

WALFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk: Catherine Murray, Rose Cottage, Coughton, Ross on Wye, Herefordshire, HR9 5SF.
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Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held in Bishopswood Village Hall On Wednesday 9th July at 7.30pm

Present: Chairman – Frank Myers

Councillors: Dave Berry, Simeon Cole, Karen Chinn, John Daniels, Eric Drummond, Heather Evans, Philip Heath, Terry Snow.

In attendance: Clerk Catherine Murray.

1. **Apologies:** Marc Thomas and Shane Carlson work commitments. Sandra Cole family commitment.
Not present: Luke Freeman.
2. **Declarations of Interest:** Simeon Cole, pecuniary interest in item 8.4.
3. **Minutes:** It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to accept minutes of the previous meeting held on 11th June 2014.
4. **To receive an introduction from 4.1, a brief verbal report from 4.2 and address questions to both:**
 - 4.1 David Atkinson, the new Balfour Beatty Locality Inspector for Walford, introduced himself; he explained his role and answered questions from members of the Council and the public present.
 - 4.2 Ward Councillor John Jarvis – was not present.
5. **Public Participation Session:**
 - A member of the public asked what was happening regarding the flooding near to Walford Church. Cllr *Drummond explained the meeting that had taken place between landowners, residents, highways and Parish Council representatives, regarding flooding there and at Daycroft Lane; measures are being taken to attempt to alleviate the problem. The Chairman asked the questioner to contact the Clerk, in order to be kept up to date.*
 - Another asked about the road closure at Kerne Lodge, enquiring which route HGVs will be able to take during the closure. The Clerk explained that information had been requested from Herefordshire Council, but had not yet been received. *The Chairman asked the Clerk to make the road closure information available to the questioner and to post it on the website.*
6. **Finance - (See Financial Statement - Appendix A, bank reconciliation & bank statements for June)**
 - 6.1 Finance Appendix A - bank reconciliation and bank statements for June were signed.
 - 6.2 **Payments:** It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to approve the following payments:
 - 6.2.1 Jayne Dunstan (Wye Accountancy) for completion of Internal Audit.
 - 6.2.2 Clerk additional hours and expenses for June.
7. **Planning:**
 - 7.1 **Planning Applications:** Comments were put forward on the following:
 - a) **Site:** Land at, Vine Tree Inn, Walford Road, Ross on Wye. **Application No:** P141217/F
The Parish Council supported the application, there were no objections.
 - b) **Site:** Crown Cottage, Howle Hill, HR9 5SP. **Application No:** P141682/FH
The Parish Council supported the application, there were no objections; with the following condition: That sympathetic materials are used in the construction.
 - c) **Site:** Old Chapel Cottage, Walford, HR9 5QU. **Application No:** P141753/F
The Parish Council supported the application, there were no objections.
 - d) **Site:** Dunderhole Farm, Walford, HR9 5RD. **Application No:** P141781/FH
The Parish Council supported the application, there were no objections; with the following condition: That sympathetic materials are used in the construction.
 - e) **Site:** Kilnby Cottage, Howle Hill, HR9 5SH. **Application No:** P141680/FH
The Parish Council supported the application, there were no objections.
 - f) It was noted that **Application No:** P141517/FH had been responded to under delegated powers.
There were no objections to the application.
 - 7.2 **Neighbourhood Development Plan:** Cllr Berry gave an update: The Data from the questionnaire has been delivered to all households in the Parish and a Steering Group meeting will be held, in the near future in order to move forward.
8. **Highways / Rights of Way / AONB:** (Appendix D contains Councillors Highways & Rights of Way Reports)
 - 8.1 The Lengthsman Co-ordinator reported that a meeting had been held with the new Locality Inspector. The Rights of Way Officer reported that a payment was due to the Can Do Crew, for Rights of Way work. The Chairman took the opportunity to acquaint the Council with the issue of dangerous trees at Cockshot Wood Quarry, which is registered as common land. (Footpath WA40 runs through this land). The Parish

Council proposed holding an extra-ordinary meeting to discuss the issue, if necessary. The clerk is to gather relevant information and, if appropriate, to fix a date with Councillors. <<**Action Clerk**>>

8.2 **Work orders for the Lengthsman and Rights of Way:** 1 day of work on various Rights of Way.

