

WALFORD PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES of the MEETING held on 10 June 2009
at BISHOPSWOOD VILLAGE HALL

PRESENT Cllr P Heath was in the Chair, Cllrs. SW Cole, SM Cole, M Downey, H Evans, Cllr L Freeman G Symonds, M Thomas; the Clerk, 7 members of the public

APOLOGIES F Myers, E Drummond, B Vine, Ward Cllr Jarvis

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST None

MINUTES of the May meetings (Annual WPC proposed by SW Cole, 2nd M Downey; ordinary mtg proposed by G Symonds, 2nd by SM Cole) were agreed and signed after correction to the mileage figure in the finance report (42 miles not 24)

FINANCE – Appendix A

1. The Clerk presented the finance report for June 10.
2. She asked that payment of the fee for the Internal Audit be added to the list. Cllrs SW Cole and G Symonds proposed the figure of £30.00. This was agreed.
3. The Annual Governance Statement for the external audit was completed and signed by the Chairman.
4. The quotation for work obtained by Cllr Freeman on a new path between Whittings Lane and Green Colley Grove was acknowledged but put aside until permission was given by the owners. Clerk to write. Cllr Symonds said that he had been told that there was no chance of funding from HC.

CORRESPONDENCE – Appendix B

Further correspondence

1. Many letters had been received concerning the WPC letter published in the Ross Gazette about recent (the past 20 years) use of Forest Green. To be considered later in the meeting.
2. The letter of resignation from the Council from Mr G J Jones was read out.
3. Sandbag stock within the parish: it was agreed that it was easier for people to access sandbags directly from the HC depot in Ross on Station Approach rather from the parish. Sandbags could be brought out to those without transport, ill or elderly. **Telephone: 01989 562508**

PLANNING - Appendix C

One new application was considered:

1124 The Cider Barn, Daycroft Lane, Walford: Proposed rear kitchen extension. (WPC-the majority of cllrs objected to this application. They thought that the proposed kitchen extension was too large for the size of dwelling and that the design and materials were out of character to the original barn and to the neighbouring listed house. One councillor was in favour of the application, thinking that the modern style complemented the original building.)

REPORTS - Appendix D

Further comments:

1. Forest Green . The additional summary report of the letters received in reply to the Ross Gazette by the Clerk during the previous week was read out. (Attached later to Appendix D).It was decided to write to HC County Land Agent to see if the responses were sufficient to go ahead with the application for registration. The chairman asked the clerk to check that a letter from the owners of Chadwyns Farm had arrived and been acknowledged.
2. Parish Plan Cllr Freeman said that he had not yet received a reply from the Ward Councillor on the question of re-writing the plan in order to be adopted by HC. Vice-Chair to follow up.

PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME

1. Mr G Jones (Howle H) spoke of his disappointment with what he considered to be the Council's lack-lustre response to the effort to register Forest Green as a green.
2. Mr J Daniels (Bishw'd) said that the five paths that he and Cllr Thomas were tracing were being progressed through the system and we should be notified shortly of the results. He also commented that the Green Colley Grove Residents' Association had been approached some years ago to obtain a permissive path from Whitings lane with negative results.
3. Mr M Holland (Walf'd) gave a list of paths and signs that needed attention. Cllr Downey asked him to list them in an email to which he would reply. He asked that as the Parish Map was not working that the contractor be asked to repay his fee. Cllr Downey would also explain the position by email. He commented on the amount of ragwort in Thorny Orchard (Cllr Cole to remove) and on the verges of the road down through Bishopswood to the B4234 (Clerk to write to Forestry Commission). He asked that land-owners be contacted to remove the dangerous weed. He also wanted the parish to protest against the possible 50mph limit on the A40 to Monmouth. He was advised to contact Ward Cllr Jarvis.
4. Mr O Lee (Bishw'd) said that a 40 mph speed restriction was needed on the B4234 from Kerne Bridge right through to the county boundary. With increased traffic, the private drives and more customers using the shop/petrol station with poor site egress, accessing bus-stops and the footway were becoming increasingly hazardous. He asked that action be requested. A speed survey is to be requested as a start. Clerk to contact HC.
5. Mrs Exton (Bulls H) asked that landowners be asked to clear ditches so that storm water could clear. She also asked that a deep pothole on the Ruardean road at Starve Beech be filled. Cllr Freeman to check.

STATE OF ROADS

1. Cllr Cole asked that a notice be erected on U70412 (Arbour Hill) warning about horse-traffic.
2. Cllr Downey mentioned that WA 50 was still closed. Clerk to write again.
3. Cllr Symonds said that WA6 was almost impassable as the hedges had not been cut back. Cllr Downey to deal with.

ITEMS FOR A FUTURE AGENDA

1. CCTV in the parish (Chairman).
2. Becoming a Quality Council (Chairman)

DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday 8 July at WALFORD VILLAGE HALL at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 8.55 pm

Date

Chairman