

## WALL PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Wall Parish Council held on Wednesday 24 May 2017 at 7:30 pm at Wall Village Hall

**Present:** Councillor M J Crowe (Chairman) and Councillors R Barker, J Linney, P Sampson, and C Rubisch

**In Attendance:** Peter Young (locum clerk) and one member of the public

**Apologies:** Councillors R Saxton and A Ryman had submitted apologies and these were accepted.

#### 1. Election of Chairman for the ensuing year

Councillor M J Crowe was elected as Chairman for the ensuing year, and made and signed his declaration of acceptance of office as Chairman.

#### 2. Appointment of Vice Chairman for the ensuing year

Councillor P Sampson was appointed Vice Chairman for the ensuing year.

#### 3. Declarations of Interest: None declared.

#### 4. Minutes

Minutes of the Council meeting held on 23 March 2017 as circulated with the agenda were approved and signed as a correct record.

#### 5. Matters Arising on the Minutes

Vehicles speeding through the village were referred to. The Chairman reported that he had received estimates from SCC Highways of £1,000 per speed cushion with spacing every 80 metres, £2,000 for rumble strips (but not suitable within 200 metres of residential properties due to noise), £12,000 for buildouts or chicanes, and £12,000 for a village 'gateway' treatment. Due to restrictions on SCC budgets, these would need to be funded by the parish council if they were to be introduced.

There was some discussion regarding inconsiderate parking by the Trooper. The Chairman had spoken to PCSO Brian Harber who had made a note for it to be looked into. **ACTION:** it was agreed to monitor the parking and report back to the next meeting.

#### 6. Public Session: The meeting adjourned for the public session.

A member of the public reported on continuing flooding problems on Watling Street between Ashcroft lane/Watling Street crossroads and the railway bridge caused by drainage into the roadside ditches being blocked. **ACTION:** These matters to be reported to SCC Highways.

It was noted that previous flooding by the Railway Bridge appeared to have been resolved by Railtrack, followed by regular maintenance by our own lengthsman.

There were continuing speeding problems (particularly 7:00 to 9:30 am) when vehicles regularly sped through the village eastwards on Watling Street after leaving the A5. **ACTION:** This matter to be reported to the PCSO.

The Meeting reconvened.

#### 7. District and County Councillors' comments

County Council David Smith had submitted his apologies due to attendance at another meeting. He wished to inform members that his Community Fund would be open for bids from 1 June.

#### 8. Reports from Chairman, Councillors and Clerk (including correspondence received)

- a. Road gullies were blocked by Wall Village Hall causing flooding which had lifted the tarmac (one outside Hall and one opposite outside the Museum. Park cars restricted access by the gully emptying machine, so if a time could be arranged for the emptying, arrangements could be made to clear the parked cars. **ACTION:** Report to SCC highways.

- b. There was a longstanding smell of gas in Ashcroft Lane just south of the junction with Raikes Lane, by Grange Farm bungalow. The smell was worse after rain and the hedge was dying. This was believed to be where an updated plastic pipe connected to the old cast iron pipe. **ACTION:** report to National Grid.
- c. The locum Clerk reported details of an SPCA training course for councillors on 28 June.
- d. Hilton residents would like a post box with a larger aperture to replace one in situ that can only take very small letters. The location of the post box was on Cranebrook Lane, opposite 'Fresue'. **ACTION:** report to Royal Mail.

## 9. Representatives on Outside Bodies

Councillor P Sampson was appointed to the Wall Village Hall Management Committee and Councillor M J Crowe would attend LDC Parish Forum meetings.

## 10. Highways & Open Spaces

- a. Best Kept Village Competition 2017 - it was reported that an entry had been submitted to the 2017 competition, however improvement work would be hindered in the absence of the Community Payback team.
- b. Community Paths Initiative Bid 2017 - there was still some funding left over from last year, so no application would be submitted this year. **ACTION:** buy strimmer and some 'public footpath' signs. Footpath 21 - the fingerpost by 'Trooper' had fallen over. Footpath 7 – the stile at top of Aldershawe on path to Harehurst Hill needed repair. Footpath 2 - Claypit Lane/Market Lane fingerpost needed.

