

WALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Wall Parish Council held on Wednesday 15 May 2019 at 7:30 pm at Wall Village Hall

Present: Cllrs M J Crowe (Chairman), R Barker, P Sampson, R Saxton, Mrs F Robertson and C Rubisch.

In Attendance: Peter Young (Clerk), and one member of the public.

Apologies: Cllr A Ryman (whose apologies were accepted).

1. Election of Chairman for the ensuing year

Cllr M J Crowe was elected as Chairman for the ensuing year and made and signed his declaration of acceptance of office as Chairman.

2. Appointment of Vice Chairman for the ensuing year

Cllr P Sampson was appointed Vice Chairman for the ensuing year.

3. Minutes

Minutes of the Council meeting held on 20 March 2019 as circulated with the agenda were approved and signed as a correct record.

4. Matters Arising on the Minutes

SCC Highways had responded to the faults reported on Watling St (flooding) and Green Lane (blocked gullies), that these had been inspected, classed as non urgent, and would be dealt with under routine maintenance works. Members reported new potholes on Watling Street in the section nearest Birmingham Road. Action: Clerk to report to SCC Highways.

Highways England had responded to the Council's request regarding Wall Island and Muckley Corner that installation of new road markings with road studs would commence very shortly.

5. Policing Matters: No report had been submitted by the Police.

6. Public Session

It was reported that the roadway covers for various utility services were beginning to sink at the Watling Street junction with The Butts. These should be monitored for any further deterioration.

7. District and County Councillors' Reports

There were new District Councillors for the area: Alastair Little (who had submitted apologies) and Janice Sylvester-Hall (whom the Clerk had not been able to contact by email). County Cllr David Smith had also submitted his apologies.

8. Declarations of Interest

Cllr C Rubisch declared an interest under Appendix A and B of the Council's Code of Conduct with respect to planning application 19/00540/FUL and 19/00541/LBC [Minute 16a] and took no part in the discussion and voting thereon.

9. Dispensations:

Members applied for, and were granted, dispensations to speak and votes on matters as detailed below, in which they may otherwise have a disclosable interest. The dispensations to run to the next full council elections in May 2023.

- a. Wall Village Hall: Cllrs M J Crowe, Mrs F Robertson and P Sampson.
- b. Wall Conservation Area: Cllrs R Barker, C Rubisch, Mrs F Robertson and P Sampson.
- c. St John the Baptist Church, Wall: Cllr M J Crowe

10. Appointments

- a. Internal Auditor: Alan Toplis Associates
- b. Representative on LDC Parish Forum: Cllr M J Crowe
- c. Representative on Wall Village Hall Management Committee: Cllr M J Crowe

11. Annual Review of Council Policies

- a. Standing Orders: reviewed and no changes deemed necessary.
- b. Financial Regulations: the lower limit in Regulation 11.1(h) to be increased from £100 to £1,000.
- c. Risk Register: reviewed and no changes deemed necessary.
- d. Councillor Training: current policy to continue whereby the Council would pay for any member to attend SPCA training courses.
- e. Asset Register: the new petrol mower and petrol hedge-trimmer to be added, together with the replica Roman milestone provided by various subscriptions and grants in 2012.
- f. Council insurance: cover was acceptable and the policy to be renewed with the current insurer under a three-year fixed price arrangement.

12. Reports from Chairman, Councillors and Clerk (including correspondence received)

- a. Fly-tipping: The Clerk read a response from LDC that all reported instances of fly-tipping were monitored and there did not appear to be an increase in Wall. LDC collected fly-tipping from public land and highways, but not from private property. However all instances of fly-tipping should be reported so that Environmental Health could monitor these. Online reporting was available on https://forms.lichfielddc.gov.uk/forms/form/183/en/report_fly-tipping
- b. Cllr P Sampson to source a new projector to be purchased as previously agreed by Council.
- c. There were problems with dog-walkers on the Wall Roman site but these were not matters on which the Parish Council could take action.
- d. Driving schools were still using the Watling Street car park to practice parking manoeuvres.
Action: Cllr Sampson to take details of vehicles involved and the Clerk to contact them to cease using the car park.

13. Highways & Open Spaces

- a. Community Payback Team: Recent changes meant that they could no longer do work on main roads, only minor roads, and that charges for their service may be introduced for non-charitable organisations. It was likely that the service would be taken back under direct Government control and no longer be contracted out to the private sector. The payback team were currently undertaking various maintenance works in the parish. in the churchyard, and Cllr M J Crowe to liaise with the church on this.
- b. Phone box library: The phone box restoration was now complete.
- c. Car park fencing: The low fencing at the rear of the car park needed further repairs – Cllr P Sampson would report to the next meeting with some proposals.
- d. Poop bag dispenser: This had now been installed by the Community Payback Team and the adjacent litterbin had been repainted.
- e. Speed Sign: This had been at Ashcroft Lane (northbound) for about one month and data collected showed that 85.3% of vehicles were exceeding the 30mph limit, with the highest recorded speed 64.3mph. The sign was now at Ashcroft Lane southbound. When representative data had been collected for all locations this would be forwarded to the Road Safety Partnership.
- f. Best Kept Village: The judges had already made their first inspection visit. Wall Village Hall was looking to do some landscape improvements to the small garden area at the front of the Hall.
Resolved: That the Council make a grant of £200 to Wall Village Hall for these works.

