



WALL PARISH COUNCIL

Including the hamlets of: Chesterfield, Hilton and Pipe Hill.

Clerk: Pam Salter- 07738 053590 clerk@wallparishcouncil.gov.uk

Minutes of Full Council meeting Tuesday 18th March 2025 7.30pm at Wall Village Hall.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. Audio recording was noted.

77/2025 Register of members in attendance and apologies

Councillors Paul Sampson (Chair), Conrad Rubisch, Ross Harwood, Richard Barker, Gary Hutton, Andrew Ryman, Robert Saxton. CCllr David Smith, Pam Salter (Clerk) Cllr Salter (LDC)

Acceptance of apologies.

Apologies were received from District Councillor Janice Silvester-Hall and PCSO Passmore. Their reasons were presented to Council and duly accepted.

78 Declarations of interest Members should consider whether they should partake in any discussion or vote on matters on the agenda unless they have a dispensation. There were no declarations of interest.

79 To accept and confirm Minutes of Full Council meeting Tuesday 19th January 2025. Copies were circulated prior to the meeting for reference. The Minutes were duly approved and signed.

80 Public Participation

No members of the public were present.

Cllr Sampson read out PCSO Passmore's request that any issues arising from the meeting requiring police attention be forwarded to him for follow up.

81. Reports on issues from previous meetings.

- The Chairman read out a letter of thanks from the treasurer of St John's Church for the grant of £1,665.43 for grounds maintenance. Thanks for the work of the Payback Team were noted and will be passed on.
- Defibrillator training arranged from Tamworth Have a heart- the choice of date was deferred to item 85. Proposal: to pass the old defibrillator and cabinet to Tamworth Have a heart for them to recycle as appropriate. Vote: agreed unanimously
- Bleed kits. These are awaiting distribution. Wall is assured of receiving one. Housing of the kit was discussed. Resolution: to be deferred pending further information.
- Machinery service (70.3) Cllr Saxton reported completion of the machinery service and safety check. Clerk to make a copy of the report available to the Payback Team supervisor.
- Ashcroft gully clearance. Cllr Barker had spoken to contractors repairing the 4 potholes by the farm. The contractors would report the 4 others needing attention. Cllrs Barker and Sampson will pinpoint the location for the potholes to be reported by the Clerk as well.

82 To receive reports from County, District and Parish Councillors:

Cllr Sampson noted that this would be Cllr Smith's final time addressing members and thanked him for his support over the years as Wall's County Councillor. Cllr Smith thanked the Chair for his kind words and reiterated his support for Wall PC during the last days of his tenure. He reported on: -a new owner at Croft Farm. He hoped that the farming community would welcome the new owner to the area. -Local Government re-organisation: Cllr Smith updated Council on the latest developments. This change is not an option, it will happen. The devolution White Paper to change

from 2 tier to unitary authorities gives scant information of the impact on Parish Councils. There appears to be little understanding on the role of the Parish Council.

-Highways. The most contentious issue is currently Watling Street. Cllr Smith assured council that action was scheduled, funding was available and better weather would allow for repairs to go ahead.

The issue of flooding on Wall Lane was discussed. Although the SCC Flood signage was still in place Councillors were all agreed that now was the time to sort this out before the next heavy rainfall. If the water was entirely off the road County Council are responsible. If the water is coming off the land, landowners are responsible. Cllr Smith was asked who we should contact. Videos, photos and location maps were all available as evidence. He asked for all the information to be forwarded to him and he would put things in motion ensuring that is on the works programme for his successor to follow up.

Cllr Saxton referred to the promised Raikes Lane meeting that had not yet been organised. Cllr Smith promised that he would deal with this immediately. (Because of its relevance Item 83 was brought forward at this point)

In her absence, District Cllr Silvester-Hall had sent links which will be forwarded to Councillors after the meeting relating to -LDC's response document to the local government reorganisation, public consultation on Community safety in Lichfield District, consultation on how LDC will consult over planning and an appeal for relatives of Lichfield's fallen war heroes to come forward in a street naming initiative.

Cllr Saxton drew attention to an urgent issue to be forwarded to the PCSO. The making and sharing of videos of a quad biking group using areas including public footpaths and highways, in a very dangerous fashion, was increasing. Their activities were being reported over social media and they were rapidly gaining followers. Were the police aware of this?

