

# WALPOLE PARISH COUNCIL

## MEETING

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at the Community Centre on the 5<sup>th</sup> of December 2024 from 7.00pm.

Present:

Councillors – Charles Boston (CB), Heather Smith (HS), Adrian Eveleigh (AE), William Brooks (WB), Jan Luck (JL), Andy Bliss (AB), Richard Green (RG), Richard Blunt (RB), and Irene Hunter (IH)

3 members of public

1. Welcome from the Chairman.  
Public Participation – None
2. Apologies received by Cllrs James, Kirk, Campion (arriving late) and clerk.
3. All Councillors were reminded of their duty to abide by the Code of Conduct.
4. Declarations of interest – None
5. Minutes approved from the Parish Council meeting on the 7<sup>th</sup> of November 24 proposed by JL, seconded AE and all in favour who were present at that meeting.
6. Matters arising:
  - 6.1 NDP – Mr. Blandford did not complete the survey due to leaving the parish and thanked Cllrs Boston and Brooks for attending the open sessions in November - not surprised by the lack of interest/attendance.  
74 responses mostly within the parish which is a very high return. Some were only partially completed and 7 were from land owners. 1 was highly detailed.
  - 6.2 Solar Farm Fund update – no grant requests received to date and defer to the January 25 meeting.
  - 6.3 Verdant / Conrad / National Grid open meeting to be held in the community centre on the 16<sup>th</sup> of December.
7. To receive reports:
  - 7.1 Highways – Christmas Tree Corner (Faulkner’s tunnel) – the new tree has also been removed and it has been badly finished. Cllr Kirk said that it would be monitored for failures. The Walnut tree corner has had the hedge hacked back so it is a bit of an eyesore. Diversion signs still out on Mill Road
  - 7.2 County and Borough Councillor’s Reports:  
**Cllr Blunt** – The Grimsby to Walpole grid – decision will still be national  
CIL applications need to be in by January 25 and will be looking at bigger projects.  
Government pressurising on the adoption of a new Mayor.  
Much consideration and various options to be discussed.

7.3 Clerk Report: updating the budget/precept, attended online NALC meeting and GDPR review.

7.4 Village Crier and Website reports:

Crier – AE reported that all deliveries have been made and gifts given.

94 short when collected and these have been reprinted.

Clerk advised 413 views in November of the website.

7.5 To receive updated regarding footpaths and circular walks – still soggy!

7.6 Community Fund Projects Working Group – Nothing to report.

7.7 Play area –The zip wire is causing concern and clerk working with Online to incorporate work with the adult equipment installation.

7.8 SAM reports – AE reported as follows:

3.11.24.to 30.11.24 Mill Road (Plumridge Nurseries) Incoming 30mph

85<sup>th</sup> % = 38.3 mph, maximum speed = 70mph with total vehicles 31,978.

Average speed = 31.8mph

3.11.24 to 30.11.24 Wisbech Road (Cherry Tree Farm) Incoming 30mph

85% = 28.9mph, maximum speed = 45mph, total vehicles 16,283.

Average speed = 23.7mph

7.9 Communications/Correspondence – None received to date

8. Planning – to consider Planning Applications, Decisions, Appeals and Enforcements. Any applications received after the date of this agenda and before the meeting date be considered.

8.1 Applications: None

8.2 Decisions: **21/01712/DISC\_A**|DISCHARGE OF CONDITION 4 FROM PLANNING PERMISSION 21/01712/DISC\_A | Demolition of Village Hall and replacement with New Village Hall| Village Hall Committee Church Hall Church Road Walpole St Peter Wisbech Norfolk PE14 7NS **Discharge of Condition final letter**

8.2 Enforcements/Appeals: (for information):

**24/00189/UNTIDY**| Untidy Land| Keldan Chalk Road Walpole St Peter Wisbech Norfolk PE14 7PH – pending consideration

**24/00368/BOC**|BOC - Breach of Planning Condition| Bustards Farm Bustards Lane Walpole St Andrew Wisbech

Clay Cottage – Clerk to write to enforcement for an update.

HS advised that 10 Folgate Lane is being run as a business and was advised to contact the Enforcement Officer and copy RB.

9. Finance

9.1 To approve payments/receipts, bank reconciliation and statements for November proposed AE, seconded HS and all in favour.

9.2 To approve payments (to date) for December – proposed AB, seconded WB and all in favour. Cllr Campion joined at 7.55pm

9.3 To review the 2nd draft of the 25/26 budget and precept. AB proposed a 20% increase in the present to future proof the budget. JL agreed since the new equipment will add to the maintenance costs. AE Seconded and all in favour. Clerk to resend budget/precept at 20%.

10. Public participation: None

11. Items for next agenda – solar fund grant requests

12. Next meeting will be on the 9<sup>TH</sup> of January 2025 from 7pm at the Community Centre.  
Cllr Brooks gave his apologies for this meeting.

Meeting closed at 8.10 and Chairman thanked everyone for attending and the councillors for their hard work in what has been a tough year.

Minutes kindly taken by Cllr Hunter

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**NOVEMBER OUTSTANDING PAYMENTS**

Clerk Expenses October	£ 48.95	
Community Centre	£ 34.32	
Clerk Salary	£ 672.70	
HMRC	£ 168.20	
Chairmans allowance -gifts	£ 354.79	paid by clerk
Minuteman	£ 473.00	

**PAYMENTS FOR DECEMBER 2024 (to date)**

EE mobile	£ 18.48	direct debit
SSE	£ 95.66	direct debit
Clerk Expenses November	£ 48.95	
Community Centre	£ 34.32	
Clerk Salary	£ 672.70	
HMRC	£ 168.20	

Signed .....

Date .....