

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WELNEY PARISH COUNCIL**  
**HELD IN THE PARISH HALL, WELNEY, ON TUESDAY 5<sup>th</sup> APRIL, 2011 at 7.30 p.m.**

Present

Cllr.K.Goodger (Chairman) Cllrs.T.Bennett S.Dobson, T.Eyles, and S.Kerr, and the Clerk  
Also present Dist.Cllrs.V.Spikings and D.Pope,

**1. Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs.C.Freer and V. Pratley, and C.Cllr.H.Humphrey.

The Chairman then introduced PCSO Tracy Milburn. She gave details of problems which the Police were experiencing in the area, and confirmed that Welney had no serious crime issues. She did ask that members of the public should be vigilant because of the large increase of heating and diesel oil thefts, and also asked that if any suspicious vehicles are seen that these should be reported immediately to the Police. She also confirmed that PCSO Michael Scales who is currently Parish Officer for Welney will be leaving on 14<sup>th</sup> April, but that his replacement had not yet been named

**2. Public Participation**

None.

**3. Declaration of Interests**

None at this stage.

**4. Parish Council.Elections**

The Clerk confirmed that she had visited the Borough Council website that afternoon and printed of the list of persons nominated for the Parish Council elections. Seven persons had returned their papers although one of these had not been completed correctly and therefore not accepted. However this would mean that there were 3 vacancies which would have to be filled by co-option so the persons whose paper was incomplete, could be co-opted on at the May meeting. This would then mean there would be no election for the Parish Council, but there were four nominations for the Borough Council as well as the voting referendum and Polling Day was 5<sup>th</sup> May, 2011.

**5. Minutes of Last Meetings**

The minutes of the Meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> March, 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 would shortly be calling a meeting of all those persons interested.

2. Field to the North of Chestnut Avenue – Welney Allotments. The meeting was advised that no further allotments had been let, but it was hoped that further interested persons might come forward. Grateful thanks were recorded to Mr.Stuart from Tipps end who has cultivated the vacant area of the field and cleaned up the allotments which have not been let or have been given up. He has also promised to come back again when he considers the area needs attention, in order to keep the field tidy. It is hoped in the near future to install a notice board advertising the allotments in the hope of attracting any passing traffic.

3.Dog Bins– The Clerk confirmed that she had made enquiries regarding the housing needed for the proposed wheelie bin as suggested by the Borough Council. and it looks as though the cost will be in the region of £75.00 plus V.A.T. At the moment nothing further had been heard from the Borough regarding the emptying of the bin but contact would be made again to clarify this point.

4. Meeting with Adjoining Councils – It was confirmed to the meeting that Christchurch have agreed to host the next meeting of adjoining councils and this has been arranged for Monday 18<sup>th</sup> April. Christchurch had asked for items for the next Agenda and the following suggestions were made for inclusion:

1. Sewage Scheme – Welney and Christchurch – It was confirmed to the meeting that the scheme does not appear to be working correctly as since the middle of February there have been up to four

tanker visits per day to take away the waste from the site. It was agreed to write to Anglian Water asking for an update of the situation prior to the meeting, and also asking if the Parish Council could have the promised tour of the site at some time.

2. Incinerator at King's Lynn
3. Future Meetings of the Group.

5 Sustainable or Renewable Power for New Building – There was a brief discussion regarding this from Cllr.Eyles and it was agreed to discuss the possibility of wind or solar energy for the New Community Hall with the Architect, once the outcome of the planning application was known..

## **7. Meeting Reports**

None

## **8. Finance**

### **PAYE IMPLEMENTATION – PARISH CLERKS**

New guidance states that Parish Clerks can no longer continue as self-employed but with effect from 6<sup>th</sup> April, 2011, all Parish Councils must register with HM Revenue and Customs as an employer and submit details of their Parish Clerk as an Employee,

The Clerk confirmed that she had already registered with HMRC and should receive all the necessary information from them immediately after 5<sup>th</sup> April. The returns all have to be completed on line each year. The Norfolk Association of Local Councils is running an Information Session at Downham Market on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> April. And the Clerk considered it would be useful. She had provisionally registered for the session, but there is a cost of £20.00 and on the proposition of Cllr.Bennett, seconded by Cllr.Kerr and agreed by all, it was confirmed that the Clerk should attend.

