PRESENT:
Walton Parish Councillors: Cllr. J. Harvey [Chair], Cllr. L. Hardware, Cllr. S. Loader, Cllr. H. Shearer, Cllr. D. Harvey [5] Cllr. R. Crossman arrived during the meeting. [6]
Members of the public: 1
Somerset Cllr: H. Shearer
Parish Clerk: H. Moore

2026.27.035 To receive and consider reasons for non-attendance.

a. Having considered the reason for non-attendance offered by Cllr. B. Collins it was ***Resolved [5/0]*** that the reason was accepted for this meeting.

2026.27.036 Councillors

a. Disclosure of any undeclared interests and notification of any dispensations granted.

Councillor R. Crossman joined the meeting at this point

Cllrs. L. Hardware & R. Crossman declared an interest in the item – Walton Family Funday

b. Councillors' register of members' interests-
   i. It was noted that the update Section 32a of the Localism Act 2011 required that Councillors home addresses no longer be published.
   ii. It was noted that Councillors were required to complete a new register of interests form for publication that did not include their home address.
   iii. It was noted that not all Councillors had submitted an updated form.
   iv. The Clerk reported that all Councillors' addresses had been removed from the Walton Parish Council website.
c. Training requests and review –
   i. Cllr. J. Harvey reported back on the Traveller and Romany training course that they had recently attended and advised that it had been useful and interesting.
   ii. Following a request from the Clerk, It was ***Resolved [6/0]*** that a contribution toward travel costs would be made to the Clerk for attending free training on the forthcoming introduction of digital AGAR submissions. [16th September 2026]
d. Councillor vacancies –
   i. To consider any applications received and/or co-opt to fill the current vacancies. It was noted that a member of the public had expressed an interest and was attending the meeting to observe.

2026.27.037 Minutes of the previous meeting

a. It was ***Resolved [6/0]*** that the minutes of the meeting of 12th June 2026, were an accurate record. They were then signed as such by the Chair.

2026.27.038 Public Speaking and Correspondence

a. **Declarations of interest in speaking on agenda item[s]:** To speak for no more than 3 minutes on items on the agenda [Public participation shall not exceed 30 minutes in total]
   i. A member of the public raised a concern regarding a live in vehicle parked locally on private land. As the location mentioned is beyond the parish boundary, the Somerset Councillor agreed to enquire about the situation.
b. **Opportunity to raise issues/concerns not on this agenda:** To speak just for information. Council to agree if the item is to be added to the agenda of a future meeting or not. [Maximum of 5 speakers per meeting and 2 minutes per item]
   None raised
c. **Correspondence received from members of the public:** Regarding issues/concerns not on this agenda – for information only. Council to agree if the item is to be added to the agenda of a future meeting or not.
   No correspondence received about items not on the agenda.

2026.27.039 Planning

a. To receive any planning decisions reported –
- 2026/0731/APP Land at Walton High Road [creation of fishing lake etc.] Split decision – refuse condition 16, approve conditions 3,9,13,18 & 21
- 2026/1064/HSE – Footlands, Ivythorn Lane Walton - erection of garage - approved

b. To consider planning applications received –
i. 2026/1141/HSE Replace existing conservatory with single story garden room, conversion of garage into domestic space and conversion of car port into garage. 21 Hempitts road Walton BA16 9QS.
Following discussion, It was ***Resolved [5/0/1]*** that council raised no objection to the application.
ii. An additional application had been received too late to be included on this agenda. It was ***Resolved [6/0]*** that an extra ordinary meeting [planning] be arranged for Tuesday 28th July at 7pm at the village hall.

c. To consider a Walton Trust Premises License Application

Councillor R. Crossman left the meeting at this point

Following discussion, it was ***Resolved [5/0]*** that Council had no objection to the application.

* Councillor R. Crossman rejoined the meeting at this point.

d. To consider the Somerset Local Plan and update.
Following discussion, it was agreed that Councillors would respond to the consultation on an individual basis.

e. General planning concerns **to note**.
I. It was reported that for planning application 2026/1064/HSE the Clerk had submitted the comment that 'Councillors had raised no objections to the application'
II. It was reported that an initial approach had been received from a company regarding a potential development at Quarry Batch. Council agreed to invite them to the August Parish Council meeting.

