

WALKERINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Assembly of the Parish Council held on 17 April 2019 at the Village Hall, Walkeringham.

Present: Councillors Howard (Chair), Capp, Roberts, Dilly, Ferguson, Robbins, Sowter, Spencer, Vessey, Cty. Cllr. Taylor, Dist. Cllr. Sanger and Angela Hayward (Clerk). 0 members of the public

01.04.2019 **Apologies for Absence**

Cllr. Hooton (holiday)

Cllr. Heath (other commitment)

Resolved: The apologies were accepted.

02.04.2019 **Approval & Signing of Minutes**

The notes of the Annual Assembly Meeting held on 18 April 2018 having been previously circulated were taken as read. The notes were approved and signed by the Chairman as the minutes of the meeting.

03.04.2019 **Matters arising from the minutes**

None

04.04.2019 **Chairman's Report**

Village Council Tax Precept

Walkeringham Parish Council increased its precept by 6.1% for the coming year. The increase was necessary to maintain the services we provide.

To put this year's PC precept into a local perspective, a band D property in Walkeringham will pay a Parish Council precept of £60.98 per head. In Gringley this figure is £61.67, in Misterton £129.31, in West Stockwith £129.81, and in Beckingham £51.07

Walkeringham Neighbourhood Plan

The Neighbourhood Planning process has again taken up considerable time during this year. Progress has been steady and has involved a large amount of work for some Parish Council members. Regulation 14 Consultation is currently underway and will conclude in the next few days. Comments have been sought from all with an interest in the Neighbourhood Plan and these comments will soon be assessed and discussed.

Two village presentation events have been undertaken which have both had good attendance. Naturally there are supporters and critics but I would ask individuals to put self-interest aside and concentrate on the future well-being of the village.

The next stage will be to submit an up-dated plan to an independent examiner showing evidence of community involvement and feedback then to move to a village referendum to ask if the plan should be adopted and become part of the Bassetlaw DC Local Plan to 2035. We expect the referendum to take place around November 2019.

The Neighbourhood Plan is about local control of how and where the village will grow and the type of expansion that villagers would prefer. It is driven by public comment and debate and Walkeringham should be proud of its progress and I recommend its eventual adoption.

Walkeringham Community Garden

The Parish Council have a long term aim to introduce a community garden into the village and have already been talking to groups who can help make this happen.

Our preferred site for this garden has been identified but not yet been secured, hopefully, this will be done very soon. We have already been promised funding support for this project and community involvement will be important to ensure its eventual success.

Parish Council Elections

2019 will be unusual in that there shall be a Walkeringham Parish Council Election.
Can I encourage as many villagers as possible to vote for your preferred candidates in this election.

Walkeringham Village Website

During 2019 we hope to update and modernise the Walkeringham Parish Council Website to make village information more accessible and plentiful.

Things the Parish Council Do & Organise

Regular Grass Cutting to maintain a tidy village environment.
Three Dyke cleaning events throughout the summer.
Street Cleaning of litter and emptying of local litter bins.
Run and Maintain the Parish Cemetery.
Ensure Local Public Footpaths are clear and maintained.
Financially support the Village Hall & Playing Field
Financially support other local activity groups.
Report Faults & Repairs to Bassetlaw DC or Notts CC.
Produce the Village Magazine 'Walkeringham News' which is delivered to most households.
Receive regular Monthly reports from your District Councillor, your County Councillor and Nottinghamshire Police.
Participate in the 'North East Bassetlaw Forum'
Provide a forum for villager queries and discussion.

05.04.2019 Questions and discussion of Chairman's Report

There was a brief discussion about the next stages of the Neighbourhood Plan. Public consultation meetings had gone well and were well attended.

06.04.2019 Reports by Representatives of Organisations County Councillor

This was Cllr. Taylor's second annual assembly since becoming County Councillor. She is involved in Adult Social Services, youth work, highways issues, waste disposal and budgets. The current hot topic is the case for a Unitary Council but at the moment this is not being progressed. There is quite a lot of work going into youth work and looking after care leavers.

In the parish, most of the enquiries have been highways related. The bus stop is to be moved from Mill Baulk Road to the High Street. Local groups have benefitted from the Community Grant Fund including the Senior Citizens' Christmas lunch and the First Responders.

