5 [energy conservation]** -
- No comment

c) To consider a report on enforcement - no issues raised

d) To consider any general planning issues – no issues raised
Roads and Traffic through the village

a. Mildred Road Verges
   [i] Wild flower trial - It was reported that this had been very well received and that it is intended to slightly extend the beds and sow wild flower seeds in the spring.
   [ii] Shrub Planting – Discussions occurred with regard to types and location of beds for planting and the quotations obtained. It was Resolved [5/nil] that in order to improve the appearance of the village up to £500 [five hundred pounds] be authorised to be spent on the project with Cllrs. B. Musgrave & C. Bishop to liaise with the plant nursery.

b. Roads & traffic in general
   [i] The latest Speed Indicator Devices were provided to all those present
   [ii] Village Litter Pick – The resident had been emailed but no response had yet been received.

Land purchase for allotments

The latest exchange of emails with the parish council solicitors was read out to those present. It was Resolved [5/nil] that the following response be made by Chubb Bulleid to the points raised, subject to the approval of Maxine Heal as the official parish council solicitor

1. Clause 12.3.4 [lift & divert clause re water pipe] The council agree to keep this as is, that is that Walton parish council be responsible for the cost of diverting & relocating the water pipe in the future.

2. Clauses 12.3.4.2 & 12.5.9 Stock proof post and wire fencing is agreed - however the height of such fencing was agreed at 1.5 metres in height with the tenant [as opposed to their suggestion of 1.2 metres] therefore are they happy with a statement of at least 1.2 metres in height.

3. Clause 12.5.10 Completion of the accommodation works within two months from the date of TP1 is agreed [do the parish council need to comment on this - unclear as to what it referred ]

4. Transfer plans - promap extract to identify land being transferred issued by Greenslade Taylor Hunt, Second plan showing retained land and line of water pipe as supplied to you by parish council. The parish council have no objection to this subject to your approval.

Councillor Clive Bishop left the meeting at this point due to previous commitments

Precept Grant Applications Received

At this meeting the following applications were discussed in order to decide if a grant would be awarded or not. Discussion of the amount of any award to be granted is intended to occur at the next parish council meeting.

a.] Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance

   It was Resolved [4/nil] that a grant would be made
b.] Mendip Community Transport  
It was **Resolved [4/nil]** that a grant would be made

c.] Somerset Motor Project  
It was **Resolved [4/nil]** that a grant would be made

d.] Mendip Citizens Advice Bureau  
It was **Resolved [4/nil]** that a grant would be made

e.] St. Margaret’s Hospice  
It was **Resolved [4/nil]** that a grant would be made

f.] Walton Under Five’s pre school  
It was **Resolved [4/nil]** that a grant would be made

g.] Holy Trinity Church Walton  
1. The Clerk was asked to obtain details and financial information of the ‘new fence’ mentioned in the application.
2. It was **Resolved [4/nil]** that a grant would be made

h.] Polden Hills Pony Club  
1. The Clerk was asked to obtain more financial information about the group and what the grant would be spent on:
2. It was **Resolved [4/nil]** that a grant would be made

1. It was noted that no accounts for the financial year ended 31st March 2013 had yet been received.
2. Cllr. J. Haydon, as parish council representative to the Walton Trust, stated that he would make enquiries.
3. Further discussion of this item was deferred to the next parish council meeting

13.14.165 Consideration of approval of the monthly financial report  
1. A financial report as at 30th September 2013, that included a bank reconciliation, was circulated to all councillors present. The bank statements for that period were provided to those present. It was **Resolved [4/nil]** by the council that this was an accurate record and it was then signed as such by Cllr. J. Haydon.
2. It was noted that training on Budgets and financial management had been arranged for the Chairman and the Clerk for November 14th and therefore the arrangement of a meeting for parish council budget setting was deferred to the November Parish Council meeting.

13.14.166 Authorisation of expenses and the agreement of cheques for the payment of accounts  
It was **Resolved [4/nil]** that the following payments are approved by the council with the cheques to be signed at the end of the meeting.

- 1364: H. Moore – 4 weeks wages 13th September 2013 to date
- 1365: HMRC – tax & NI re above
- 1366: Somerset County Council – play area grass cutting August & September
- 1367: Play Inspection Company – annual independent inspection
- 1368: Helen Moore – refund of travel and office admin. expenses [July /Aug/ Sept]
Walton Parish Council ~ Financial Year 2013 ~ 2014
Cheques for Payment 11th October 2013

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Consideration of proposals for this event was deferred to the next parish council meeting

13.14.168 Walton in Bloom
It was reported that Walton received a silver award and second place with a prize of £50.00 in Mendip in Bloom this year.

13.14.169 Owl Boxes
Following the article in the village newsletter three residents had expressed an interest in having a box and it was **Resolved [4-nil]** that the parish council would fund these three boxes.

13.14.170 Village Play Areas
The annual independent inspection report had been circulated to all councillors. Items requiring attention were read out by Cllr. J. Haydon to those present.
It was reported that Cllr. J. Haydon had ordered a replacement cradle swing seat.
It was **Resolved [4-nil]** that
1. Cllr. J. Haydon obtain a quote for the cutting back of the hedge, rubbing down and repainting of slide as required and removal of trip hazards, with a separate quote being obtained for the replacement of the remaining wooded fence.
2. Clerk obtain bolt covers [black plastic caps] in order that the 1 missing from the trim trail can be replaced.

It was reported that the fun day was well attended and enjoyed by a wide range of village residents and that it raised about one thousand pounds for the Trust.

13.14.172 Upcoming Meetings
Monday 21st October – local choice event – Kilver Court Shepton Mallet 6pm
NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 8th November 2013 7pm in the village hall lounge

The meeting then closed