2026.27.040 Walton Neighbourhood Plan

a. Formation of a village working group.
It was noted that this was starting to come together with one resident having agreed to join and others considering.

2026.27.041 Asset Devolution from Somerset Council

a. It was noted that the Hempitts play area tree report had been received and outlined no major works being required.
b. The Meadow Lane tree report had not yet been received.

2026.27.042 Walton Hill Community Tree Trail

a. Following a report from Cllr. D. Harvey about the proposed dates and content of the planned events, an update from the Clerk on costings for the installation of the kissing gate was provided. *[attached as appendix one]* It was noted that the SALC community wellbeing grant needed to be spent by September with a report re the expenditure being provided to SALC by the end of that month.
b. SALC Community Wellbeing Grant - It was ***Resolved [6/0]*** that payment of any invoices within the grant terms and limit, submitted prior to the August 2026 parish council

meeting [PCM] were authorised by Council, with any such expenditure being reported to the August 2026 PCM.

c. Parish Council Environment Reserve – It was ***Resolved [6/0]*** that an upper limit of £818.60 was set as a materials budget for the installation of the kissing gate and that the payment of any invoices received within that budget were authorised for payment prior to the August 2026 PCM if required. Any such expenditure to be reported to the August 2026 PCM.

2026.27.043 Village Upkeep

a. Village Ranger – It was agreed that the tasks set for next month would be:
   I. The required maintenance to the Meadow Lane Play area slide and the cutting back of the vegetation from the South side of Main Street [from the Bus shelter opposite the junction of Mildred Road to the start of Quarry Batch].
   II. Subject to delivery, the installation of the kissing gate for the Walton Hill community tree trail project.

b. Green waste disposal - It was ***Resolved [6/0]*** to authorise a single drop off, of green waste, to the local Street recycling centre. The consideration of future green waste disposal to be added to the agenda of the August Parish Council meeting.

2026.27.044 Finances

a. To receive and consider approval of the monthly financial report.
It was ***Resolved [6/0]*** that the financial report, which included a bank reconciliation as at end of June 2026, was an accurate record and it was then signed as such. [attached as appendix two].

b. To consider authorisation of the monthly payments schedule.
The monthly payments schedule [attached as appendix three] was ***Resolved [6/0]***to be authorised with payments to be made following this meeting.

c. To Consider the annual Precept grant process and dates. It was ***Resolved [6/0]*** that the dates and process set out in the report [attached as appendix four] were approved.

d. To consider proposed membership, and membership fees, for SCRAPP - It was ***Resolved [6/0]*** that Council would not join SCRAPP at this time.

2026.27.045 The Walton Trust Village Family Fun Day

a. To consider a funding application.

*Councillors R. Crossman and L. Hardware left the meeting at this time *

Following discussion It was ***Resolved [4/0]*** that a grant of £2,000.00 [two thousand pounds] be made as a contribution toward the cost of running the Walto Family Fun day, to be funded from the remaining events budget and the events reserve.

*Councillors R. Crossman and L. Hardware rejoined the meeting at this time *

b. The Parish Council stall - it was agreed that this would contain a history of the village display along with potential future development maps. It was ***Resolved [6/0]*** to authorise expenditure of up to £50 [fifty pounds] from the events reserve for the purchase of Walton Parish Council flags for the event.

2026.27.046 Village Newsletter

a. It was noted that the funday was being promoted in the August edition with the new head of the village school being the villager interview for this quarter.

b. It was ***Resolved [6/0]*** to authorise the printing of an additional 50 magazines of the August 2026 edition for the funday.

2026.27.047 Roads, Traffic & footpaths

a. Roads – No new concerns were raised.
b. Footpaths – It was reported that Aster homes had been contacted re the hedge overgrowing the pavement from one of their properties in Asney road and had advised that they would cut it back.
It was noted that bins being left on the pavement at Asney road were also obstructing the pavement.
c. Somerset Bus Franchising Report – the report was noted.

2026.27.048 Reports for information but not decision

a. Somerset Councillor[s] – including A&P LCN update.
   i. It was reported that a best value notice had been served on Somerset Council. Things were improving slowly and the overall financial deficit was falling with reserves also improving.
   ii. Inspectors had visited the pelican crossing at the Church and considered the timing to be correct for the width of the road. The Somerset Councillor advised that they were still looking into this.
   ii. The LCN was coming together with several active working groups
b. Parish Councillors reports – none provided

2026.27.049 Upcoming meetings and events

- Next Parish Council Meeting – Friday 14th August 2026 – 7pm at Walton Village Hall.

THE MEETING THEN CLOSED

Signed by Chairman

Date:

Appendix One - Walton Hill Community Tree Trail

Community Tree Trail Project

Introduction.

There are two areas of funding for this project.

1. Approved Grant from SALC - specifically for Summer 2026 events

2. Approved 2026 Funding from the Parish Council Environment reserve – specifically for the purchase and installation of a kissing gate to provide access to the land from an adjacent public footpath.

Update as of the July 17th, 2026, PCM

- SALC Event Grant – £1,000.00

Clerk has provided up to date information re areas of funding and invoicing.

Group & Cllr. D. Harvey are in liaison re event organisation for this Summer. Report from Cllr. Harvey.

- Parish Council Environment Reserve –

Following on from site visits with the landowner to agree exact location and vehicular access, and with Ranger to discuss potential installation:

Item	cost	notes
Metal Kissing gate	Maximum £724.00	Plus VAT
10 bags postcrete [quantity estimated by Ranger] [remix dry mortar post mix concrete – 20kg each] 10@£6.46	£64.60	
2 Agricultural round wooden fence posts @ £6	£12.00	
Hoop fencing nails – 1 box	£ 6.00	
APPROXIMATE cost of materials	**£818.60**	

Ranger to install.

[for information – gate costed from BISON/McVeigh depending on availability, other costings obtained online from Mole Valley Farmers]

Initial Proposals as a starting point for discussion:

a. SALC grant expenditure – Council consider for themselves the possible authorisation of payment of any invoices ***within the grant terms and limit***, prior to the August Parish Council meeting if required.

b. Council Environment Reserve - Council consider for themselves the allocation of a materials expenditure limit and consider authorisation of expenditure up to that limit to facilitate installation of the kissing gate as soon as possible.

Signed by Chairman

Date:

Appendix Two - Monthly Financial Report

1.Bank reconciliation as of End June 2026

Detail	Amount
Balance brought forward from 31st May 2026 Bank reconciliation	**£ 72,040.63**
Less Payments authorised at June 2026 PCM:	£ -
HMRC month 3	£ 176.26
Michael Webb	£ 73.34
St Andrews Press	£ 459.00
The Walton Trust	£ 137.50
The Walton Trust	£ 15.00
Monahans	£ 588.00
Go.2.Services	£ 700.00
EE	£ 24.00
PWLB [public works loan board]	£ 935.45
H. Moore	£ 1,134.93
NEST	£ 173.26
Bank service charge	£ 4.25
sub total	**£ 67,619.64**
Plus receipts:	**£ -**
Bank interest general deposit	£ 22.18
bank interest harry skinner deposit	£ 1.22
Forsey & Sons - credit received in error	*£ 39.00*
Forsey & Sons - refund of credit received in error	*-£ 39.00*
SALC Community Grant re Tree Trail project	£ 1,000.00
Receipts and Payments Balance as of 30/06/2026	**£ 68,643.04**
Balance to agree with bank statements:	**£ -**
current account [Community account]	**£ 9,765.89**
reserve account [general deposit]	**£ 55,774.60**
Harry Skinner Reserve	**£ 3,102.55**
Sub total	**£ 68,643.04**
Less uncleared / outstanding, payments:	
none	
Bank Accounts Total as of 30/06/2026	**£ 68,643.04**

Signed by Chairman

Date:

2. Transfers made between accounts in June 2026

- none

3. Balance of general Reserves as of 30th June 2026

RESERVE	TYPE	BALANCE
Administration	*designated*	20,177.29
Election Expenses	*designated*	799.00
Play area	*designated*	13,846.17
East Mead Field	*restricted*	8,809.87
Community Benefit	*restricted*	846.91
Office Equipment	*designated*	791.68
Events	*designated*	2,125.07
Environment	*designated*	2,760.52
Village Improvement	*designated*	4,618.09
Village upkeep equipment	*designated*	1,000.00
TOTAL	*[balance of general deposit account]*	**55,774.60**

(Designated reserves are those agreed [ring fenced] by Council, restricted reserves are those restricted by grant conditions etc.)