Action: Clerk to feed back to PCSO Passmore with this information as he requested. Cllr Saxton is happy to liaise and provide further information.

Cllr Sampson was asked for an update on Village gates project. He confirmed that this was progressing well and will soon be ready for us to contact Beth Tranter for a site visit.

83 Reported highway issues The Clerk referred the meeting to documents provided to Councillors detailing all reported Highways issues for 2024 and 2025 to date. Cllr Smith took a copy to pass on to his successor. He then excused himself from the meeting.

84 Grass cutting contract: SCC have agreed to refund Wall PC for providing grass cutting services. This covers 8 cuts between April 2025 and March 2026 at a payment of £1,398.42. Any costs above this would be borne by Wall PC.

Quotes from 2 companies, Tonks Brothers and DD Gardening services, were considered by Councillors. These quotes were based on the map of the original contracted area used over previous years. Of the quotes, the one from Tonks Brothers was considerably higher and both quotes exceeded the amount that SCC would refund to us. Councillors were agreed that they did not wish to pay anything additional to the £1,398.42.

Whilst the quality of Tonks work was undisputed Cllr Hutton asked for references as to the quality of DD Gardening services. Cllr Sampson confirmed that they had been recommended by Cllr Smith and provided services for Stonnall. This was felt to be acceptable.

Having seen all the area covered by the original map, Cllr Barker felt that it needed revising as some areas were now inappropriate to include. This should reduce the cost. Also, the quotes cited every 4 weeks which was agreed to be unnecessary. Eight cuts for the year are sufficient.

Resolution: To re define the map showing the exact area that the PC want to be included in the cut. DD Gardening services to be appraised of the PCs decision to stay within the £1,398.42 budget for the newly defined area. Ask for a quote to meet these requirements, if possible, with fewer cuts if necessary.

85 Wall PC meeting dates -a draft had previously been circulated to Councillors.

Full Parish Council meeting dates Proposal: to schedule these, as in previous years, for the third Tuesday bi-monthly. Vote: approved unanimously

Annual Parish meeting date: Proposal: to hire Wall Village Hall for the 6th of May 2025 Vote: approved unanimously.

Defibrillator training date (deferred from item 81). The Trainer had advised his availability any Monday evening in April. Proposal: to book the Village Hall for Monday 14th April. Vote: approved unanimously

86 Finance

As this would be the final financial report before the end of the financial year on 31st March documents provided reflected the year end position.

| | | |
|------|--|------------|
| 86.1 | Current Lloyds bank community account as of 19 th March | £18,194.38 |
| | Payments pending approval before the end of March | £1,075.36 |
| | Total VAT reclaim as of 19 th March | £695.79 |
| | Assets total value | £20, 786 |

Lloyds Bank will start charging a fee of £4.25 per month by the end of March.

86.2 **Insurance renewal** documents had previously been circulated. Cllr Sampson queried whether reduction of the standard cover for defibrillator and cabinet cover would affect the insurance premium. Action: Clerk to check with insurers. Councillors found other proposed amounts met PC needs. Proposal: following the check, to accept the insurance quote Vote: approved unanimously

87 Planning There have been no new applications or decisions since the last meetings. Ongoing applications include 24/00772/FUH School House Market Lane. Cllr Sampson noted that work had been continuing. A decision was expected soon.

On 5th Feb Cllr Harwood attended the course ‘Planning for non planners!’ He reported that this was a very thorough session covering all aspects of planning. It was well worth attending with the course delivered in a pleasant and ‘user friendly’ way. He will share the information pack provided with fellow Councillors. Cllr Sampson thanked him for attending the training.

88 Memorial to John Crowe. John had been a Wall Parish Councillor for many years as well as serving several terms as the Chairman. Suggestions were put forward to recognise his contribution to the Parish including a donation to the firefighter’s charity or a memorial plaque, perhaps placed on new picnic furniture. Resolution: to revisit this for discussion at a future meeting

89 VE Day 80: There have been no applications for grant funding for any related activities, possibly as this is a Monday and not a public holiday. Cllr Sampson showed Councillors the VE Day 80 flag that had been purchased by the PC. He will raise the flag according to the agreed protocol.

