# WALTHAM ST LAWRENCE PARISH COUNCIL

Pendell Cottage, Hungerford Lane. Shurlock Row, Berkshire RG10 0NY

Clerk to the Council: Ms Alison Jones Telephone: 01189 342095

Email: <u>wslparishclerk@gmail.com</u>



# MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Meeting held on Tuesday April 25th at 7pm in the Neville Hall

Present: Mike Kay (Chairman)

John Birkett (Vice Chairman)

Clive Scott-Hopkins Maggi Stevens Katie Sarsfield Mark Hipgrave Suzy Young Alison Jones

Also present: Borough Councillors Maureen Hunt, David Evans and 34 members of the public.

### 1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from David Crawley-Boevey and Borough councillor Carwyn Cox.

### 2. MINUTES

It was noted that the minutes of the last Annual Parish meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> April 2016 were approved by the council and signed at a Parish meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2016.

#### 3. REPORT FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman's report is attached.

The Chairman, Mike Kay, invited Clive Scott-Hopkins to give a vote of thanks to Sally Burtenshaw, the previous Parish Clerk. Clive thanked Sally for 17 years of service to the Parish and presented Sally with a gift.

#### 4. UPDATES FROM CHARITIES:

The WSL Charities- Richard Sykes The report is attached.

The Neville Hall Trustees – John Birkett The report is attached.

#### 5. UPDATES FROM COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS

RBWM Planning – Jenifer Jackson, Head of Planning at RBWM

Jenifer gave her history at RBWM since 1997, recently now head of department. There are 3500 planning applications submitted per annum. The department is stretched, but will be at full strength soon. Victoria Gibson is the new officer in charge of the North part of the borough, including WSL.

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There is a new document management system, the public access module is the new interface on RBWM website.

Planning policy- RBWM local plan to allocate sites for development and policies has completed the first consultations, the second has been delayed until after the June General Election.

Neighbourhood plan groups are reaching the referendum stage, other groups are progressing. Conservation area appraisal for WSL- the following needs to be assessed: why, what is significant, listed buildings also non-designated buildings of interest. The WSL application will be given consideration.

Travellers' unauthorised site- thanks to Arron Hitchen for his hard work and diligence. Direct action was planned but not required.

There are 23 high profile planning enforcement areas in the RBWM borough, as well as many other low priority. There are 4 enforcement officers and 150 cases per month.

Questions were invited at the end of the meeting.

Thames Valley Police - Jeff Pick - NHW & Community Msg Co-ordinator, Windsor & Maidenhead LPA
Amber Timms – PCSO
Elzbieta Debska-Sarwar – Community Warden

Jeff gave an update of local crime, very low in the area. He highlighted various crime prevention measures for local residents, alarms and fraud prevention. See attached sheets.

Elzbieta described her role, working with the police, young people's organisations and social services etc. The residents were invited to contact the team with any concerns from dog fouling to speeding issues- the availability of speed watch and environmental issues.

Amber outlined her team - their role and area, daily patrols by 2 vehicles in the villages, and how they reacted to concerns of residents. The email, website and phone contacts for all the team were distributed.

The residents were invited to complete a consultation paper with their local concerns.

Public Rights of Way - Andrew Fletcher RBWM

The team has merged with countryside parks. They look at enforcement, maintenance and definitive maps. The Rights of Way equates to 33% of the Borough. Specific local issues were raised- dog fouling, dogs attacking sheep, fly tipping, hedgerow maintenance. In each case the actions of the Council were explained. The need for a balanced approach for hedgerow maintenance allowing both access and wildlife conservation. The role of contractors, volunteers, Berkshire Agricultural college and new initiatives and their interaction was described. WSL was invited to apply for a grant as WSL is part of the Parish path project.

#### 6. UPDATE FROM THE VILLAGE SCHOOL

Report from the Headteacher - Mrs. L-J Ellerton. The report is attached.

Borough Councillor David Evans commended Mrs. L-J Ellerton and the school for the Ofsted outstanding rating, noting that it was a massive achievement.

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## 7. REPORTS FROM OTHER ORGANISATIONS:

WSL cricket club- Rupe Patel

The report is attached.

In addition, Rupe praised the village school for the ofsted outstanding rating. Thanks were also given to WSL Charities and others for donations to help the club.

The Shurlock Inn - Tom Wilson, Jordan Hallow

Jordan described his role as joint business partner with David Brownlow and Tom as pub manager. The progress of the extension to the restaurant and toilet block was explained. The finish being within a few months. Thanks were given for the support from the village, welcoming all to enjoy the new look pub. Plans and pictures of the new development were circulated.

### 8. GENERAL QUESTION TIME

A question was asked about the Sunday opening hours of The Shurlock Inn restaurant. Jordan responded that food would be available until 21.30.

A question was asked re travellers and about the Gypsy Traveller Plan. Jenifer Jackson responded explaining about the new definition of "traveller", the continuing work for supply of sites in the Borough. Furthermore, it was confirmed that the enforcement team has closed the WSL case but would consider the recent letter from the Chairman of WSL council.

A planning question with regards to Council inspection, Jenifer Jackson responded that normally there is no inspection unless so requested.

A request was made for support of the upcoming WSL choral concert.

A suggestion that younger members of the community should be encouraged to attend WSL Parish meetings.

The Chairman thanked all the speakers for their valuable contribution and to the members of the public for attending.

The meeting closed at 21.27.