

## WVF MEETING MINUTES 27<sup>th</sup> June 2023

Committee: George Curry - Interim Chair  
Marilyn Ridgewell - Treasurer  
Jean Bye - Walton in Bloom  
David Larner - Mere Pond

Apologies: Andy Parkinson – Vice Chair  
Caroline Kaegler-Devine  
Emmeline Moore

George Curry will assume the position of Interim Chair, due to the resignation of Grant Webster having moved to the Isle of Wight, for a period of up to one year. GC welcomed everyone, introducing the WVF committee and was delighted to announce that David Larner has joined the WVF committee in addition to his existing role as Chair of the Mere Pond sub-committee.

### 2) Approval of Minutes from AGM 28<sup>th</sup> March 2023

Proposed: David Larner  
Seconded: Jean Bye

3) Two committee vacancies remain of Chair and Secretary which WVF are eager to fill, anyone who would like to know more, please email George via [info@waltonvillageforum.org](mailto:info@waltonvillageforum.org).

In addition to these specific roles the committee would welcome any interest in supporting the work of the Walton Village Forum with whatever time and capacity villagers have available - do get in touch to help out.

George spoke of the possibility of villagers volunteering for 'just one hour' to support the village. Imagine what we could achieve together if everyone gave 'just one hour' per month (or week) to support our community – if everyone did a little, no one would have to do a lot! A new website to support this initiative has been set up : <https://www.justonehour.org> to match volunteers with volunteering opportunities. Volunteering opportunities such as stewarding during the May Pageant, supporting planting and green fingered activities with Walton in Bloom, Litter Picking/Pond Clearing , staffing a Community Fridge and gardening / fundraising at the Children's Trust or Tadworth shop. In addition to villagers, the WVF will explore the possibility of sourcing volunteers via the Duke of Edinburgh awards scheme and through local businesses such as Pfizer.

### 4) MATTERS ARISING

#### **COMMUNITY FRIDGE**

George Curry explained that after discussions with Joanne Woods the Co-op can donate any unsold fresh / chilled food which has reached its sell by date to WVF for those families local in the village who need help. The WVF is currently looking for a location in Walton to host the community fridge and Breech Lane Community Hall was suggested as a possibility. The community fridge is unlike a regular foodbank which only take dried or canned food.

### **PAVILION AT HOWARDS CLOSE**

Marilyn Ridgewell advised that whilst WVF had received £120k from CIL WVF were still waiting for Your Fund Surrey where the submission was completely different wanting an incredible amount of information so very much a work in progress. Meanwhile WVF had received an anonymous donation of £5k towards the pavilion which was a wonderful surprise and very much appreciated. This now brought WVF fund to £23,600 so with £120k from CIL and £10k from Walton Warriors making a total of £153,600. We are waiting for the next communication from the council to discuss with them our requirements, so they are able to give us a cost.

Concerns were raised by Lorraine Smith about the Howards Close residents being kept informed and the potential additional parking. MR assured her that Howards Close residents would be kept informed as regards any outcome when WVF had discussions with council. The subject of parking had been raised.

### **WALTON IN BLOOM**

Jean Bye hoped the village enjoyed the Spring planting at Gun Corner, opposite Walton News and the entrance to Howard Close explaining there would be further bulb planting this Autumn.

Hanging baskets again financed by WVF with thanks.

Another thank you goes to Reigate & Banstead Council for the three lovely tubs planted around our shops and cafe, very good to see by anyone coming into the village.

Grass cutting around the village green is maintained by three groups, village green by Reigate and Banstead Council, Gun Corner by WIB and the village bench area by Surrey Highways.

A big thank to Jean and her team of volunteers for the work they do to enhance the look of the village.

### **WVF WEB SITE**

George Curry explained that the web site had been updated, minutes and financials included and would now be monitored keeping it up to date by BellTek – Andrew Rawlins and Owen Carr.

George asked for any younger residents who may be interested to write a blog as Yzanne Pepper had been doing for sometime mainly about life as a student at university, to make contact with a member of the committee.

A question was asked as to how the WVF Committee advertised the Forum ...answer Instagram, Facebook, Twitter and other softer opportunities Walton Primary Bulletin. We were however considering other options not yet confirmed.

### **MERE POND (Report attached)**

David Larner was thanked for his hard work in relation to the pond and his detailed report.

Lorraine Smith offered to help with the supply of reeds when planting was ready to take place at the pond. The WVF committee thanked her for this kind offer.

