

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WELNEY PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN THE PARISH HALL, WELNEY, ON TUESDAY 12th JULY, 2011 at 7.30 p.m..

Present

Cllr.K.Goodger (Chairman) Cllrs.T.Bennett, T. Bray, S.Dobson, T. Eyles, C.Freer, V.Pratley, G. Rainbird and the Clerk

Also present: Mr.R.Briscoe (Architect) and Lucinda Leonard (Norfolk Rural Community Council)

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending. He extended a warm welcome to Cllr. Rainbird on attending his first meeting.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Dist.Cllrs. D.Pope and V.Spikings, C.Cllr.H.Humphrey and Esther Bortz of Norfolk Police.

2. Public Participation

As no members of the Public were in attendance, the Chairman introduced Mr.Briscoe and Miss Leonard.

1. Mr.Briscoe (Architect) was thanked by the Chairman for his work in finally enabling the Parish Council to obtain the planning permission for the building of the new Community Centre. Mr.Briscoe then went onto explain that the next course of action was to prepare the paper work for the invitation of Tenders for the building. Mr. Briscoe confirmed that his firms fees would be approximately 3% of the contract price and these would be included in the final figure for the building. He advised that in due course there would be an additional fee for the Building Regulations. It was also confirmed to the meeting that a Quantity Surveyors Report would be required for some of the possible grant applications and Mr.Briscoe would be able to provide names of suitable persons. He also confirmed that he would be able to provide a brief list of approved contractors who might be able to quote for the work required to the road junction from March Road to Hurn Drove – which forms part of the planning permission. Mr.Briscoe was instructed by the Parish Council to prepare all the necessary paperwork for the invitations to Tender. He confirmed that he would e-mail these to the Clerk as soon as they were ready, and she in turn would send them around to all Councillors for their consideration and any amendments (if required)

2. The Chairman then handed over to Lucinda Leonard (Norfolk Rural Community Council) who advised the Council on funding that might be available. She gave details of the funding available from the Lottery, District Council and through the NRCC. She explained that some of the Funders were very particular relating to the information required before they would consider the applications for finance and recommended that although the Village Appraisal/Action Plan were in place these had been carried out sometime ago, and information and thoughts from the residents of the village would need to be more up to date. She suggested that a double sided A4 sheet of questions relating specifically to the New Community Centre should be circulated around the Parish, and then the results of that questionnaire would hopefully form a good basis for any financial applications.

3. Declaration of Interests

Cllr.Bennett declared an interest in Cutting Rights of Way which would be dealt with under Highways.

4. Co-option to fill one vacancy

Cllr.Pratley confirmed that she had spoken to her neighbour Mrs.J.Elliott who had expressed interest in becoming a Parish Councillor. Unfortunately due to a prior engagement she was unable to attend the meeting, but Cllr.Pratley agreed to ask her to come along to the August meeting and hopefully she could be co-opted onto the Council.

5 Minutes of Last Meetings

The minutes of the Meeting held on 7th June, 2011 having been circulated to all councillors were confirmed by all present and signed by the Chairman as a correct record of the meeting.

6. Matters Arising

1. Community Speed Watch – Cllr.Bennett confirmed that he has spoken to all interested parties and is in the process of arranging a meeting.

2. Field to the North of Chestnut Avenue – Welney Allotments. It was reported to the meeting that the allotment holders were hoping to hold their own meeting/barbeque but that so far the weather had been against them. At the present there are four full size allotments, and three half size ones left. As soon as all the crops have been removed from the one large allotment in the middle of the field, Mr. Stuart will be asked to come along and plough the remaining area to tidy it up again. Grateful thanks were extended to Cllr.Bennett for cutting the grass area and the roadways.

3. Possible In-House Training – Following the last meeting the Clerk had contacted Christchurch and was waiting to hear if any of their councillors are interested in joining Welney for a Training Session. If there are still places available, then an approach will be made to Nordelph to see if they have any councillors interested.

4. First Time Sewage Scheme – Following the last meeting contact had been made with Anglian Water who had confirmed that the lagoon facility at Christchurch/Lakes End suffered quite badly as a consequence of the severe winter recently experienced. The treatment process was affected and Anglian Water were unable to reach the quality standard required by their Environment Permit and as such were left with no alternative but to tanker the effluent away from the site. They have confirmed that the site has now recovered and the tankering has ceased. Naturally their focus is now on looking at what may need to be in place for next winter to suite the long term sustainability of the operation.

