

WALKINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting

Date of meeting:	28 May 2019
Venue:	Village Hall, Walkington
Start time:	19:00
End time:	20:30
Councillors Present:	Councillors Mrs V Swann (Chair), Mrs C Boyle, T Collinson, K Hearne, N Waudby
Also present:	Four members of the public and Ms M Rose (Clerk)

Note: These minutes will require approval at the next Annual Parish Meeting.

APM.19.01 Minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting

The minutes for 3 April 2018 were checked for accuracy and approved.

APM.19.02 Matters Arising

The minutes of 3 April 2018 item 18.04.02 Chairman's annual report for 2017/18, Section 3 Community Led Housing stated "David Siddle of East Riding Council had explained his proposals to the Parish Council and had subsequently undertaken housing need survey in Walkington. This had confirmed a need for bungalows and starter homes". It was requested this item be put on the next agenda as an item for discussion and the outcome be reported to Mr Siddle.

Resolved: The item will be added to the agenda for the ordinary meeting in July.

APM.19.03 Chairman's Report

The Parish Council continues to strive to make the village a pleasant place to live in. This year saw areas of change in the areas of conservation, some areas being taken out and others included. One of the main projects has been the improvements to the village pond area which is a centrepiece of the village, the results are now beginning to show, especially the new trees which form the backdrop. There is still work to be done but hopefully when it is complete it will make a difference to the aspect of the pond.

A new housing development on Townend Road is nearing completion as are some smaller developments within the village. Councillors attend planning meetings and comment on applications trying to ensure that these new developments are in keeping with the rest of the village, although the final decision is always with the East Riding of Yorkshire Council.

The Parish Council continues to financially support village organisations and youth projects, including a contribution to the defibrillator on the playing field which was a very worthwhile asset. Contributions were also made to the silhouettes of the soldiers to commemorate the war; which were enthusiastically received by the residents and considered an achievement for the village.

A new seat has been placed on the footpath towards Broadgate for people who like to walk into Beverley and want to rest half-way, it is now installed and secure.

Crime in the village is on a reasonable low level and Councillors receive monthly crime reports. Unfortunately traffic has increased considerably through the main thoroughfare and parking of cars is always an issue. The problem of parking at the school has hopefully been resolved with yellow lines being introduced.

Work on the improvement of Red Yates Paddock has taken place with a new hedge being laid; overgrown branches, greenery and a dead tree have been removed, there is more planting planned.

Meetings of the Parish Council take place on the first Tuesday of the month at 7pm in the Methodist Room. There are eleven places on the Parish Council and only five councillors nominated to stand in this year of parish elections; this is quite a sad situation in a village the size of Walkington. The Parish Council have since co-opted and welcome Nick Waudby as a Councillor. Long standing Councillors, George Southern, Clive Dixon, Robin Taylor and Tom Hodgson will be sadly missed and thanks were given for their contribution in all aspects of council work.

The Parish Council has a new year ahead and will go forward and perform to the best of its ability with items raised. There are numerous tree issues and while as many trees as possible are preserved many new developments prefer the removal of existing trees to the detriment of the overall aspect of the village, which is a shame.

The hanging baskets are again installed for the summer and much admired by residents and passers-by and the village pond will again be enhanced at Christmas by the decorative lights.

APM.19.04

Questions

a) **Planting on Highway outside Manor House**

A resident reported that planting of trees has taken place on the land outside Manor House.

Councillors have previously discussed this matter and residents were reminded of the resolution under item 19.04.14d "The land is not owned by the Parish Council and therefore the resident is encouraged to contact the East Riding of Yorkshire Council if they wish to take the matter further." The resident requested this item be put on the next agenda for re-consideration.

Resolved: The item will be added to the agenda for the ordinary meeting in July.

b) **Ward Councillors**

Concern was raised regarding the lack of contact from previous and newly elected Ward Councillors.

Resolved: The Clerk has contacted the East Riding of Yorkshire Council asking for new contact details and is waiting for them to respond, this will be followed up until contact is achieved.

c) **Public Participation at Meetings**

A resident strongly felt that in previous sessions he had not been listened to and that he believes this is a view shared by many members of the public. He acknowledged that this was caused by previous members of the Council and urged the new Council to take his comments on board and try to listen to the public in future. The resident commended the new Clerk for improved communication performance.

Resolution: The Chair takes on board the comments raised and endeavours to ensure improved performance by the new council. The suggestion of using 'open meetings' for more contentious issues was discussed, although these must be planned in advance to allow sufficient time for protocol and advertising. The impending review of the 'public participation in meetings' policy was also discussed and will be added to the agenda for the ordinary meeting in July.

d) **Vote of Thanks**

A resident thanked the Councillors for the time and effort they put in to running the Parish Council on a voluntary basis and expressed his appreciation that with little support from the community this is a difficult time but feels that the work carried out is appreciated by the majority of residents. If the existing Councillors had not stood for re-election the Parish Council would have been run by the East Riding of Yorkshire Council and much control would have been lost.

Approved: _____ Date: _____
Chairman