On the proposition of Cllr.Kerr, seconded by Cllr.Dobson, and agreed, the following invoices were Approved and the cheques were signed:

Norfolk Playing Fields Association Annual Subscription	20 . 00
Norfolk Rural Community Council Annual Membership	15 . 00
Norfolk Association of Local Councils Annual Membership	120 . 17
Mrs.P.Copeman Clerks Expenses	37 . 79
Norfolk Association of Local Councils Fee for Training Course re PAYE	20 . 00
Paid by Direct Debit	
13.3.11        E-On Street Lighting	59 . 81
1.4.11        Mrs.P.Copeman – Salary	255 . 68

Electricity Charges – Confirmation from E-on that the charges for electricity to the Parish Hall and the Pavilion are increasing from 5<sup>th</sup> April. From 5<sup>th</sup> April the prices will be as shown below. The coin meters are currently set at 20p per unit and it was agreed to leave them at this rate for the time being.

Pavilion     : Primary Unit rate	17.58p
Secondary Unit rate	15.42p
Standing Charge	14.70p per day
Parish Hall    Primary Unit rate	18.53p
Secondary Unit rate	16.24p
Evening & Weekend rate	12.96p
Standing Charge	18.02p per day.

Rate Relief – Confirmation had been received from the Borough Council that both the Parish Hall and the Pavilion have once again received full rate relief and top up and therefore there will be nothing to pay.

Claim for Street Light at Tipps End. The completed forms had been sent off for the damaged street light –despite not being able to get any information from Mr.Tomkins. An acknowledgement of the claim had been received, and they asked why there was such a delay in submitting it. Apparently all claims should be submitted within 30 days of the incident. It was explained that we did not have full particulars until sometime after the incident, and the outcome of our claim is now awaited.

Parish Council Insurance – The Clerk confirmed that although the Parish Council and Parish Hall Insurance is not due for renewal until 1<sup>st</sup> June, a quotation had already been received from AVIVA with an annual premium of £1,415.60 This figure covers both the Parish Council Insurance and the Parish Hall Insurance all on one policy. Last year the two insurances with Zurich came to just under £1,700, so that would be a saving of almost £300. However no renewal papers had been received from Zurich yet and a further quote from another company is also awaited. A decision could be made at the May or June meetings

## **9. Parish Hall**

The electricity meters were checked and £49.00 was removed.

Purchase of the Hall Site – The Clerk confirmed that she had received two telephone calls from the Solicitor at Fraser Dawbarns who is waiting to hear from Elgoods Solicitor. Nothing further has been heard from them and it was agreed to contact the Solicitor again in the hope that this matter can proceed as quickly as possible. In a previous e-mail it was confirmed that the matter would not proceed until the outcome of the planning permission is known.

## **10. Proposed New Community Centre**

Following the last meeting, the Clerk had informed Mr.Briscoe that the amended plans had been approved to address the issues raised by Sport England. Mr.Briscoe had confirmed that he resubmitted the application on 4<sup>th</sup> March and confirmation was received from the Borough Council. A copy of an e-mail from Mr. Loveday, Chairman of the Cricket Club, was also received confirming that he had sent the Club's agreement to the plans, to Sport England and also Mr.Briscoe. An e-mail had been received from Mr.Denyer of Hurn Drove expressing concern regarding the proposed development. The Chairman had telephoned Mr.Denyer and discussed the matter with him, and also answered his queries. A decision on the resubmitted planning application is awaited.

Following further discussion it was agreed to make sure that the upkeep of Hurn Drove was included on the Agenda for a future meeting. The Chairman explained that in the past some of the residents had kindly contributed towards the cost of road planings etc., which had been delivered and spread and levelled by Parish Councillors. Cllr.Dobson proposed that when planning decision is known consideration should be given to holding an Open meeting or at least inviting the residents of Hurn Drove to explain the plans and hopefully allay any worries which they might have.

## **11. Playing Field**

The Clerk confirmed that she had now received a copy of the fixture list for the 2011 season from the Cricket Club and this had been included in the bookings diary. Council were also advised that the Cricket club were proposing to have a clean up weekend at the Pavilion over the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> April weather permitting.

## **12. Correspondence**

1. Journal of Local Planning – Localism Bill – What Parish Councils really need to know. Information contained in the Journal of Local Planning and this costs £50 per year for four issues.
2. Neil [McManus@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:McManus@suffolk.gov.uk) – Details of an 8 week public participation period from 7<sup>th</sup> March to 3<sup>rd</sup> May on the contents of the Suffolk wide Supplementary Guidance document associated with planning and the built environment. All documents can be viewed and downloaded from [www.suffolk.gov.uk/jconsultations](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/jconsultations).
3. Came and Company – Parish Council Insurance - Parish Matters – Spring 2011
4. Norfolk RCC – Future of Rural Services – Invitation to a joint meeting of the Norfolk RCC And Norfolk Rural Forum at the offices in Dereham on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> April at 10 a.m.

5. Norfolk RCC – E-Funding Update – Details of funding available for community projects.
6. Norfolk RCC e-newsletter – March 2011.
7. Elizabeth Truss MP – 10<sup>th</sup> monthly report updating residents on her activities.
8. Sustainable Communities Project – Floods around the Wash (Cllrs have already been notified of this as the event was on 24<sup>th</sup> March.)
9. Linda Briggs – Vibration to properties on Main Street. Copies of correspondence on 14<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> March with Elizabeth Truss MP and Buckley Scott.
10. Norfolk Constabulary – Crime Prevention Measures and details of local surgeries.
11. Borough Council – Agenda for meeting on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March and results of the Local Poll on the construction of the Mass burn Municipal Waste Incinerator.
12. e-mail via Norfolk Association of Local Councils from Heacham Parish Council:  
*Our current volunteer tree warden has just retired and when making enquiries as to how to go about replacing him, I have been told by the Borough Council who are listed as the local scheme coordinator, that they have let the scheme lapse. The Parish Council want to lobby the Borough Council to reinstate the scheme, subject to there being sufficient interest from other Parishes. We would be grateful to hear from any parish so that we can assess the interest and at least get the Borough Council to take another look. We are happy to take the lead, but it would be nice to know what the general feeling is.*

### **13. Plans and Planning Matters**

The following planning application was received from the Borough Council and was circulated to all councillors.

As no adverse comments were received the form was returned recommending approval:

Ref No. 11/00256/F

Mr. & Mrs. Porto, Single storey and two storey extension to comprise Kitchen, Dining Room Bedroom and Bathroom at Stanborough House, Main Road, Lakesend,

The following Appeal Notice from the Borough Council was also received:

Appeal by Mrs. Beryl Rainer, Biangi, Wisbech Road, Welney

Construction of chalet bungalow and double garage.

An inspector has been appointed by the Secretary of State to determine the appeal by way of informal hearing which will commence at 10 a.m. on 11<sup>th</sup> May, 2011 in the meeting room, 5 Kings Court, Chapel Street, King's Lynn. As a consultee the Parish Council are invited to attend the hearing and at the inspector's discretion participate in the discussion. Any views submitted in writing will be disclosed to both parties to the appeal and may be read out at the meeting. After a brief discussion it was agreed that as we had recommended approval on a planning application which was situated outside the village development area, it would not be prudent for the Council to become any further involved.

Following further discussion it was agreed that parish councillors would be interested in possible planning training and contact would be made with the Borough Council to see if this could be arranged.

Dist.Cllr.Spikings confirmed that anyone is welcome to attend the Planning Meetings and sit in the public gallery.

### **14. Highway Matters**

Following the last meeting, the following items had been reported to Highways:

1. Broken Barriers at Suspension Bridge – A telephone call had been received from Mr.Rayner at Highways on 21<sup>st</sup> March. He confirmed that new barriers will be installed at the end of April, beginning of May. He apologised for the delay but the new barriers are much stronger construction and are much easier to replace if they do get damaged.
2. Blocked Drain in Chestnut Avenue. Confirmation that this has been scheduled for work to be carried out, but as yet it does not appear to have been completed.

The following items were raised for attention by Highways:

1. Potholes in Main Street, Welney – Appearing where the sewage works were carried out.
2. Potholes in the March Road from Howard Kent's premises to the first property in Tipps End.
3. Rutland Arms Corner to Markham's Corner, Tipps End – Several overgrown hedges restricting the width of the road, thereby causing damage to vehicles and causing the edge of the road to break away.

On 29<sup>th</sup> March an e-mail was received from the Highway and Community Rangers who would be visiting the village during the week commencing 14<sup>th</sup> April. The following points were raised for their possible attention:

1. Clean up of the dyke around Sandgate Corner.
2. Hedges on March Road, Tipps End – as described in item 3 above.
3. Possibility of putting some gravel on the pathway from Old Garden Centre to Stockyard Farm.

**15 Environmental Issues.**

Following the last meeting, the Clerk confirmed that a letter of thanks had been sent to Mr. Hankins for his ‘community spirit’.

**16 Items for Next Agenda**

None.

Council was advised that the next meeting would be the Parish Council AGM and also the first meeting of the new council and this would be held on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> May, 2011 at 7.30 p.m.

There being no further business the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.

Signed .....K.Goodger..... (Chairman)

Dated..... 10<sup>th</sup> May, 2011.....