

WALBERSWICK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 17th April 2023 at 7pm.

Present (physically): Councillors Lewis (Chair), Bassinette (Vice-Chair – from 7.13pm), Richardson, Sutherland-Rogers and Whiting. One member of the public attended in person. Only Councillors physically present can speak (except during the public forum or if standing orders are temporarily suspended) and vote.

Also in attendance (remotely via Zoom) was one (1) member of the public and Mark Knight, Parish Clerk.

184/22-23 Chair's welcome.

The Chair welcomed those present to the meeting and those attending by Zoom.

The Chair also thanked Cllr. Sutherland-Rogers for all her help and service over the past six years and expressed his sadness that she would not be standing in the coming election. This was also echoed by all other Councillors present.

Cllr. Tucker was also thanked for her service over the past year and it was noted that she would continue to serve the village through her work with the Walberswick Common Lands Charity. This was also echoed by all present.

185/22-23 To consider and approve any apologies for absence.

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs. Sutton and Tucker and from District Cllr. Beavan

186/22-23 Declaration of Interest and Requests for Dispensation.

None.

187/22-23 Open Forum


One member of the public thanked the Council and staff for all their hard work over the past four-year term.

188/22-23 To receive a report from Suffolk County Councillor Richard Smith

County Cllr. Smith was not in attendance.

189/22-23 To consider the minutes of the meetings of 13th March 2023

The minutes of the 13th March 2023 meeting were **APPROVED** with the Chair to sign and to retain them until they can be handed to the Clerk in person.

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190/22-23 Planning

190/22-23.1 The Council noted the response to a planning application that had been taken previously under delegated authority:

190/22-23.1.1 Half Acre, Church Field DC/23/4893/FUL

191/22-23 Finance Matters 2022/3

Cllr. Bassinette entered the meeting at 7.13pm.

191/22-23.3 Approve items on the Authorisation to Pay Sheet

It was **AGREED** to pay all items on the sheet. Cllrs. Bassinette and Lewis were authorised to carry out the electronic payments.

It was also noted that quotes would now need to be sought for installation of the recently delivered noticeboards.

192/22-23 To resolve to apply for the 2023/4 NDP Grant, to delegate to the Steering Group use of the grant in line with grant's requirement and to delegate Cllr. Bassinette to submit the grant on behalf of the Council

The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group was granted authority to use the grant as appropriate and Cllr. Bassinette was duly granted authority to submit the grant application.

193/22-23 Feedback to a proposal for a permanent Christmas Tree on the Village Green

It was **AGREED** to place a formal proposal for this matter on the June agenda so it could be discussed in detail. The Parish Clerk was asked to inform all members of the public who had shown an interest in this matter on this decision so they will be able to attend or submit further concerns. All in favour.

194/22-23 To approve the Grass Cutting contract for 2023

The quote for £1,497.51 (exc. VAT) from NORSE was **APPROVED**. It was agreed by the Council to suspend the financial regulations to seek two additional quotations prior to approval on the basis that there was only one company found who was willing and able to quote for the commercial cutting.

195/22-23 Granting of permission for the use of the Village Green by WCLC for a Coronation Picnic

Permission was granted and the Parish Clerk was asked to inform the

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WCLC as soon as possible.

196/22-23 Oral Updates from Councillors on areas of responsibility if relevant.

196/22-23.1 Footpath and Highways

Nothing further for this meeting.

196/22-23.2 GDPR, SALC and Website

Nothing further for this meeting.

196/22-23.3 Playing Fields and the Green play area

Nothing further for this meeting.

196/22-23.4 Safe Spaces and Harbour Management

Nothing further for this meeting.

196/22-23.5 Sizewell and other power related developments

Cllr. Bassinette reported on ongoing discussions of the B1125 Working Group concerning new road design and improvements to accompany the closing of the B1125 at the B1387 which would be necessary to control through traffic if Sizewell C went forward. This would have to include improvements to the B1387 between the B1125 and the A12 and improvements at the A12 intersection.

196/22-23.6 Neighbourhood Plan

An important report has now been received and another meeting would be held soon which would then allow the drafting process to begin.

196/22-23.7 Village News

The items to include in the Village News were discussed and agreed. Cllr Sutherland-Rogers agreed that she would discuss with the editor and follow-up with Cllrs Lewis and Bassinette via text as usual. Cllr. Sutherland-Rogers was also thanked again for all her efforts in this regard over the past six years.

197/22-23 Oral Committee reports if relevant.

There were none.

198/22-23 Clerk's report

The Clerk presented the report. Questions were asked on some of the items with further explanation given by the Clerk.

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199/22-23 Matters arising

It was reported that matters concerning essential documents, elections of leadership and areas of responsibility would be placed on the May agenda. Matters concerning the proposed permanent Christmas Tree, annual audit process and accounts would be placed on the June agenda.

200/22-23 Date of next meeting was confirmed as being Monday, 15 May 2023 at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 7.42pm.

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Aed -