5. Dog Bins– Nothing further to report at present.

6. Possible Village Screening – Rural Touring Cinema Scheme – It was agreed to find out more information on this and other possible similar operations that may be useful for fund raising or village entertainment in the future.

7. Review of the Parish Appraisal/Parish Action Plan – It was agreed that this should be happening and Cllr.Bennett was confirmed as Chairman of the Parish Appraisal Sub-committee. Cllrs.Bray, Dobson, Eyles and Goodger (as well as Cllr.Bennett) confirmed they would be prepared to attend any meetings, and as soon as the date of the first meeting was arranged all councillors would be advised so that as many as possible could attend. Cllr.Bray confirmed that he was quite happy for the meetings to be held at his house. It was agreed that the first matter to be dealt with would be a double sided A4 questionnaire relating to the new Community Centre, which would be delivered to every house in the village and then collected again within a fixed term period. This would meet one of the important requirements set out in 2(2) of these minutes with regard to financial applications. It was also agreed to include a notice in the next edition of The Welney News advising residents that the questionnaire would be dropping through their doors in the near future.

8. New Chairs. Confirmation had been received from Dist.Cllr.V.Spikings that Welney had been allocated some of the Chairs from the Town Hall at King's Lynn. Cllr.Goodger had arranged for the chairs to be collected, and everyone agreed that they were a vast improvement of the old plastic chairs. Grateful thanks were extended to Cllr.Spikings for securing the chairs for Welney.

9. Proposed Power and Re-cycling Centre at King's Lynn - Various correspondence had been received from Norfolk County Council advising that the planning application for the Power and Re-cycling Centre had been received and can be viewed at www.norfolk.jdi-consult.net/majordevelopments/ The letter was dated 22nd June and comments can be made directly on the website or separately by letter or e-mail. Copies of the application are also available to view at County Hall, Norwich, KL&WNBC offices, and local libraries in the KL area. Requests had been received from the Borough Council and the Farmers Campaign urging Parish Councils to write to Secretary of State for the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. After a brief discussion it was agreed to hold this over until the next meeting in August. The Chairman reminded Councillors that as individuals they were quite at liberty to make their own comments on the application. Cllr.Bennett took the paperwork to read and study.

7. Finance

On the proposition of Cllr.Bennett, seconded by Cllr.Bray, and agreed, the following invoices were approved and the cheques were signed:

MHB Services – Street Lighting Maintenance 13.6.11 to 12.8.11	106 . 78
Mrs.P.Copeman Clerks Expenses	70 . 53
Mr.Glen Stittle – Repairs to Water Pipe in Parish Hall	45 . 00
Paid by Direct Debit	
13.6.11 E-On Street Lighting	59 . 81
1.7.11 Mrs.P.Copeman – Salary	255 . 68

8. Parish Hall.

The electricity meters was checked before the start of the meeting but there were no monies Since May there have been very few lettings at the Hall – only Parish Council meeting and the Friendship Club.

Purchase and Sale of Hall Site – Following the last meeting, the Clerk had written to Mrs.Sutton at Elgoods confirming the points set out in her e-mail and asking for the matter to be completed as soon as possible on the original terms and the price agreed. in order to avoid any further delays. Nothing further had been heard.

Halls for Hire – Following the last meeting, the Clerk completed the application form and confirmed to the meeting that the Listing for the Welney Parish Hall together with photographs is now live on the website www.hallsforhire.org.uk

The Clerk had received a request from the Downham Market Library to use the hall for a one off event on Friday 5th August in connection with a Circus Workshop. This request was circulated to all councillors, and it was unanimously agreed that the Parish Council would let the Library had the use of the hall from 10 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. free of charge. This was confirmed to Janet Walker the Community Librarian at Downham Market Library and she expressed their grateful thanks to the Council. The event is being run in conjunction with the School and Cllr.Dobson confirmed that the School have been approached and are fully aware of the Event.

A request had been received from Dave Moseley of Kendrick Cottage, Suspension Bridge to ask whether there would be any interest in the village in him setting up some First Aid Classes. It was agreed to contact him again to find out more information i.e. Was he qualified to take such classes? Would there be a certificate at the end of it? Possibly also to suggest that he put a note in the Welney News asking for interested parties to contact him.

9 . Proposed New Community Centre

Following the discussions with Mr.Briscoe and Ms.Leonard at the start of the meeting, the Clerk confirmed that John Loveday had been in touch with regard to Jenny Lambert of the ECB (who may know of sports funding) and Mr.Lamb Chairman of Bottisham Parish Council where they had just built a new Community Centre and were very aware of the highs and lows in obtaining finance and carrying out such a project. It was understood that Mr.Lamb would be prepared to come and talk about their experiences and it was agreed to contact him and ask if he could possibly attend the next meeting. The Chairman also confirmed that Marshall's Charity was being kept fully updated on the situation regarding the planning permission and the financial requirements.

Following the last meeting contact was made with Mike Carter at Fens Adventurers Rural Development Programme and Guidance Notes and Application Form for possible use were received. Mr. Carter also confirmed that their *scenario* they have is that they can support the development of Basic Services to support a village with such a project. However they should be funders of last resort and your first applications should be The Lottery – Reaching Communities application and then the Landfill Tax

operators. He did confirm that he would be more than happy to go through the paperwork and arrange a meeting to discuss matters further,

The Clerk had also written to all the user groups advising them that we are meeting the Architect and Norfolk Rural Community Council and that hopefully we will soon be able to arrange a joint meeting of all the user groups to discuss any ideas and suggestions.

Trees: A further letter had been received from Holly Trundle with regard to the possible removal of the trees on the Playing Field. "She thought the broken branch would be a nail in the tree's own coffin. However, she understands that only the two trees nearest the Pavilion Building are required by the planners to be cut down. That would be a compromise that could suite everybody".

10. Playing Field

It was reported to the meeting that there is possibly another broken window to the front of the pavilion and this would be investigated.

The Chairman confirmed to the meeting that he had been giving some thought to providing possibly a football goal on the playing field, for the use of young people. He confirmed that it appeared this was what was required, and it was agreed to find out the costing for a three-quarter size goal with net that could be put up on the playing field, for the use of the young people.

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11 Correspondence

- 1, Norfolk County Council 13th June – Norfolk Minerals and Waste Local Development Framework – Minerals Site Specific Allocations and Waste Site Specific Allocations Development – Plan Documents : Consultation on Revised further Issues and Options. Consultation period from 20th June to 15th August. Documents available to view
2. Linda Briggs – Update on Vibration Damage – Confirmation that she and the other affected parties do not accept the insured's denial of liability.
3. Borough Council – Agenda and Minutes of Council Meetings
4. East Cambs District Council – Copy of Newsletter with update on growth delivery in East Cambridgeshire and advice on ongoing projects.
5. Fields in Trust – Queen Elizabeth Fields II Challenge – SITA Trust Fund is officially open – Details at www.fields@fieldsintrust.org.
6. Landscape and Amenity Product update brochure.
7. Norfolk Rural Community Council – Newsletter June 2011
8. Norfolk Rural Community Council – Announcing the Pride in Norfolk Awards
9. Norfolk Constabulary – Safer Neighbourhood Action Panel Meeting – 7 pm on Wednesday 3rd August at the Assembly Room, Downham Market Town Hall.
10. Monthly Report from Elizabeth Truss MP
11. Norfolk Association of Local Councils – Copy of Norfolk Link, Summer Picnic and Sustainability Event 27th July, 12-3p.,m. at Thorpe St.Andrew, AGM 2011 – Nominations of Officers and request for Resolutions for consideration at the AGM.
12. Norfolk County Council – Queens Diamond Jubilee Celebrations 2012 - Are you arranging any celebrations or would like advice and help? **It was agreed to put this item on the Agenda for the next meeting.**
13. Norfolk Playing Fields Association – Monday 18th July at Great Dunham Village Hall.
14. Norfolk Wildlife Trust – Free Family Event – Coastal Capers – Sunday 31st July 10.30 to 4p.m., Lower Green Hunstanton.
15. NRCC – E-funding update 7.7.11
16. Sovereign Playground Equipment – Letter and information July 2011.

12. Plans and Planning Matters

The following decisions had been received:

1. The Planning Inspectorate – Appeal by Mrs.B.Rayner – Site at Biangi, Wisbech Road, Welney
Copy of the Inspectors report in which the appeal was dismissed.
2. Proposed Single and two storey side extensions at White Cottage, Back Drove, Welney
Referred to Development Control Board for consideration on 4th July, 2011.

3. Cllr.Pratley has been asked by her neighbours at Bluebell Spinney if the Parish Council would have any objections to the orientation of the proposed new building at this site being changed before they applied to the Borough Council. After a brief discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council would have no objections to this proposal.

13 Highway Matters

Following the last meeting, the Clerk reported the items raised to Highways and received confirmation that they were being attended to. A telephone was also received Andy Wallace (Highways Engineer) who confirmed that all items were being attended to. He was surprised to hear that the footpath from the Garden Centre to Stockyard Farm had not been sprayed and was looking into this as a matter of urgency. Cllr.Bennett confirmed that we had previously been advised that the path would be tarmaced but this had not happened, and it was agreed to raise this again with Highways,

The Highways engineer confirmed that he is going to visit the area shortly and will contact the Clerk when in the village so that these and any other points can be dealt with on site. The Chairman confirmed that he would be prepared to accompany Mr.Wallace on his visit.

The Clerk confirmed that she had a visit on 5th July from Dave Moseley of Kendrick Cottage to inform Council that a car went over the broken barrier at Suspension Bridge at about 7.30 p.m. It flipped sideways and rolled right down the bank. Apparently the driver was going from Welney towards Littleport and was only doing about 5 mph and miraculously was not injured at all.. Mr.Moseley had taken some photographs which he duly provided.. After speaking to our Chairman, the Clerk confirmed that she had reported this to Highways, Harry Humphrey and the MP in the hope it might get something moving with the replacement barriers. Following various correspondence an e-mail had been received from Highways explaining the reason for the delay in providing the replacement barriers and that the work was now schedule to take place mid to late August, and would take 25 days during which time the traffic would be controlled with traffic lights, It was agreed to ask the Welney News to publish the e-mail from Highways so that the public knew that the Parish Council were working to get this matter resolved.

The question of the levelling of the lowest parts of the Wash Road was raised and it was noted that following the meeting held on 6th December, 2010, nothing further had been heard. It was agreed to contact Highways again to find out the up to date position, and what action had been taken with regard to this.

The Clerk confirmed that she had received a call on 14th June from Mr.David Bonner to say that the fascia on the illuminated School Sign on Main Street was broken. This was reported to Highways who passed it to the street lighting department and the sign was repaired later that same afternoon.

The broken 30mph sign at the entrance to the Village from Wisbech End was discussed and it was confirmed that Highways are aware of this, following the lightening strike in April, and are in the process of having a new sign made which will be located a very small distance from its present position, in order to clear the underground broadband cable, which was destroyed when the sign was hit by lightening.

Trees encroaching on the road – It was reported that some trees were encroaching onto the road near Diamond Farm, Tipps End, and it was agreed to report this to Highways with a request that they take the necessary action for the trees to be trimmed back.

Cutting of Rights of Way – Cllr.Bennett reported to the meeting that NCC had advised that there was no money available for any work which the Parish Council had indicated they would be prepared to undertake and that after July 2010 there will be no cutting of any Rights of Way anywhere ever again. He advised the meeting that it was a County Council legal obligation to cut the Rights of Way and that several complaints relating to this had already been received by the NCC. It was agreed to consider this matter further and discuss again at the next meeting with a view to possibly submitting a letter of complaint from the Parish Council.. Cllr.Bennett also confirmed that he had been cutting part of Hurn Drove and a local resident also cut part of it, and furthermore the contractors had been cutting the Drove within the last week – but presumably this would be for the last time. The Chairman declared an interest in this area, and advised that he had been cutting part of the drove in the past.

14 Items for Next Agenda

1. Localism Bill – More Information
2. Welcome Pack for newcomers to the Village..

There being no further business the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed at 9.37 p.m.

SignedK.Goodger..... (Chairman)

Dated..... 2nd August, 2011.....