90 BKV entry- Proposal: to complete the BKV entry form on behalf of residents. Approved unanimously. Clerk to action.

91 The next meeting of Full Council: confirmed as 18th May 2025, 7.30 Village Hall
The meeting was closed at 9.39pm

Signed:

Date:

Payments and expenditure JAN 25

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|------|---|---------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| | | Accounts brought forward | c/f | | | |
| | | Lloyds Bank | | £20,415.56 | | |
| | | | System | £debit | £ credit | £VAT |
| 6 Jan 25 | deb | Project materials for gateway W Burton.co | DEB | £140.64 | | 23.44 |
| 7 Jan 25 | deb | maint 2.5l gloss paint | DEB | £23.49 | | 3.92 |
| 16 Jan 25 | cred | admin: HMRC VAT refund | BGC | | £434.75 | |
| 17 Jan 25 | deb | maint: quick dry Primer undercoat | DEB | £26.85 | | 4.48 |
| 20 Jan 25 | deb | Maint: disposable filtration masks | DEB | £35.97 | | 6.00 |
| | | | c/f | debit | credit | |
| | | Lloyds bank | | | | |
| | | | | 226.95 | 434.75 | |
| | | closing balance | | £20,623.36 | | |

Payments & expenditure FEB 2025

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|-----|---|---------------|--------------------|---------------|------------|
| | | Accounts brought forward | c/f | | | |
| | | Lloyds Bank | | £20,623.36 | | |
| | | | System | debit | credit | VAT |
| 03 Feb 25 | deb | Install power to defibrillator Evolution Electric | BACS | 96.00 | | 16.00 |
| 03 Feb 25 | deb | PAYE HMRC | BACS | 124.40 | | |
| 03 Feb 25 | deb | admin refund P Sampson for refreshments | BACS | 26.38 | | 4.40 |
| 03 Feb 25 | deb | admin Christmas storage box | BACS | 11.99 | | 2.00 |
| 03 Feb 25 | deb | admin salary Clerk | BACS | 497.68 | | |
| 03 Feb 25 | deb | admin fees Clerk expenses home allowance | BACS | 92.52 | | |
| 03 Feb 25 | deb | donation Trees of HAJMT | BACS | 150.00 | | |
| 03 Feb 25 | deb | grant St Peter's Church Wall | BACS | 1,665.43 | | |
| 03 Feb 25 | deb | admin hire Wall Village Hall Payback | BACS | 270.00 | | |
| 03 Feb 25 | deb | admin hire Wall Village Hall PC Nov 24 | BACS | 45.00 | | |
| | | | c/f | debit | credit | |
| | | Lloyds bank | | £2,979.40 | £0 | 22.40 |
| | | closing balance | | £ 17,643.96 | | |

Payments & expenditure Mar 2025

| | | Accounts brought forward | c/f | | | |
|----------|------|---|-------------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------|
| | | Lloyds Bank | £17,643.96 | | | |
| | | | System | £ debit | £ credit | £ VAT |
| 12/03/25 | cred | donation box | DEP | | 15.05 | |
| 13/03/25 | deb | maint: machinery service Bull Plant | FPO | 457.40 | | |
| 18/03/25 | cred | SCC grass cutting refund 2024/25 | BGC | | 1,371.00 | |
| 18/03/25 | deb | admin: Lloyds Bank service charge | PAY | 4.25 | | |
| 24/03/25 | deb | admin: HMRC PAYE | FPO | 124.40 | | |
| 24/03/25 | deb | admin: LDC dog bin emptying Green Lane | FPO | 63.65 | | 10.61 |
| 24/03/25 | deb | admin: Cllr refund for refreshments (Payback) | FPO | 29.58 | | |
| 24/03/25 | deb | admin fees Clerk expenses home allowance | FPO | 75.05 | | |
| 24/03/25 | deb | admin salary Clerk Jan/Feb | FPO | 497.68 | | |
| 24/03/25 | deb | admin hire Wall Village Hall Payback | FPO | 45.00 | | |
| 24/03/25 | deb | admin hire Wall Village Hall PC | FPO | 240.00 | | |
| | | | c/f | debit | credit | |
| | | Lloyds bank | 17,493.00 | 1,537.01 | 1,386.05 | |
| | | closing balance | £17,493.00 | | | |