District Councillor

District Councillor Sanger gave the following report:

Yet again I am starting this yearly report with a special thank you to your Parish Council Chairman and Members of the PC for allowing me to attend your meetings and for giving me a slot on the Agenda to bring useful information from BDC for residents and also to be able to answer any questions/queries or find an answer if I cannot answer at the meeting. Angela, your Clerk, always includes my report in the monthly minutes and these are displayed on the notice board near the

This year I have given a number of donations from my £1,000 Community Grant to Organisations connected with this village which I did list in my recent Newsletter but I will just list them again for you:

Walkeringham Senior Citizens Christmas Party - £100.

Walkeringham Primary School Messy Maths Area - £100

Walkeringham Football Club - £100

Walkeringham and Beckingham Horticultural Show - £100

I have also donated £100 towards the Senior Citizens Swimming @ Misterton Swimming Pool which includes Members from Beckingham and Walkeringham (part of the old 5 Villages Swimming Pool Effort). I have also donated £100 to the Bassetlaw Youth Council which includes some of our Young People from Beckingham and Walkeringham. All between the ages of 11 (Yr 7) and 19 are invited to join.

This year I nominated Mrs Pat Hooton to receive a Bassetlaw Achievers' Award which was presented to her by the Chairman of the District Councillor Dave Challinor at a special evening at Retford Town Hall

last Month. Pat has worked hard for Walkeringham Village for many years. She is a past Chairman and Secretary of the Village Hall Committee and still helps where she can today. She is a Member of the Parish Council and Chairperson and Secretary of the Beckingham and Walkeringham and local villages Garden Club and Chairperson of the Garden Club's Annual Horticultural Show held at Beckingham Village Hall. Pat is also Governor of Walkeringham Primary School and a Member of the W.I in a nearby village. She has planted up and taken care of a number of flower troughs around Walkeringham Village - a very busy person for the village and a worthy recipient of an Achievers' Award. Yet again this year I have been involved with various planning applications which were received before Bassetlaw reached its 5-year quota. As in previous years I have spoken at the Planning Committee and sent in comments re these applications, it is very time consuming and disappointing for residents when decisions are not what residents want. But, as I am sure everyone now knows, Bassetlaw has a 7.9-year housing supply which is slightly more helpful to look at unwanted planning applications with a little more chance to refuse.

Over the past year I have tried to attend as many of your meetings and activities as I can, Bassetlaw Council meetings permitting. As stated last year It has been a pleasure to be your District Councillor seven days a week to deal with your Council related problems/concerns/questions and I hope I have been helpful.

Police Report

PCSO Airey had forwarded the following information:

Crimes for Walkeringham Parish

Burglary Dwellings - 4

Burglary Other – 4

Theft from Motor Vehicles – 6

Theft Other – 2

Criminal Damage to Dwellings – 2

Criminal Damage Other – 1

Vehicle Interference – 1

Total – 20

Beat Area – 129 (127 previous year)

Burial Board

The Parish Council Burial Board consists of the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Parish Council, 4 Parish Councillors, 2 parishioners, 1 maintenance worker and has its own secretary, Mrs Jan Fox. They ensure the Cemetery is monitored regularly and Cemetery records are all kept in good order. Any problems that do arise with the condition and upkeep of the Cemetery are dealt with as quickly as possible.

Mick Dalton, who maintains the Cemetery, has once again maintained the Cemetery to the highest order ensuring the Cemetery remains the peaceful and pleasant place that the relatives of their loved ones can visit.

A new bench has been placed by the oak tree near the War Memorial.

The whole grassed area will once again be treated by a Contractor to keep the weed growth to a minimum.

The removal of spoil has once again been a difficult issue. The Parish Council has agreed to use the same contractor as in 2018 to remove spoil when necessary. Due to this cost and increases in salaries the scale of fees charged by the Parish Council has been increased. Copies of the scale of fees are on all the village notice boards, the notice board in the Cemetery and on the Parish Council website.

In order to fulfil its duty of care the Burial Board continues to update where required the comprehensive Risk Assessment. This covers all aspects of the Cemetery including all the memorials that are in place. If any problems regarding safety, stability or general disrepair of any memorial arise, the Burial Board will inform the owners in order that they can take remedial action. With regard to memorials, the Burial Board has compiled a register of approved stonemasons and they are vetted to ensure they comply with Health

and Safety Regulations, undertake correct and safe fitting of memorials and hold the required public liability insurance. Non registered stonemasons cannot fit memorials on the Cemetery.

The Burial Board and its members will continue their work to keep Walkeringham Parish Cemetery in good order and well maintained.

Others

Reports were also read out on behalf of
Walkeringham Primary School
Village Hall Committee
Walkeringham PCC

07.04.2019 **Questions to the Parish Council by Persons Present**
None

Meeting closed 7.55pm

Signed:

Date: