

WALKERN PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 24 June 2021

The meeting was held at Walkern Sports & Community Centre, commencing at 7.00 pm.

Those present were the Chairman, Cllr T Deffley, Vice-Chairman, Cllr M Rist and Cllr C Nudds. Apologies for absence were accepted from Cllr M James and Cllr K Overall. Members of the public were invited to attend via zoom but none did so.

The minutes of the previous meeting, having been circulated, were accepted as a correct record on the proposal of Cllr Nudds and seconded by Cllr Deffley.

Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Cllr Rist will look at the list of free native trees available to order through etrees for the picnic garden project at WSCC. Unfortunately, fruit trees are not included. Cllr Nudds will speak to Brenda Lowe regarding sourcing fruit trees for her idea for an edible garden.

Action: Cllr Rist/Cllr Nudds

The flooding issues at Moors Ley/Aubries are still being looked into by Affinity Water.

The fitness trail has been installed and the safety inspection report completed. The Clerk will ask for a copy of this. Walkern Parish Council will arrange an event to formally recognise EHDC's involvement with funding towards the equipment. The Clerk will contact Nigel Bennett regarding the pathway proposed leading to the disability equipment.

Action: The Clerk

The Choir event at the sportfield has been postponed until Sunday 1 August 2021 due to the extension of the Covid restrictions.

Declarations of Interest

None.

Finance

Payments made since the last meeting:

Staff costs -	£2755.43
Mr P West - bifold doors at WSCC (balance)	£ 742.50
Timeless Gardens Ltd - maintenance of Recreation Ground	£ 384.00
Zurich Insurance - Parish Council annual insurance policy	£1688.74
Parish Council Websites - maintenance of Parish Council website	£ 72.00
Mrs B Harlow - grant towards Walkern Food Bank	£ 100.00

Walkern Elderberries - grant towards funding events	£ 100.00
Timeless Gardens Ltd - maintenance of Recreation Ground	£ 360.00
HAPTC - Cllr and Clerk meeting regarding Code of Conduct	£ 60.00
Herts County Council - street lighting & maintenance charges	£1255.45
St Mary's PCC - grant towards churchyard maintenance (Recreation Ground Charity A/c)	£1500.00
United Reformed Church - grant towards churchyard maintenance (Recreation Ground Charity A/c)	£ 500.00

Payments received since the last meeting:

CDA - grant towards village groups (Walkern Food Bank & Elderberries) £ 200.00

Budget Control to date:

Tax Assist Accountant has prepared the budget to date which has been forwarded to all Councillors and is available to see on the Parish Council website.

Approval of 2020/2021 Accounts for Audit:

The Parish Council Accounts for the year ending 31 March 2021 were prepared by Tax Assist Accountants and an internal audit of procedures was also carried out. The AGAR was completed and presented to all Councillors and signed at the Parish Council meeting as a correct record of the Council accounts for the year ending 31 March 2021 by the Chairman, Cllr Deffley and the Clerk. The Clerk will forward all requested information to PKF Littlejohn LLP. The notice of public rights of inspection has been posted on the Parish notice board and on the website together with the AGAR form.

Action: The Clerk

Any Other Business

A new plate has been fixed to the Recreation Ground gate. Another rubbish bin will be installed at the bottom of the Recreation Ground.

The Choir event at the sportfield has been postponed until 1 August 2021 due to further Covid restrictions until 19 July 2021.

The meeting ended at 8.30 pm.

The next meeting will be held at WSCC on Thursday 12 August 2021 commencing at 7.00 pm.