

CLERK TO THE COUNCIL: ANNEKA OTTEWELL-BARRETT

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-MINUTES OF A MEETING-

NEW WALTHAM PARISH COUNCIL – PAVILION HALL – NEW WALTHAM ON WEDNESDAY 6TH DECEMBER 2023

Present:	Cllr. Dinsdale Shaw	
	Cllrs, Simpson, Raper, Baker, Johnson, Hebbar, Poucher	
Apologies:	Cllr Briggs, Keys, Breed	
In	Ward Cllr Shreeve/ Harness/ Dawkins	
Attendance		
Cllrs/others:		
There were 5 members of the public present.		

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Apologies were accepted.	
Declarations of Interest – Code of Conduct 2012	
None.	
Minutes of Previous Meeting	
Approved. *Noted – Cllr Baker reminded Clerk to Invite Police & Crime Commissioner to the future meeting.	
PUBLIC SESSION for members of the public to discuss matters on the agenda (15 mins max is allowed)	
Police Report	
Joined by PC Dave Cave – New Waltham is still one of the lowest crime areas. However, as individuals we want to make sure that we are doing our bit to help prevent crime. Especially around Christmas time, leaving gifts out on display and car keys on show. Residents must report all incidents to 101, this can be anonymously – but we can help each other keep our village that bit safer.	
<u>Future Dates</u>	
Parish Council Meeting: Wednesday 3 rd January 2024	

23/151 | Applications for C-option

Four Co-option applications have been received by Council, three of the applicants were present and introduced themselves to Council. A vote was then held via a show of hands for each application.

Mr. Gary Bridges – Council voted to Co-opt

Mr. Dennis Sandell – Council voted to Co-opt

Mrs. Yvonne Hartley – Council voted to Co-opt

Mrs Tanya Thomson – Council voted to Co-opt

Council welcomed each new Councillor to the team and invited them to join other council members at the table.

23/138 | Planning

DM/1122/23/FUL - 118 Peaks Lane: no objections

DM/1082/23/FUL - 17 Mellor Way: no objections

DM/0938/23/FUL Tree Removal Application – Plans are back and some alterations noted. Council wish condition to be for a 'like for like' mature tree to be donated to the village and planted (Agreed) – Application to be refused at this time (objection to be sent to NELC).

23/139 Footpaths & Highways

No Updates.

23/140 Community Pavilion & Play Area

1. Boiler Service

Boiler has been serviced in the hall. Received a quote from same plumber to fix to ensure that doesn't happen again. Cllr Dawkins to pass on further plumber details to Clerk as quote received was too high.

2. Car Park Gate

Previously we had agreed to dispose of the metal gate on the pavilion car park. A complaint was received from a member of the public – this individual caused damage to her vehicle on this post. Council investigated legal standing and responded to the complaint accordingly. Council proposes January – gate to be fully removed. Reflective strip on the post might be a good measure for the interim.

Approved (Cllr Baker to make enquiries re gate disposal).

3. Caretaker Training

Emergency first aid training has been undertaken by both Caretakers.

4. Events

Wreath making – 17 people booked in at £18 each. Christmas Magic Show – 40 tickets sold so far.

5. Trees

Cllr Hebbar & Breed to sort trees at allotment.

23/141 | Parish Council Matters

1. Utility Charges

Utility Aid have been contacted to try and get a good deal on Pavilion utility charges. We have been given a much better deal on electricity switching from Eon to SSE. 36 month Contract (saving of approx £3k)—Approved.

2. Budget 2024/25

Draft budget was handed out for Cllrs to take away and look over in readiness for January's meeting.

3. Chair's summary of meeting: Ward Cllrs/Police/High Sherriff

This meeting was organised by PC Cave – informal meeting. Funding for the play area was mentioned at this meeting and quotes were passed along to the High Sherriff of Lincolnshire.

4. School Council Meeting

Council wanted to create a children's council to join with us to create a new generation of potential councillors. Chair attended New Waltham Academy to speak with the children and it was agreed that a survey would be put together and ideas gathered of what they would like to see happen in the village. Chair proposes that Cllr Simpson, the Clerk and himself attend the next meeting with the School in January. Clerk to also contact Tollbar in the new year to see if would also be interested in a similar scheme.

5. New Waltham News Publication

This edition has been well received once again.

Some ad's in this edition were out of date once actually delivered. That is something to keep an eye on for the next edition. Next edition will be for Easter – deadline first week in February 2024.

6. Social Media Statistics/Online presence/Marketing

Chair advised Council that our facebook page has grown considerably. Chair and Clerk try and be quite active on the social media page. Our last post reached 3566 people, which is great to see that we are reaching a lot more people. We could perhaps look at Instagram as another platform — as facebook isn't used as much by a younger generation. Online presence is there, but we have the potential to reach more people, possible paid advertisement might be worth looking at in the future to get our hall/ events out there to a wider audience.

7. Tollbar Pollution

Environmental officer – ward Cllrs trying to get them to our meeting for February.

8. Tollbar Gardens

NELC weren't sure if they were to maintain this area. NELC have always maintained it and have done for many years. Cllr Simpson to visit area and check rose bushes and whether to keep or not. Table to the new year.

9. Music Festival 2024

Date arranged for next festival Saturday 3 August 2024.

23/142	<u>Reports</u>	
	Transport - Cllr Baker shared some items re transport.	
	Village Hall – Cllr Simpson gave brief report from the village hall.	
23/143	<u>Finance</u>	
	Financial documents - approved.	
	Payments for month – approved.	
23/144	Exclusion of Press and Public	
	To consider exemption of press and public under Public Bodies Admissions To Meetings Act 1960, Section 1 (2) on the grounds that discussion of the following business is likely to disclose confidential information.	
23/145	<u>Payroll</u>	
Meeting Ended at: 21:00		
Signed		