2016.20. Present:
Cllrs Alan Marsh, Bob Musgrave, John Haydon, Simon Loader,
Philip Daniells, Clive Bishop, Naomi Johnson and Richard Crossman
- also present H. Moore parish clerk

2016.21. Apologies for absence:
None.
It was noted that Cllr. C. Bishop advised that his non attendance in
December was due to family commitments.

2016.22. The minutes of the previous meeting 11th December 2015, that had been
circulated, were RESOLVED [5/nil with 3 abstentions due to non attendance] to be
an accurate record and were then signed as such by the Chairman.

2016.23. Residents declarations of interest in speaking on agenda items - none

2016.24. Open Forum for Residents - no concerns raised

2016.25. Cllrs Disclosure of any undeclared interests and notification of dispensations granted - none

2016.26. County Councillors & District Councillors Reports - none received

2016.27. The Police Community Support Officer’s Report - noted.

2016.28. Annual Contribution to the Walton Trust
- Cllrs. J. Haydon & R. Crossman left the meeting room at this point
  • It was noted that the Trust accounts for the financial year ending 31st March
    2015 had now been received.
  • It was noted that the hall was in regular use and an important village asset
  • It was noted that any impact from the PV installation would not become
    apparent until the receipt of the current years financial report.
  • It was RESOLVED [6/NIL] that a payment of £3,000.00 [three thousand
    pounds] be made in April 2016 as the annual parish council contribution.
- Cllrs. J. Haydon & R. Crossman rejoined the meeting at this point

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CHAIRMAN…………………………………………. DATE………………..
2016.29 Planning:

a. To receive any planning decisions reported. - None received

b. To consider any applications received -

i. 2015/2848/FUL - The royal oak public house - application for the demolition of skittle alley etc.

Following considerable discussion, it was noted that:

- The Royal Oak Public House is considered to be a village asset
- The skittle alley at the public house is considered to be an important village asset
- The traffic exiting onto the bend of the A39 Main Street on this side of the road remains a serious concern to the council.
  = Visibility at this point remains considerably limited.
  - Council has concerns re safety of access to the A39 at this potentially hazardous exit.
- The number of spaces proposed for the new car park could be inadequate.

Walton Parish Council RESOLVED [8/nil] that they can only recommend approval of this application subject to the following conditions being imposed:

1. That Highways fully investigate the safety concerns raised by this council and approve the access as safe, prior to any permission being granted.

2. That the proposed new skittle alley be built PRIOR to the construction of the proposed new car park - in order to retain & ensure ongoing access to, and use of, a valued village asset.

3. That the proposed new skittle alley and new car park be built PRIOR to any works being carried out on the existing car park [currently located opposite the public house and subject to planning application number 2015/2846/OTS]

The reason being to safeguard the ongoing use of, and access to, the existing important village assets of the Royal Oak Public House and Skittle Alley.
ii. 2015/2846/OTS - The royal oak public house - outline application for the erection of 4 dwellings on existing car park.

Following discussion,

Walton Parish Council RESOLVED [8/nil] that they can only recommend approval of this application subject to the following conditions being imposed:

1. That the proposed new skittle alley and new car park [application number 2015/2848/FUL] be built PRIOR to any works being carried out on the existing car park. [If the application 2015/2848/FUL be declined an alternative car parking facility to be created local to the public house prior to any works being undertaken on this existing car park.]

The reason being to safeguard the ongoing use of and access to the existing important village assets of the Royal Oak Public House and Skittle Alley.

2. That the current well used access path [that cuts through the side of what is indicated as plot one] that links the public footpath along the playing fields to the pavement, be formally recognised and retained.

The reason being that although it is acknowledged that this short link is not currently registered as a public footpath - it has been in local use as a safe access to avoid walking along the A39 for many many years and it would take very little adjustment to plot 1 to facilitate its continued existence.

3. The style of the four dwellings to be built at this location should be in keeping with the needs shown by the recent independent Walton Housing Needs Assessments - Mendip District Council having previously been provided with a copy.

c. To consider any General Planning Issues - None raised

2016.30 Roads & Traffic through the village ~

A.) Vehicle Activated Device - It was reported that the post has now been installed, SDC & WESTCOTEC have been advised and council is now awaiting an installation date.

B.) MDC have been advised that Council would like them to commence the revised grass cutting schedule at the start of the financial year.

A response is awaited.
c.) Gateways and passing places on minor roads - It was reported that due to the amount of rain recently these are in a very bad condition. Highways need to be advised as the verges and ditches are being seriously eroded and damaged. It was AGREED that the Clerk be authorised to do a survey of all minor roads and photograph such faults followed by submitting a report to highways requesting remedial action.

Following considerable discussion of the budget working group main reasons for the proposed increase in the precept, which were noted as:
- Agreed installation of Vehicle activated device as a traffic calming measure
- Legal requirement of staff pension provision
- Agreed increase in grass cutting of green areas through the village.

Walton Parish Council RESOLVED [8/NIL] to set the precept for the 2016 2017 financial year as £26,000.00 [twenty six thousand pounds]

It was agreed that the Clerk include an article in the next edition of the parish newsletter stating the increase and the reasons for it.

2016.32 East Mead Field & Allotments -

Allotment society

New member gained and things generally quiet at this time of the year

Remaining part of field

It was RESOLVED [8-nil] that the grass keep of this area be offered to the same person as last year with the same conditions.

2016.33 Financial Report -
The monthly financial report, which included a bank reconciliation to the latest bank statements, was RESOLVED [8-nil] to be an accurate record and was signed as such by Councillor R. Crossman.

2016.34 Payments for authorisation -
The following expenses & agreement of cheques for payment of accounts were RESOLVED [8-nil] to be authorised:

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<td>100085</td>
<td>HMRC</td>
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<tr>
<td>100086</td>
<td>Walton Trust</td>
<td>Room Hire</td>
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<tr>
<td>100087</td>
<td>Holy Trinity Walton</td>
<td>Contribution toward highlighting of street scene &amp; clock</td>
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</table>
The meeting closed briefly at this point to allow cheques to be signed and was then re opened

2016.35  Village play areas
These were reported as being well used and in a good condition.

2016.36  Annual Meeting of the Parish
- It was noted that it would be informative and appropriate if the current school history project could be displayed at the annual meeting
- The Walton Trust are to be asked to put on a display of the proposed village hall extension.

2016.37  Village Hall Improvement update
- It was reported that an architect had been appointed and outline drawings of the existing hall had been completed.
- Sub committee has been set up and further input from the parish council would be welcomed. Councillors Bishop, Loader and Marsh agreed to attend the sub committee when possible.
- The preliminary designs are to presented to the sub committee on 19th January at 7pm
- Sub mission of planning application - this is to be discussed further at the next meeting.

2016.38  Upcoming meetings &/or training ~
Reminder - April meeting moved back to Friday 8th
Reminder - Computer / IPAD training session arranged for Tuesday 1st March 10 to 12.30
Next meeting Friday 12th February 2016

The meeting then closed.