**11. Planning:** Proposed development of dwellings at Barn Farm Hilton. It was understood to be still at pre-application stage – to be commented on when application submitted.

## 12. Annual Review of Council Policy Documents:

The Council approved the following as circulated to members and available on the website: Standing Orders, Financial Regulations, Financial Risk Register, Asset Register, Code of Conduct.

## 13. Accounts for Payment: *Resolved: payment of the following accounts:*

Date	Chq	Payee	Details	TOTAL
25/01/2017	671	Mr M J Crowe	Reimbursement - Software + Laptop	107.52
25/01/2017	672	Mr P Sampson	Reimburse Tool Station: Community Paths Initiative 2	52.81
25/01/2017	673	Wall Village Hall	Room Hire	18.00
25/01/2017	674	Morgan Garden Services	Lengthsman	240.00
24/02/2017	675	LDC	Election Expenses 2015	136.23
24/02/2017	676	N Power Ltd	Street lighting	34.40
24/02/2017	677	Mr P Sampson	Reimbursement Wilkinsons / Travis Perkins	47.09
24/02/2017	678	Wall Village Hall	Hall Hire: Defibrillator Training	27.00
22/03/2017	679	Morgan Garden Services	Lengthsman	120.00
22/03/2017	680	SPCA	Membership	152.00
22/03/2017	681	Greenland Garden Services	Grass Cutting	264.50
22/03/2017	682	Community Council of Staffs	BKV Entry	18.70
12/04/2017	686	P Sampson	Reimburse Travis Perkins - compost bin churchyard	223.04
12/04/2017	687	P Sampson	Reimburse Paints 4 Trade – phone box project	44.99
12/04/2017	688	Morgan Garden Services	Gravelling churchyard pathways	100.00
12/04/2017	689	M J Crowe	Reimburse Calico/Spanglefish website/domain name	53.95
17/04/2017	690	Wall Village Hall	Room Hire	18.00
17/04/2017	691	Greenland Garden Services	Grass Cutting x2	400.00
17/04/2017	692	N Power	Car park light electricity	40.23
17/05/2017	693	Wall Village Hall	Room Hire 27/4/17	18.00
24/05/2017	694	Came and Co	Insurance to 31 May 2018	340.68
28/05/2017	695	Wall Village Hall	Room Hire 17/5/17 and 24/5/17	36.00

**14. Finance and Accounts:**

- a. Members noted the External Audit Report for 2015/16 year which would be posted on the Council website together with the audit completion notice.
- b. Members noted the receipts & payments schedule and the bank reconciliation for the year ending 31 March 2017. This had been circulated to members and posted on the Council website.
- c. Members noted the internal audit report for the year ending 31 March 2017 which would be posted on the Council website as part of the 2016/17 audit return.
- d. Members considered and approved the Governance Statement for the year ending 31 March 2017 and the matters requiring attention.
- e. Members approved the Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31 March 2017
- f. It was agreed that Alan Toplis Associates be appointed as Internal Auditor until further notice.

**15. Calendar of Meeting Dates:** Members approve the calendar of meeting dates as:  
2016 26 July; 27 Sept; 29 Nov      2017 31 Jan; 28 March; 23 May

**16. Confidentiality: Resolved: That by reason of the confidential nature of the business next to be transacted, the public and press be excluded from the Meeting.**

**17. Staffing matters**

- a. It was agreed that Mr Peter Young be appointed as locum clerk from 24 April 2017 until further notice on terms outlined to the members.
- b. Resolved: that delegated authority be given to the locum clerk in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman to resolve other staffing matters.

***There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9:00 pm***

*Chairman:* .....

*Date:*.....