



WALDRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

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Produced 14th July 2023

Minutes of the **WALDRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL** meeting held at the Parish Rooms on Tuesday 11th July 2023 at 7:00pm.

Present

Cllrs: Johnson, Moffat, Moist, Sexton, Taylor, Parish Co-ordinator Harris.

1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed Councillors and the Parish Co-ordinator to the meeting.

2. Apologies

Received from Cllrs: Fantarrow and Morrison.

3. Public questions

3.1. Kathleen Foster raised the issue of unmaintained flower beds near Waldridge Road and Redesdale Road. There is uncertainty about whether maintenance of these is within the contract with DCC. The Parish Council agreed to investigate. Raised in action log.

3.2. Kathleen also raised the issue of members interests for former councillors still being linked to a DCC page from the WPC website. The Parish Co-ordinator will look into this, delete out of date information. Raised in action log.

4. Minutes of last meeting

Agreed by all present and signed by the Chair.

5. Disclosable pecuniary interests

None declared.

6. Agenda-motions

See below.

7. Date and time of next meeting

Tuesday 12th September 2023 at 7pm.

Agenda-Motions

(Specific actions arising are documented and tracked in the **action log**).

1) Financial and report and update on audit

Internal audit has been sent to the external auditors and the notice of public rights is posted on parish noticeboards and website during the period 3-27 July. Co-ordinator circulated income and expenditure report for June 2023. **Decision: financial statements approved and signed by Chair and Co-ordinator.** Queries were raised as follows:

- a) Monthly payment to 3mobile. To be investigated as WPC mobile not usable;
- b) Energy payments to e.on for parish rooms seem high. Need to take meter reading and contact e.on to see if re-billing is needed.

2) Co-option of new councillor

Decision: unanimously agreed to co-opt Sally-ann Kinnear as a new councillor. Chair will pass contact details to Co-ordinator so a welcome email and welcome pack can be sent to Sally.

3) Hiring Handyperson

Parish Room maintenance could include cleaning. Care would have to be taken with assignment of, for example, electrical work, if the person was not sufficiently qualified.

Decision: unanimously agreed to hire someone on a salaried basis, line managed by Co-ordinator, to complete outdoor and parish room maintenance at an annual cost of £7500 including on-costs.

Future increases above the £7500 for salary increases to be managed within in the MTFP

4) RoSPA annual play inspection reports

Decision: unanimously agreed to spend up to £1500 on prioritised remedial repairs. Agreed 3-2 not to wait for handyperson to be in post before commissioning work.

5) On-going review of procedures

Priority list reviewed. Agreed top priorities are: Asset Register; Social Media Policy; Financial Regulations. (The latter won't change but are subject to annual review and need to be re-adopted at next meeting. Also broken website links need to be fixed.

6) Hammerhead weeds/survey

The chair brought forward a 'motion without notice' for a decision to commission an additional £400 for further work to be carried out by Skill Mill on clearing the Hammerhead. **Decision: unanimously agreed.**

7) Review action log

Review of the action log was deferred to the next meeting due to lack of time.

8) OASES Nature Explorers

Request to use MG over summer school holidays. **Decision: unanimously agreed.**

9) Cestria Flower Club grant application

Decision: unanimously agreed to offer £100 this financial year once WPC application form returned. Further discussion took place around engaging with the club and to see if they are interested in hosting community events at the Parish Rooms.

10) Millennium Green improvements

Agreed to get costs for repairs to 8m section of footpath, general clearing and potential electricity supply to bring to September meeting.

11) Future events updates

Arrangements for Waldrige Weekend are progressing. Proposed date for Halloween event is 28th October. The event has been organised by Jodie Graham in the past. Cllr Sexton will approach Jodie to see if she is willing to organise it this year. Cllr Johnson asked to be involved and shadow Jodie and get event planning documents from her for future use. Noted the event needs to be advertised more widely to attract more residents.

12) AOB

a) PAT testing of Parish Rooms electrical equipment

Added to action log to progress.

b) Recent attempted dog theft incident in Parish

Added to action log for Co-ordinator to write to police for an update.

c) Need for car parking restrictions in Waldrige Village

This needs to be escalated due to a recent incident when an ambulance attending to a resident struggled to gain access.

d) Offer to purchase land to create a community garden

An initial approach has been made in relation to Parish Council land adjacent to the Hammerhead. To be considered at a later meeting.

e) Councillor tour of Waldrige Village

Suggestion for councillors to tour the village to get a better idea of its layout.