

Waltham Parish Council

EST. 1894

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on the 6th of December 2022 at Waltham Village Hall

In line with the Transparency Code all public documents relating to the meeting are published in an Agenda Pack on the Parish Council Website at <https://walthampc.org.uk>

Present: Parish Councillors: John Barry (Chair), Jane Robinson, and Chris Crowley.

The meeting commenced at 7.30pm with a welcome by the Chairman.

22/23.083 Apologies for absence:

Apologies were received from Cllrs Ben Grillet and Sue Browne. City Cllr Robert Thomas also sent his apologies. Tony McCord, Clerk was absent due to illness.

22/23.084 Declarations of any Disclosable Pecuniary interests or Other significant Interests:

There were no declarations of interests.

22/23.085 Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on the 1st of November were approved as a correct record of business and resolutions and signed by the Chairman.

22/23.086 Public Session:

There were no members of the public present.

22/23.087 Chairman's report:

- i) **Notice board repairs:** It was reported that replacement acrylic glazing and seals had been installed by Cllr Crowley. The Chairman thanked Chris for his contribution.
- ii) **Telephone Box Refurbishment:** Having received supportive comments on the work specification Cllr John Barry had approached several suppliers for quotes. Only one quote had been received for external (£780) and internal (£520) painting, well in excess of the remaining Capital Grant of £314. It was resolved that John would seek further quotes with a view to arranging some of the work next spring.

22/23.88 Reports from County and City Councillors:

- a) A report from **County Councillor Mike Sole** had previously been sent to the Parish Council and published on Facebook and the parish website. Mike reported on a wide range of issues including the Canterbury District Local Plan; a 40mph limit on Stone Street; bus capacity and transport issues; and CCC waste collection services.
- b) **City Councillor Robert Thomas** had forwarded an update including:
 - : Park and ride offer continues
<https://news.canterbury.gov.uk/news/free-park-and-ride-to-support-christmas-shopping/>
 - : Reminder for those who pay for Green Waste about final collections before March
<https://news.canterbury.gov.uk/news/final-garden-waste-collection-for-2022-imminent/>

: Confirmation on the parish charter.
<https://news.canterbury.gov.uk/news/parish-charter-puts-public-centre-stage-with-even-closer-working/>

: Protection Order - Dog Control
<https://news.canterbury.gov.uk/consultations/draft-public-space-protection-order-dog-control/>

: Additionally, budget and Local Plan consultations can be seen at <https://news.canterbury.gov.uk/latest-consultations/>

: Bus services have been challenging for a long time, pre-pandemic as much as post-pandemic, but applications are now open for the Community Transport Scheme if local initiatives need funding.
<https://kccmediahub.net/applications-open-for-community-transport-grant/>

: Reminder for parents of children under five about getting the flu jab with the rising cases of Strep A
<https://kccmediahub.net/parents-urged-to-have-children-vaccinated-against-flu-2/>

: New road surfacing technology being trialled to increase the length of durability repair
<https://kccmediahub.net/new-method-of-treating-kents-roads-to-be-trialled/>

New money and debt advice in Kent
<https://kccmediahub.net/new-kent-money-advice-hub-launches-as-need-for-debt-advice-grows/>

22/23.089 Financial Matters:

- a) **Financial Report:** Members had received an income and expenses report covering the period 1st of April to the 24th of November. Income currently stands at £20,812 expenditure of £9,375, with a remaining balance of £11,437.64. Finances to date are as predicted with no anticipated problems at year end. It was unanimously **resolved** to approve the report.
- b) **Payment Schedule:** A payment schedule had been included in the agenda pack:

Payment Schedule – 1st to 30th of November 2022

Bank Balance @ 24:11:22 = £11, 437.64

Transaction Number	Invoice Date	Invoice Number	Payee	Payment Summary	Net Amount	VAT	Gross Amount
22/23.24	21:11:22	-	A.S.McCord	Salary & expenses	£404.60	-	£404.60
22/23.25	24:11:22	-	WVHC	Hall Hire	£110.00	-	£110.00
					£514.60	-	£514.60

Members **Resolved** to approve the schedule subject to internet banking authorisation by Cllrs J Robinson and J Barry. **Action: Clerk**

- c) **Draft Budget:** A third draft of the proposed 2023-24 budget had been circulated with the agenda pack. There was general acceptance of the proposals but concerns were expressed about a possible error in line 17. It was **Resolved** to approve the precept at £7,161 and finalise the budget at the next meeting. **Action: Clerk**

22/23.090 Highways Improvement Plan (HIP):

Cllr Chris Crowley presented his report which included discussions with the KCC road safety group on white lining, a gate sign, and potential use of the KCC advisory toolkit. Chris had also worked with the KCC Planning and Delivery team to review HIP priorities. While recognising that further work was needed members **Resolved** to approve the report but requested that the mirror installation in priority 3 should be deleted. **Action: Cllr Crowley**

22/23.091 Canterbury and District Local Plan:

A report had been prepared by the Clerk highlighting the key area of interest to Waltham Parish. These included a spatial strategy stressing the importance of sustainable growth including transport; a reclassification of rural areas into Rural Service Centres, Local Service centres and small rural settlements as exist in Waltham parish. The main implication is that CCC will resist significant housing development in this AONB. Councillors expressed the view that there should be provision of limited development of social housing and the fear that without some development the community's demographic could become unbalanced. The Clerk offered to complete appropriate sections of the questionnaire on behalf of WPC. **Action: Clerk**

22/23.092 Waltham Parish Plan:

The Clerk advised Members that work on information gathering for the initial stages of the plan was continuing, albeit at a slower pace than expected. The set of six objectives had been prioritised in a test run with a parishioner and a councillor with encouraging results . It was **Resolved** that the objectives would be developed into a questionnaire to engage with parishioners and community groups. **Action: Clerk**

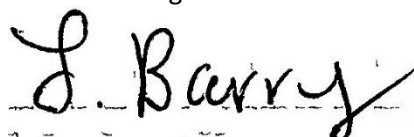
22/23.093 Date of next meeting:

It was confirmed that the next Ordinary Meeting would be held as planned on the 7th of February 2023 commencing at 19.30 pm. In the absence of the Chairman, Vice Chair Cllr Jane Robinson will chair the meeting.

Members were also advised of the meeting dates for 2023 which includes a post-election annual meeting on the 16th of May.

Business having been concluded the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.35pm

Chairman's Signature :



7th of March 2023