

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WELNEY PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN THE PARISH HALL, WELNEY, ON TUESDAY 3rd JULY, 2012 at 7.30 p.m.

Present

Cllrs K.Goodger, (Chairman) T. Bennett, T. Bray, S.Dobson, J. Elliott, C. Freer, G.Rainbird and the Clerk.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the Meeting, and thanked them for attending.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs.T.Eyles, V. Pratley, District Cllr, V.Spikings, and C.Cllr.H.Humphrey.

2. Public Participation

None

3. Declaration of Interests

Cllr.Bennett declared an interest under the Rights of Way section of Highway Matters.

4 Minutes of Last Meetings

The minutes of the Meeting held on 12th June, 2012, having been circulated to all councillors were confirmed by all present and signed by the Chairman as a correct record of the meeting.

5. Matters Arising

1. In-House Training – The Clerk confirmed that a new Training Session for the whole Council had been booked for Tuesday 18th September, 2012. A reminder would be issued nearer the date.

2. Review of Parish Appraisal – All Councillors had been supplied with an e-mail copy of the Parish Action Plan, and hard copies were also handed out at the meeting for those who required one. As this is a large item for discussion, it was agreed that all Councillors should consider the document before the August meeting, and then the item would be included on the Agenda for that meeting as a separate item.

3. Proposed Power and Recycling Centre at King's Lynn – .It was reported to the meeting that the Norfolk County Council had passed the planning application for this development and the matter would now go to the Secretary of State for further consideration.

4. Joint Meeting of Local Councils – The Clerk confirmed that Monday 3rd September had been confirmed with Littleport, who had agreed to host the next meeting, as the date for that meeting. The Clerk had been supplied with a list of adjoining councils and contacts and no doubt would be in touch nearer the time, for Agenda items.

5. Dog Bins/Waste Bins – The meeting was advised that the Housing for the new wheelie bin had been installed by the Chairman and was now waiting for the bin. The Clerk confirmed that she would be meeting Mr.Lovejoy from the Borough Council on Thursday morning, and he would be bringing a wheelie bin. This would then be emptied by the refuse lorry each week and the Council would be invoiced for the cost of this. It was also agreed that the dog waste bin which is on the same site would be removed and once this had been done the Council would be informed so that the charge for emptying this could be adjusted.

6. Community Shop – There was nothing further to report on this item, but as it was agreed that this would form part of an Open Meeting, the date for this meeting was agreed as Saturday 18th August, 2012 at 3 p.m. The details for this would appear in the next issue of the Welney news and final arrangements could be made at the August meeting of the Parish Council.

7. Allotment Field off Chestnut Avenue – The meeting were advised that Cllr.Bennett had carried out grass cutting and mowing of the paths and of the area of the field which had been earmarked for the children to use. Thanks were confirmed to Mr.S.Goodger who had cut down the growth on the

field in readiness for cultivation which would be carried out as soon as possible. The Chairman also confirmed that he would be arranging for the dips and mounds to be dug out as soon as possible so that the children could use the area with their cycles.

The Clerk confirmed that she had written to Mrs.Barr following her request to hire the remainder of the field for pig rearing. Following enquiries from the Borough it was confirmed that the Heads of terms for the Lease of the Land approved and signed by the Parish Council in October 2009 clearly stated that two of the Licensee conditions are –not to allow any livestock to be kept on the land, and to ensure that the land is not used in a way which causes nuisance, damage, disturbance or interference to the land or neighbouring land. Mrs.Barr had supplied information relating to the stocking density, time of year required and other questions raised by the Parish Council, but after consideration, it was unanimously agreed that the Council would not give permission for the pigs to be kept on the land. It was also confirmed that the DEFRA ruling was that Poultry are not classed as Livestock. This decision would be confirmed to Mrs.Barr.

8. Holiday Home Regulations – The Clerk was requested to obtain clarification on the occupation of properties classified as Holiday Homes in readiness for the next meeting.

6. Finance

a. Approval of Accounts for Payment - On the proposal of Cllr Bray, seconded by Cllr.Dobson the following cheques were signed:

Mrs.P.Copeman – Clerks Expenses	29 . 60
Borough Council of King’s Lynn & West Norfolk 1 years rental for allotment field at Chestnut Avenue	250 . 00
Paid by Direct Debit:	
1.7.12 Mrs.P.Copeman Clerks Salary	255 . 68
10.7.12 E-On Street Lighting Elec	62 . 19

Income received:

Allotment Rentals: £105.00 (Cheques) £87.50 (Cash) = £192.50

b. Electric Street Light Maintenance Contract

The Clerk confirmed receipt of various e-mails and telephone calls with Westcotec who are taking over the maintenance contract for the Street Lighting and confirmed that they had forwarded a copy of their contract for our records and a copy of our lighting schedule had been sent to them. They have already repaired a broken light at Suspension Bridge and would issue the first invoice in the near future.

7. Update Welney Emergency Plan

All Councillors had been supplied with a copy of the amended Emergency Plan for Welney which was prepared in July 2006. One or two further alterations were made at the meeting and the Chairman and Vice Chairman were confirmed as Co-ordinator and Deputy Co-ordinator. The Clerk confirmed that the final amendments will be made in readiness for signature by the Chairman and circulation to all parties.

Cllr.Rainbird also mentioned the Emergency Plan for the Delph House Care Home and councillors and Clerk agreed that they would be prepared to be included on the list of helpers. Cllr.Rainbird agreed to look into the question of any suitable training and report back to the next meeting.

It was also agreed to include a note in the next Welney News asking if there was anyone who would be able to provide First Aid Training which could be essential in the event of an Emergency.

8. New Code of Conduct and Register of Members Interests

All Councillors had been circulated with a copy of the New Code of Conduct and Register of Members Interests which came into force following the adoption by the Borough Council and the adoption of The Localism Bill 2011. Cllrs.Bray and Rainbird handed their completed copies to the Clerk, and the remainder of the Council were reminded that their forms were due as soon as possible.

9. Parish Hall

The electricity meters had been checked before the meeting and the total amount collected was £24.00.

Purchase and Sale of the Hall Site – Still nothing further has been heard from anyone regarding the Purchase and sale of the hall site. The Clerk confirmed that she had sent an e-mail to Mrs.Sutton at Elgoods and to Mr. Maxey (Elgoods Agents) asking for the up to date position, especially as we now wish to move matters forward with regard to the new Community centre..

10 Proposed New Community Centre

Following the last meeting, the Clerk had written a letter to Marshall's Charity and had received an acknowledgement stating that the Trustees next meeting is 18th July and we would hear back from them after that meeting.

An Expression of Interest Form with paperwork had been received from Fens Adventurers Rural Development Programme which indicates at this stage that we could be eligible for a grant in the region of £50,000. They have asked for this form to be returned by the end of July with plans, copies of accounts etc. It was agreed that the Clerk should complete the form together with all the requested paperwork, check it through with the Chairman and then forward to the Programme for consideration.

Contact had been made with the Borough Council to ask for funding sources that they can help with especially Capital Grant funding.

Also been in touch with WREN. The deadline for the next round of funding is 29th August, 2012. A copy of the application form has been downloaded with whatever additional information is available. The main project funding is between £15,001 and £75,000 and is for the provision, maintenance or improvement of public park or other public amenity in the vicinity of a landfill site. This includes village halls, children's play equipment, skate parks, village greens and public parks, woodland improvements, cycle paths and nature reserves. All must be available to the general public.

The Clerk confirmed that she had also been able to find out that Sport England Protecting Playing Fields fund will fund capital projects that create, develop and improve playing fields for sporting and community use and offer long term protection for sport. The next round of funding will open in November this year and grants are available between £5,000 and £50,000. She confirmed that she would try and find out more information before the next meeting.

Cllr. Bray supplied councillors with a copy of a letter he had drafted for sending to companies asking if they could assist in any way with the funding for the new community centre. The letter was discussed in detail and some amendments and alterations were made. Cllr.Bray agreed to make these changes and then resubmit the letter which should go on Parish Council headed paper and be signed by the Chairman.

11. Playing Field

The Chairman confirmed that he has collected the football goal and netball hoop and is making arrangements for these to be installed at the Playing Field before the school's break-up so that the children will have use of them during the Summer holidays.

12. Correspondence

1. I replied to the lady from March Road who complained about the bus shelter, but have heard nothing further from her
2. Fiona Davies, East Runton – Offering her services as a local artist and sign writer and sign restorer to the parishes of Norfolk and Suffolk.
3. Signpost – June 2012 – Newsletter for the Norfolk Rural Community Council. an invitation to the AGM on 11th July at NRCC Offices.
4. Eco Services – Catalogue of outdoor plastic furniture.
5. BCKLWN – Minutes and Agenda of Council meetings.
6. Norfolk Playing Fields Association – AGM Agenda 19.7.12
7. Norfolk Association of Village Halls – BCKLWN – Grant Funding to Parishes – letter asking for support.

13. Plans and Planning Matters

Cllr.Rainbird gave a brief report on the Planning Training Session he had attended on 19th June. He confirmed that the final results for the Local Development Framework should be available in the Autumn (At this point both the Chairman and Cllr.Rainbird declared an interest).

The following planning application had been received for consideration
Ref No. 12/00934/F – Mr.T.Barker – Replacement dwelling at Bank Farm, Hundred Foot Bank, Welney
Demolition of existing derelict residence and replacement with a two storey four bedroom chalet style property. Following consideration it was recommended for approval with all councillors in favour.

14 Highway Matters

Nothing further had been heard regarding the problems and possible solutions outside William Marshall School at Welney relating to a possible pedestrian crossing.

Following the last meeting, Cllr.Bennett had provided the figures for the grass cutting on the rights of way etc. throughout the village and these were forwarded to Karl Rands of NCC Highways on 19th June. An acknowledgement was received on 20th June but nothing had been heard since. The Clerk confirmed that she would contact Mr.Rands again to find out the up to date situation, as all rights of way and footpaths were now in need of cutting back so that walkers can use them.

Confirmation had been received that the Highway Community Ranger Gangs will be visiting Welney during the week commencing 30th July to carry out work already identified and asking if there is anything else that could be passed to them.

The following points were raised for Highways attention:

1. Problem in the surface of A.1101 opposite Bells Drove (already reported to Highways)
2. The broken metal legs on the new barriers at Suspension Bridge (already reported)
3. Large dip in the road outside Briard Lodge on March Road (already reported)
4. Main Street is now in a really bad condition and in need of urgent attention
5. Gratings/drain covers on Wisbech Road/Main Street are now standing proud and causing problems
6. Hedges at Tipps End – These have now become so badly overgrown that large vehicles will soon have problems negotiating the roads. Council would be grateful to hear that these problems will be dealt with in the very near future. Alternatively can the Parish Council do the work themselves to make these roads more safe, and if so where do we send the bill for the work!!!!

15. Environmental Matters

1. Hundred Foot Bank – Concrete Access Road

The Clerk confirmed that following the last meeting she had written again to Hilary Lockwood at the Environment Agency asking for confirmation of a site meeting, but nothing had been heard. This matter has now been dragging on for sometime, and it was agreed to write again stating that we are asking the local MP and the Secretary of State for their advice and assistance.

2. Sewage Lagoon at Christchurch

An e-mail had been received from Christchurch Parish Council asking for support of a complaint regarding the farm access track which is getting into a bad state because of the continued use by the tankers taking the waste away from the site. A supporting complaint was sent in from Welney. An e-mail was received from Anglian water dated 2nd July confirming that they are monitoring the road and that the situation will be reviewed once the tankers are no longer required to visit the site. The e-mail also explained why the tankers were still being used, and confirmed that they would supply an update on 1st September. They also requested some suitable dates for a site visit to see if they can fit us in.

16. Items for Next Agenda

None.

There being no further business the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed at 9.11 p.m.

Signed K.Goodger..... Chairman)

Dated ...7th August, 2012.....