Cruelty to the ducks was raised where two or three residents had seen 'young children' throwing stones and sticks at the ducks. On all occasions the children had been spoken to. A big thank you to the Spaghetti Tree where two of the team there had been seen going to speak with the children to ask them not to be cruel to the ducks. Maybe a talk about 'kindness' and 'care' of the ducks as education could be spoken about at Walton Primary/PTA. ACTION: Emmeline Moore

### **VETS (Volunteer Emergency Telephone System)**

GC reported that he had organised three sessions of VETS recruitment, first aid and defibrillator awareness for village residents and offered thanks to Sam Gandey of aqua safe surrey (<https://www.aquasafesurrey.co.uk/>) for providing the training. Fourteen volunteers ( more than the minimum of ten) have now been recruited to staff the VETS system and so a session with the Community Heartbeat Trust will be booked for the village in September before the system 'goes live'.

### **AOB**

Welcome to Ben Green our new Councillor for Reigate & Banstead together with Cllr Zelanie Cooper, Cllr Rod Ashford and County Cllr Rebecca Paul.

Parking of commercial vehicles around Duffield Road and Meadow Walk was raised by Jean Saul. Rebecca Paul suggested Jean Saul write to her ...couldn't promise to solve the problem but would try to ascertain if connected to MOT garage.

### **5) UPDATES**

#### **Friends of St Peters**

Andrew Brown spoke about the recent FOSP music evening where the Barber Shop Singers entertained the audience raising £555 for Ukraine.

#### **SCOUTS & GUIDES**

Robin Parr-Davies has stepped down as Chair after many years of service, new volunteers are required, if interested please contact Robin directly or via the Walton Village forum.

#### **POLICE & CRIME**

Mike Fox talked about the regularity of people being scammed explaining that as a result of a police survey which they carried out every three months the crimes most regularly committed were Cyber, drug offences and vehicle theft in April 2023 whereas one year before 2022 the most common offences were vehicle theft, burglary and drug offences. Catalytic convertor theft had been replaced by the complete car theft. £20 million was estimated to have been scammed in Surrey over the last three months. MF went onto explain that he was planning a seminar on scamming 'How to protect yourself' ...all would be welcome.

#### **AUTUMN CLEAN UP**

10<sup>th</sup> September 2023 ...we hoped Emmeline Moore would produce posters advising residents.

#### **WALTON PAGEANT**

Lorraine Smith gave a full and detailed update on this year's May pageant. Whilst Lorraine didn't actually say the Pageant was another huge success, it clearly was, so a huge thank you and congratulations to Lorraine and her team of volunteers. This year the pageant raised £8,360 which was donated to various local charities, please contact <http://www.waltonmaypageant.co.uk/> directly for details.

#### **MEADE COURT – Cobbles**

George Curry advised that traffic monitoring arrangements are with Surrey CC and Reigate & Banstead Borough Council to be finalised. Cllr Rod Ashford advised that he had escalated this issue within the Council and was hopeful for an update shortly.

### **BREECH LANE / PEBBLE HILL**

Breech Lane had now been resurfaced looking magnificent.

Pebble Hill - a few concerns. Cllr Rebecca Paul explained that the junction had primarily been changed to update the site lines and improve safety. As with all major changes to a road junction Surrey Council arrange for an independent road safety audit to take place the detail of which can be shared with local residents.

In addition to the above Sandlands Road pavements had been much improved.

### **AIG WOMENS GOLF TOURNAMENT 9<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2023**

Walton Heath Golf Club had started to build ready for the tournament early June...please note 30 miles per hour along the Dorking Road is statutory NOW!

#### 6) PLANNING

GH raised the planning application regarding Bethany, Chequers Lane where one house stood but an application had been submitted to knock it down and replace with two five bedroom houses. TWRA would be objecting as would WVF.

#### 7) REIGATE & BANSTEAD COUNCILLORS QA

Cllr Zelanie Cooper discussed the successful Cllr surgeries they had with residents in Tadworth and advising one in Lower Kingswood would be held 21<sup>st</sup> September with the date to be announced for Walton.

#### REBECCA PAUL SCC

A very special thank you to Rebecca Paul for all her help and tireless efforts as regards highways and of course the verges. Thank you.... we really appreciate your work.

#### ROD ASHFORD

Cllr Ashford talked about the planning application for the Fox on the Hill Lower Kingswood to be pulled down and for it to be replaced with a car hire company. Cllr Ashford also updated on Meade Court cobbles as per the earlier item. The general condition of Meade Court cobbles in the Council maintained carpark was raised by GC and RA said he would look in to this and report back.

#### 8) DATE OF NEXT MEETING

### **10th October 2023**

#### Additional Note

Various plots of land are for sale at Chequers Lane in-between the playing fields at Howards Close and Love Lane.

[https://www.rightmove.co.uk/properties/137357882#/?channel=COM\\_BUY](https://www.rightmove.co.uk/properties/137357882#/?channel=COM_BUY)