Cllr Simeon Cole will provide the Clerk with a list of jobs for the Lengthsman.

8.3 The Lengthsman pot-hole trial and proposed new contract with Herefordshire Council were discussed; Cllr Berry explained that any reservations with the proposed contract regarding Parish Council liability had been resolved with Balfour Beatty and it was unanimously **RESOLVED** to engage with the pot-hole trial, for which materials will be free of charge.

(Cllr Simeon Cole left the room)

8.4 **WA50:** Cllr Evans reported that hers and Cllr Berry's complaints to the Ombudsman had been accepted and that progress was being made with her complaint. Cllr Berry has not had any further communication regarding his complaint. The Ombudsman is going to look into non-enforcement going back 12 months.

(Cllr Simeon Cole returned to the room)

8.5 **Updates were received and action discussed on:**

8.5.1 **Kerne Lodge land slippage.** Had already been discussed during public participation.

8.5.2 **Flooding Daycroft Lane.** Had already been discussed as above.

8.5.3 **Signage for HGVs on Bulls / Leys and Howle Hills.** The Clerk explained that a response had been received from Herefordshire Council, who suggested arranging to meet at each site, in order to assess the requirements for signage. <<**Action Clerk**>>

8.5.4 **Hedgerow opposite the Inn on the Wye – creating an opening.** Cllr Heath explained that Herefordshire Council would not pay for the required H&S survey, so if the Parish Council wishes to proceed with creating an opening, they would have to pay for the survey.

9. **Parish Projects: Updates were received and actions discussed.**

9.1 **War Memorials.** Cllr Snow explained that one quotation had been received from Ursells, but that the other stonemasons in Monmouth had declined to quote. It was **RESOLVED** to go ahead with application for a grant through the War Memorials Trust.

Village Agent: Cllr Snow explained that more volunteers were still needed. The Chairman suggested that the Parish Council engage with the Red Cross to start discussions on supplying an agent. <<**Action Cllr Snow**>>

9.2 **Walford Links.** Cllr Heath reported that he is in the process of getting a quotation for the raised section.

9.3 **Kerne Bridge Canoe Launch Site.** Cllr Myers reported that a quotation had been received from one firm of Solicitors, for the asset transfer from Herefordshire Council and is waiting for another quotation.

9.4 It was noted that a donation had been received from Wye Pursuits, for maintenance of Bishopswood Village hall public WCs from Wye Pursuits. The Clerk was asked to write and thank them. <<**Action Clerk**>>

10. **Walford on Wye:** The Chairman confirmed that 3 examples of evidence had been discovered, of the historical use of the name Walford on Wye. (Circulated to all Councillors). It was **RESOLVED** by a majority vote to purchase a license for Freepost Plus from the Royal Mail, at a cost of £90; this will give the Parish Council 10 licenses for return response mailings, one of which can be used to request responses from Parish residents to the proposal to adopt the name Walford on Wye. The response cards will be included with the autumn newsletter. The other 9 licenses can be used for mailings in the future. The Clerk was asked to make the necessary arrangements with Royal Mail. <<**Action Clerk**>>

11. **Information and correspondence:**

11.1 Correspondence Appendix C, Clerks Report Appendix D and HALC Information corner were noted.

11.2 There were no specific responses required to correspondence received during June.

12. **Brief public response session:**

- A bad pot hole on Bulls Hill was mentioned. *The Clerk will chase up this defect with the Locality Inspector.* <<**Action Clerk**>>

- A member of the public asked about the pot-hole trial and asked what the specification for filling the holes is. A Cllr explained that it is a trial and that our Lengthsman has done the relevant training; he will be told by Balfour Beatty which minor holes he can fill. The Clerk was asked to find out the specification. <<**Action Clerk**>>

- Another said that the data from the Neighbourhood Planning questionnaire had been very helpful.

13. **Items for next meeting agenda:** Look at whether there is a policy which covers selling of cars from private properties. The future cleaning of Bishopswood WCs. Removal or restoration of the red public telephone box in Walford village.

14. **Next meeting:** 10/09/13 Finance Committee @ 6.30pm and Full Council @ 7.30pm at Walford Village Hall.