

WALKERN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 4th January 2024

The meeting was held at Walkern Sports & Community Centre, commencing at 7:00pm

Councillors present: Chair Cllr M Rist, Cllr D Standing, Cllr P Warner, Cllr M Allingham, Cllr C Nudds, Cllr B Lowe, Clerk K Overall.

Cllr J Wilson was unable to attend.

Minutes from the previous meeting 14th December had been circulated and were accepted as a correct record and approved by Cllr M Allingham and seconded by Cllr C Nudds.

Matters Arising from previous meeting: the Parish Council have had concerns raised by some residents regarding the proposed solar farm in Cromer and the surrounding area. The Parish Council has had no planning application so is unable to comment currently.

Walkern Neighbourhood Plan

Jacqueline Veater, our consultant has been paid for her work up to date. North Herts have been consulted as an interested party and have no issues with the updated Plan.

Sports field Picnic Area

Cllr C Nudds has acquired quotes for the community grant for equipment. However, climbing equipment is extremely expensive and would require a large amount of extra funding from the Parish Council. A decision was made to instead apply for a grant to fence the play area.

Action: Cllr Nudds, Cllr Rist

WSSC

The minutes of the last WSSC Committee meeting received by the Council were not very detailed and Councillors required more information.

It was later agreed that a Councillor should attend WSSC committee meetings in the future to aid co-operation between the two.

Action: Cllr Brenda Lowe offered to attend WSSC committee meetings.

Action: The clerk to contact WSSC secretary regarding the previous meeting.

Dog Bins

The bins are being emptied at the moment.

Finance

All invoices to be paid up to date.

Action: Clerk to contact Barclays regarding the transfer of money from a closed account to the Parish Council current account.

Planning

Decision notice received for Finches End.

Allotments

Cllr D Standing has received four quotes for the water supply. The final water bill will be received in March so the Council will discuss changing suppliers then.

Action: Parish Council

Gigaclear

The Parish Council hosted the meeting for the village at Walkern Sports and Community Centre. We would like to thank Andrew Lipski, the representative from Gigaclear, who explained how the company will install the fibre broadband. Residents were able to ask questions and raise their concerns.

Action: Cllr D Standing to contact other Parishes where Gigaclear has worked for their feedback.

Correspondence

Clerk received email from Toller the Solicitors acting for the Parish Council regarding the peace garden, they are chasing East Herts.

Any other business

Cllr D Standing locked the gate at the WSCC on the 23rd December and unlocked it on the 24th December at 5:00. Apologies to any residents for any inconvenience this caused.

Community Police Officers: Clerk to contact the local support office to ask them to attend some of our meetings.

Action: Clerk

Cllr P Warner requested that a member of the Parish Council should liaise with the WSCC regarding the Walkern fair. Cllr B Lowe agreed to raise this matter at the next WSCC committee meeting.

Meeting finished at 20:33