14. John Linney

The proposal was that two planters with bay trees be placed outside the Village Hall, with signage that these had been provided in memory of the late John Linney and in recognition of his many years of service to the parish. The planters to be arranged by Wall Village Hall and be appropriately secured against theft.

Resolved: That the Council make a grant of £200 to Wall Village Hall for provision of these planters in memory of John Linney and in recognition of his many years of service to the parish.

15. Car Park Light and Phonebox light

The Clerk reported that he had received no quotations from the Utility broker firm.

He had obtained a quotation for disconnection of the two unmetered supplies which was £1,134.

However, following little response to previous contacts with Npower accounts, he had submitted a formal complaint regarding the substantial increased costs. The response to the complaint had been that Npower were now prepared to offer a new 12-month contract from 1 April 2019 the effective total cost of which would be just over £300 which was less than half their current charges. They were also willing to backdate the new rates to 26 May 2018.

Resolved: That the Council accepts the new contract with Npower as outlined above.

As it has now been agreed to continue with these supplies, it was also agreed to provide a protective barrier around the existing light in the car park and to provide a new LED light in the phonebox.

16. Planning Applications:

- a. **19/00540/FUL and 19/00541/LBC** New external entrance lobby, Wall Farm, Green Lane.
Resolved: Recommend Refusal: the scale and massing of the proposed porch is totally unsympathetic and out of keeping with this very old listed building. It dominates the whole frontage destroying the character and appearance of the original building.
- b. Decisions on previous applications were noted as follows:

Ref	Address	Details	Wall PC Comment	Decision
19/00107/FULH 19/00108/LBC	Wall Farm, Green Lane	Retention of single storey extension to front to form lobby	None	Refused 14/03/2019
19/00547/ABN	Barn Farm, Cranebrook Lane, Hilton	Agricultural Determination: Erection of cold store for the storage of potatoes	RECOMMEND REFUSAL: Does not qualify as permitted development as new building is not "reasonably necessary for the purposes of agriculture within that unit" as required by the GDO. More a warehouse than an agricultural building. Uses the existing farm access which is totally unsuitable for additional use by heavy commercial vehicles. Proximity of residential dwellings. Narrowness of the roads accessing the farm. Lack of a suitable acceleration/deceleration lane off the A5 70mph dual carriageway (which would need to be used for access/egress).	Agricultural Prior Approval not required 15/05/19

17. Accounts for the Year Ending 31 March 2019

Members noted the Receipts and Payments schedule, the bank reconciliation, and the budget out-turn report for the year ending 31 March 2019 as circulated with the agenda.

18. Internal Audit Report and Governance Statement for the Year Ending 31 March 2019

Members noted the satisfactory Internal Audit report for the year ending 31 March 2019. Members also considered and approved the Governance Statement for the year ending 31 March 2019.

19. Statement of Accounts and Certificate of Exemption for the Year Ending 31 March 2019

Members approved the Statement of Accounts and Certificate of Exemption for the year ending 31 March 2019.

20. Accounts for Payment

Resolved: Payment of the following accounts:

Date Paid	Chq	Payee	Details	TOTAL
01/04/19	789	JRB Enterprise Ltd	Poop bag dispenser	134.70
01/04/19	790	M J Crowe (reimburse)	Calico UK - Domain Name	24.00
		Total £53.95	Spanglefish - website hosting	29.95
24/04/19	791	Wall Village Hall	Grant for porch floor repairs	480.00
24/04/19	792	H Willett Machinery	Petrol mower and hedge-trimmer	480.00
24/04/19	793	Npower Ltd	H3120001 Car park light 1/2/19 to 31/3/19	87.44
		Total £358.59	H3120001 Phonebox light 1/4/18 to 31/3/19	271.15
	794	P Sampson (reimburse)	Toolstation - Fence stain etc	48.68
15/05/19	806	Toplis Associates	Internal audit 2018/19	123.60
15/05/19	807	SJL Landscapes	Verge cutting April 2019	146.74
15/05/19	808	P Sampson (reimburse)	Poo bag dispenser - signage	8.78
		Total £49.10	Amazon UK - Petrol can and paint etc	33.32
			Co-op - petrol for mower	7.00
15/05/19	809	Came and Co	Insurance to 31 May 2020	400.06
	810	CANCELLED	CANCELLED	
15/05/19	811	M J Crowe (reimburse)	H Willett - mower repair	26.76
		Total £46.56	Mileage	19.80
15/05/19	812	P. Young	Net Salary Apr/May + expenses Feb-May	466.14
15/05/19	813	HMRC	PAYE on salary	97.20
15/05/19	814	Wall Village Hall	Use by Payback Team 24/3/19 to 12/5/19	80.00
		Total £98.00	Room Hire 15/5/19 Council	18.00
15/05/19	815	SJL Landscapes	Verge cutting May 2019	146.74
15/05/19	814	Wall Village Hall	Contribution - front garden area landscaping	200.00
		Total £400	Grant for John Linney memorial planters	200.00
				3,530.06

21. Date of Next Meetings

Wednesday 17 July 2019, 7.30pm Wall Village Hall

Wednesday 18 September 2019, 7.30pm Wall Village Hall.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9:50 pm

Chairman:

Date: