

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Waltham Parish Council  
held in the Waltham Library on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2016 at 7.00 pm.**

**Present:** Councillors M Archer (Chairman), 7 Parish Councillors, 3 Residents, 1 Ward Councillor and the Parish Clerk.

**21.04.2016 Apologies:**

Apologies were received from Councillors Conolly, Evans and Kiddle-Bailey also Ward Councillor I Colquhoun offered his apologies.

**22.04.2016 Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2015:**

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2015 were considered as a true record and the Chairman signed them.

**23.04.2016 Chairman's Report 2015/2016:**

Report to be distributed.

**24.04.2016 To discuss any items pertaining to Waltham residents:**

A Councillor stated it is duly noted that the position of Chairman of this parish is a demanding post with an ever increasing workload, the councillor wished to thank the Chairman for the time he devotes to Parish Council matters.

A resident wished to express his disappointment that after living in the village for 45 years it is great sadness that Public Footpath 72 is still not open for people to use and enjoy. The resident would like to see all the interested parties sit around a table and talk in order to see this footpath opened. The residents' comments were duly noted.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending. The meeting closed at 7.22pm.

Chairman's Report 2015/2016

Good Evening. Well it's been a different kind of year for the Parish Council with a significant change in councillors with six councillors retiring. I hope it's nothing I've said – they have assured me it's not!

Throughout the year we've said goodbye to Councillors Clayton, Dewires, Taylor, Charlesworth-Brown, Bean and Frisby. They've all been very valuable servants of the Parish and will be sorely missed.

On the plus side we have gained some new members to the Council in Councillors Mumby, Weston, Kiddle-Bailey and Conolly and I welcome them. (Cllr Sadler added as matter of accuracy).

It has been a very busy year for the council again. We've had the cemetery path resurfaced. In July we adopted Waltham's "Community Led Plan" and presented it to the Local Authority. We saw the introduction and effect of the Small Fire Unit, with reassurances from Deputy Fire Chief Blacksell that it will be fully utilized and we have purchased and fitted to the office wall a defibrillator for emergency use by the public.

We put a new litter bin in Grove Park and we agreed and implemented a clean-up session with the help of village volunteers. I thank all who helped.

The landscape of Waltham altered somewhat this last year as Northern Powergrid knocked down one of our oldest buildings-the allotment building, built as a Forman's office in the 1700's. Fortunately they agreed to rebuild it using the same bricks.

The Kings Head has changed appearance and many believe it looks too modern. Then towards the end of the year the Tilted Barrel revamped, with villagers saying it looked much better.

The number of Station Road allotments being taken up has fallen, perhaps we need a TV programme like the Good Life back on to encourage people to grow their own.

There are still parking issues throughout the village, your Parish Council takes every opportunity to try to ease this situation.

This year we have noticed how much we miss Paul Jolly our ex litter operative. The Parish Council are pursuing every option to have our streets cleanliness maintained.

Our police force is still undergoing cutbacks but fortunately our area cover is maintained at a similar level to last year. I would like to thank our neighbourhood beat tem for the involvement within our community.

I would like to thank our Ward Councillor for their support through the year both funding and support at various committees. I would like to thank the Parish Councillors for giving their time and support to the village and thanks to Lesley Leach the Parish Clerk for the commitment she gives to this Council and village. Not forgetting Pat for her role in keeping our toilets in such a good order.

Councillor Martin Archer, Chairman of Waltham Parish Council 2015-2016.