4. Harry Skinner Reserve Account

Balance £3,102.55 [*restricted reserve]*

5. Interim Payment

June 2026
Forsey & Sons funeral directors sent a payment of £39.00 to us in error [Should have gone to the Walton Parochial Church Council]
This payment was refunded on 29th June 2026

6. SALC Grant

This grant relates to the Tree Trail /outdoor learning project, and these funds are restricted solely to expenditure as outlined within the grant application.

Appendix Three - July 2026 Payments for authorisation

Walton Parish Council Payment sheet Financial year 2026 - 2027 **Jul-26**

Payments for authorisation

cheque number etc.	payee	budget area	budget set	balance	amount authorised	VAT	VAT reg.No.	budget remaining	invoice number	invoice date	total payment	notes
Standing order	**H Moore**	Staff costs	£ 17,965.00	£ 13,512.05	**£ 1,134.93**			£ 12,377.12	M/onth 4	July	**£ 1,134.93**	SO
Direct Debit	**NEST**	Staff costs	£ 17,965.00	£ 12,377.12	**£ 173.26**			£ 12,203.86	M/onth 4	July	**£ 173.26**	DD
Direct Debit	**EE**	Admin	£ 3,075.00	£ 2,830.75	**£ 24.00**	£ 4.00	245 7193 48	£ 2,810.75	V/24838076100	July	**£ 24.00**	DD
								£ -			**£ -**	
2026/07/p1	**HMRC**	Staff costs	£ 17,965.00	£ 12,203.86	**£ 176.06**			£ 12,027.80	M/onth 4	July	**£ 176.06**	
2026/07/p2	**Michael Webb**	Play area	£ 1,100.00	£ 329.98	**£ 73.34**			£ 256.64	Inv.WGCM2090	June	**£ 73.34**	
	WPC prepayment card re Norton Annual subscription	administration	£ 3,075.00	£ 2,810.75	**£ 39.99**			£ 2,770.76	refFNXGMMWYC9TTD	July	**£ 39.99**	
2026/07/p4	**The Walton Trust**	room hire	£ 250.00	£ 208.00	**£ 15.00**			£ 193.00	Inv.051	June	**£ 15.00**	
2026/07/p5	**Viking**	administration	£ 3,075.00	£ 2,770.76	**£ 101.98**	£ 4.08	536 1533 57	£ 2,672.86	Inv.441088078L	July	**£ 101.98**	
2026/07/p6	**Go.2.services**	Village upkeep	£ 7,500.00	£ 4,862.23	**£ 707.00**			£ 4,155.23	Inv.2251	July	**£ 707.00**	
2026/07/p7	**Somerset Council**	Village upkeep	£ 7,500.00	£ 4,155.23	**£ 507.00**	£ 84.50	131 2544 12	£ 3,732.73	Inv.32029069	July	**£ 507.00**	
2026/07/p8	**Arboricare Ltd.**	Environment Reserve	nil	£ 2,760.52	**£ 192.00**	£ 32.00	570 3129 62	£ 2,600.52	Inv.13770	July	**£ 192.00**	
2026/07/p9	**SLCC**	subscriptions	£ 780.00	£ 221.28	**£ 200.00**			£ 21.28	Inv.MEM259901-1	July	**£ 200.00**	
	TOTAL EXPENDITURE:				***£ 3,344.56***						***£ 3,344.56***	

NOTES:	
Reference NUMBER:	NOTE:
2026/07/p1	Tax & NI month 4
2026/07/p2	play area grass cutting
2026/07/p3	Norton anti virus software annual fee
2026/07/p4	monthly meeting room hire
2026/07/p5	paper for office and stamps re postal newsletters
2026/07/p6	3 days Ranger plus mower fuel
2026/07/p7	1st Qtr. Bin emptying charge
2026/07/p8	Hempitts play area tree survey
2026/07/p9	Society of Local Council Clerks annual membership fee

TWO COUNCILLORS TO SIGN CHEQUES, INITIAL CHEQUE STUBS / AUTHORISE PAYMENTS ONLINE,
INITIAL INVOICES, AND SIGN THIS SCHEDULE PLEASE

Cllr.	Sign:	Date:

Notes:

KEY:
DD or SO
Online payment
cheque

closed 10am on day of meeting

Signed by Chairman

Date: