



WALDRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

1 Poplar Street
Waldridge Village
Co Durham
DH2 3SE
Tel. 07961 790 990



parishclerk.waldridgeparish@gmail.com

17th April 2023

Please find attached the minutes of the **WALDRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL** meeting which was held at the Parish Rooms on Tuesday 11th April 2023 at 7pm: -

Present

Cllrs: Johnson, Moffat, Sexton and Taylor

1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed councillors and introduced the new Parish Co-ordinator. The Chair took the opportunity to thank Cllr Johnson for working hard to make the Easter Weekend such an excellent and well-received event.

2. Apologies

Received from Cllrs: Fantarrow, Graham, Lewcock, Moist, Morrison.

3. Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

None were declared

4. Public Questions

None

5. Minutes of last meeting

Were agreed and signed by the Chair

Agenda-Motions

1) Action Log – New action log created (attached)

2) Finance

- a) The 2023-4 Precept of £66,388.64 has been paid into the WPC current account.
- b) The Parish Co-ordinator is working on collecting information for the AGAR to submit to the internal auditor. The internal and external elements of the audit must be completed by 30th June, including ensuring the WPC website is compliant.
- c) The Allotment Association has been invoiced for the 2022-3 water rates and for annual rent. **Decision** Unanimously agreed not to increase the annual rent this year given the precept is not increasing, although it should be made clear to the Association that additional costs are being absorbed by WPC for 2023-4. **See Action Log**
- d) DCC Streetlight charges **Decision** Unanimously agreed need to pay charges of £2029.12 and £2017.55. However, clarification is needed on how these charges are broken down into maintenance and power components and review against SLAs in place. WPC could communicate to residents how the Parish Council is again absorbing substantial cost increases, in particular energy costs, and not raising the precept for 2023-4. **See Action Log**
- e) Grit bins. Budget of £500 previously agreed. Co-ordinator to obtain prices for one near MG bridge and the other in the Village. **See Action Log**
- f) MG Mosaic tidy and maintenance. Cllrs Sexton and Moist to look at options. Electricity supply to MG, fixed or temporary discussed. **See Action Log**
- g) Litter picking. **See Action Log**
- h) Flower watering. Looking at alternative providers and present options at next meeting. **See Action Log**
- i) Laptop. No action needed at this point but will probably need to renew MS Office licence in September.
- j) Payment to Rachel & Helena Snape. A payment of £250 has been made.
- k) Kid's exercise equipment proposals for MG. Not going ahead due to high cost of procurement.

3) Events Update

- a) Lessons learned from Easter Weekend were for more advertising to increase participation, including via posters and contacting local schools.
- b) Waldrige Weekend. **Decision** Unanimously agreed to uplift PLI from current 499 people to 1500 as long as cost less than double current cost. Also need to establish if Safety Advisory Group (SAG) is needed. **See Action Log**

4) County Cllrs Report Nothing to report

5) Staffing

- a) New co-ordinator commenced on 17th March.
- b) Co-opted councillor. Decision deferred. **See Action Log**

6) Website

Website needs to be brought up to date, most critically for the AGAR by end of June. Unneeded complexity making maintenance more time-consuming is an issue.

Decision Unanimously agreed Co-ordinator to work on updates for AGAR initially and then further updates before looking at any redesign activity. **See Action Log**

7) **Millennium Green.** No further discussion.

8) **WPC Grant Scheme.** No further discussion.

9) **AOB**

- a) **Membership of MGT** Agreed MGT needs applications for trustees. **See Action Log**
- b) **Defibrillator Invoices.** Outstanding payment due of £1293.12. **See Action Log**
- c) Discussion around events and activities to encourage responsible dog ownership

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING (AGM):

9th May 2023 at 7:00pm