

WALBERSWICK PARISH COUNCIL

NOTICE OF MEETING

Dear Councillors

You are summoned to an extraordinary meeting of Walberswick Parish Council on **Tuesday 5th September 2017 at 7.15pm in the Annex of the Village Hall**

Yours faithfully



Chairman to Walberswick Parish Council

1.Chairman's welcome

2.To consider and approve any apologies for absence.

3.Declaration of Interest and Requests for Dispensation: Councillors to declare any interests. Notwithstanding this item Members may declare an interest at any point in the Meeting.

4.Open Forum: The Chairman will open the Meeting for no longer than 15 minutes for members of the public to be invited to give their views on issues on this agenda or raise issues for future consideration in accordance with S.O. 3f – 3k. Members of the public may not take part in the Parish Council meeting itself.

5.To consider the Minute of the Meeting of 17th July for accuracy and for the Chairman to sign as a true record.

6.Finance Matters

- a) To consider payments on the Authorisation to Pay Sheet (*Attached*)
- b) **Financial Report and comparison to budget for 2017-18.** RFO to deliver report and to report current balance at bank as £15,545.3. Chairman to sign bank reconciliation (*Attached*). Councillors will refer to the Reforecast budget (*Attached*)
- c) To organise a visit to HSBC by Councillors Winyard and Mackay, as the agreed signatories, to open a new account for the Heritage Hut.
- d) **Safety matting on the Green play area** – clerk to report back on enquiries about funding from Sarah Shinnie at SCDC. Councillor Richardson proposes that play safety matting for the village green be discussed and considered providing funding can be sourced.

7.WPC Insurance for renewal. Following discussion at the meeting of July 17th Councillors to receive assurance that the Council's assets and liabilities are fully covered. This must also include the period when work is being done on the Heritage Hut.

8.Land near Westwood fronting onto Lodge Road. A letter has been received from Nat Le Roux: -

"I am writing to you about the land between the back of our garden - 'Westwood' (fronting onto Lodge Road) – and The Street. The area in question is between 'The Pightle' and 'Eastwood' and opposite 'Homeland'. As you are no doubt aware, this area has been overgrown with nettles and brambles for several years. The nettles etc are now so high that is impossible to maintain the hedge at the back of our property. Apart from any inconvenience to us, the state of this patch of land detracts from the general appearance of this part of The Street, which is otherwise very well kept. Do you know who owns this area? I would guess it is the Highways Agency, although there are other possible candidates. (It is certainly not part of our property, which ends in the centre of the ditch behind our hedge.) Whoever it is, they clearly do not maintain it. I have considered getting it cleared myself, but I do not believe it would be prudent to do this without the consent of the owner. I would value your thoughts on how this issue might best be addressed. Assuming the land is owned by the Highways Agency, would the Parish Council take on the responsibility for clearing it and maintaining it as a grass verge thereafter? That would seem to be the best way forward. In principle I would be willing to make a contribution towards the cost of clearing in the interests of resolving this".

Philip Kett, a past WPC Chairman has informed the Clerk of the following *"When I was the gardener at Westwood in the 90s I used to clean the rubbish out of the ditch to cut the hedge, I always understood that the County Council were responsible for the wedge of land from the back gate of Eastwood to the edge of Short Lane by the Phone Box.*

Certainly the SCC used to clean out the ditch and cut back the nettles on the brow at that period of time, but they also used to mud out the bottom of the ditch onto the brow making it into a bank, it's not flat, that ditch used to run along the edge of the properties to Short Lane, but the piece that we are talking about takes surface water from the drain which is opposite Palmers Lane by pipe underground, in my day the CC used to clean up the brow once a year, but since the cut backs it has not been done lately and they will only look at the ditch after we have had a storm and the ditch does not drain". **Councillors to discuss how WPC can help clear the eyesore and improve the streetscape at this point.**

9.Heritage Hut and Scroll Committee Report

To receive a verbal report from Bill Ungless, Chairman to update Councillors on progress on matters related to the HH at the meeting of July 17th 2017.

10.Schedule of Meetings. The amount of business that WPC needs to deal with requires more meetings than the approved schedule for 2017-18. Councillors to consider the Clerk's suggestion that WPC meets monthly on the 2nd Monday of each month. **To resolve to produce a new schedule for meetings to enable Councillors to place these in diaries and avoid inaccuracy in the future.**

11.Exempt Business. “To pass a Resolution in Accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 to exclude the public and press for the discussion of the following matters where publicity might be prejudicial to the special nature of the business – namely the Clerk’s salary, conditions and welfare”.

12.Date of next meeting: October 16th.