

Minutes of the Meeting of the Welney Parish Council
held in the Parish Hall, Welney, on Tuesday 2nd September, 2014 at 7.30 p.m.

Present: : Cllr.K.Goodger (Chairman), Cllrs. T.Bray, R.Gilbert, G.Rainbird and V. Pratley, Mrs.J.Elliott, Mr.G.Bombata, Mr.J.Loveday, Mr.N.Fleming and the Clerk.

1. Apologies for absence received from: Cllrs.S.Dobson and A.Wardle, C.Cllr.H.Humphrey, Dist.Cllrs.D.Pope and V.Spikings and PCSO E.Bortz.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and confirmed that Council need to appoint a Vice Chairman. The Chairman proposed Cllr.Bray, seconded by Cllr.Pratley. Cllr.Gilbert then proposed Cllr.Rainbird and this was seconded by Cllr.Bray after he withdrew from his nomination. Cllr.Rainbird duly appointed Vice Chairman.

2. Declarations of Interest

Chairman declared an interest in the contents of a letter received from Mr.T.Bennett re Hale Drove.

3. Casual Vacancies on the Council.

Councillors already circulated with details of Mrs.Elliott and Mr.Bombata who had applied to join the Council. It was proposed by Cllr.Bray, seconded by Cllr.Rainbird and agreed that both should be co-opted. Both handed copies of the Councillors pack, and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of office Forms.

Councillors already supplied with a copy of the official Order No.14634 from the Borough Council Electoral Services confirming that w.e.f. 1st January, 2015 the number of councillors will be reduced from 9 to 8 and this will come into effect at the Elections on 7th May, 2015

4. Public Participation

Mr.Loveday raised the question of dogs fouling the Playing Field. Confirmed he would provide some notices to deter residents letting their dogs foul the field.

5. Minutes of the Meeting

Cllrs.all received a copy of the draft minutes of the last meeting. Following an amendment under Section 5 to delete "resigned from the Council and..." the minutes were signed as a correct record of the meeting held on 5th August.

6. Matters Arising

- a. Faster Broadband for Welney – Cllr.Wardle not able to be present – leave on Agenda for next meeting.
- b. Improving the Image of the Council – Agreed Council need to work as a unified body – several points discussed. Suggestion for team building exercise. Mr.Loveday gave details of the Fun Day to be held at Playing Field on 6th September and hoped as many councillors as possible would be present. Discussion regarding Press Officer – Cllr.Bombata – Proposed by Cllr.Gilbert, seconded by Cllr.Rainbird and carried unanimously. Cllr.Gilbert also raised the possibility of fund raising but it was agreed to leave this until the next meeting. Question of e-mail addresses for Councillors also mentioned.
- c. Availability of Correspondence – General discussion regarding income and outgoing correspondence. Chairman advised Clerk is always first line of contact and she then circulates everthing to all councillors and also brings copies along to the meetings.
- d. Training for Parish Council – Details received of Training session at Downham Market in October. However in view of cost agreed to contact County Office and see if In House Training could be arranged at Welney – any evening Monday to Thursday.

7. Finance

On the proposition of Cllr. Bray, seconded by Cllr. Rainbird and agreed, the following cheques were drawn & signed

Westcotec – Street lighting maintenance July and August	115 . 76
Fenland Fire Appliance Co. Extinguisher Service at Pavilion	30 . 66

D.A. Pest Control – Treatment of Honeybees at Pavilion	45 . 00
Anglian Water – 10.5.14 to 5.8.14 – Pavilion	25 . 02
Anglian Water – 10.5.14 to 4.8.14 – Parish Hall	60 . 28
Ms.P.Copeman – Clerks Expenses	45 . 28
Mazars – Audit Fee	120 . 00

Paid by Direct Debit

Mrs.P.Copeman – Clerks Salary	255 . 68
E-On – Electric for Street Lights	62 . 19

Standing Orders - Council advised that Order No.69 of Parish Council Standing Orders has now been amended. Each Councillor supplied with a copy of the information to include in their standing orders.

8. Parish Hall

The sum of £17 was removed from the electricity meters.

Anglian Water been along and found outside stoptap allowing the Plumber to repair to leak to the pipework E-On been once to check electric meter – Found to be faulty – calling again mid September to correct and replace the meter and timeclock.

9. Proposed New Pavilion.

Clerk confirmed she had copied all the Deeds and documents collected from the Solicitors and a copy of all paperwork had been given to the Action Team.

Mr.Fleming on behalf of the Action Team gave details of work to date and confirmed that they were hoping to have a formal review with the planning office prior to applying for planning permission. If all goes well it is hoped to have the new building open for next summer 2015 . It is proposed that a competition will be held to provide a suitable name for the new pavilion.

1. A lease is required between the Playing Field Trustees and the Custodian Trustees (The Parish Council) in order to satisfy the requirements of some of the funding organisations. It was proposed by Cllr.Rainbird , seconded by Cllr.Gilbert and agreed that the Lease should be prepared to meet the timescale requirements of the funders. It was further proposed by Cllr.Bray, seconded by Cllr.Rainbird and agreed that the lease should be for 25 years with an option of a further 25 year term.
2. The question of direct funding from the Parish Council was also considered. It was agreed to look into the question of whether the Parish Council would be responsible for demolishing the old Parish Hall when the lease expired and if so at what cost. It was also agreed to try and obtain an idea of the cost of expenses involved should it be necessary to hold an Election in May 2015. Proposed by Cllr.Bray, seconded by Cllr.Rainbird and agreed that in principle the Parish Council will meet the requirements for some form of funding, the amount of which will be determined at the next meeting.
3. Management Committee – On completion of the new building consideration should be given to the formation of a Management Committee comprising 2 Parish Councillors and representatives of all the user groups. It was proposed by Cllr.Bray, seconded by Cllr. Pratley and agreed that such a management committee should be formed to run the project on behalf of the Welney Parish Council.

10. Playing Field.,

Mr.Loveday confirmed that the rabbit problem on the Playing Field had been resolved.

Mr.A.Carter had telephoned to say that he would be doing some work to his sheds and overhanging branches from the trees on the playing field would be cut and left on the field.

Notice to go to Welney News requesting dog owners to keep their dogs off the playing field.

11. Correspondence

1.Norfolk Association of Parish and Town Councils – Details of Training Sessions

2.Following the last meeting,contadted the Environment Agency regarding the locked gates on the River Banks.

Received an e-mail from Chris Rule asking for a site meeting, and this was passed to the Chairman The Chairman

confirmed that he had since spoken to Mr.T.Bennett who had confirmed that he had sorted out the problem and the gate on the Hundred Foot Bank had been opened for walkers

3.The Norfolk Hospice Tapping Housee – 21.8.14 Letter with details of the move from Snettisham to Hillington and also celebrating 30th Anniversary. Also asking for a donation to keep the work going.

4.Shelter Solutions – Details of Bus Shelters - Prices available on request.

5.An Open letter addressed to the Parish Council had been received from Cllr.Gilbert and this had been circulated to all Councillors.

6. Letter from Mr.T.Bennett regarding Rights of Way Issues. 1. County Council Cutting Programmme – agreed to contact Highways and find out the current situation. Footway between Stockyard Farm and Trevine – Again agreed to put this problem to Highways for an update of the situation. Public Bridleway South level Barrier Bank - Mr.Bennett confirmed that he had opened this up and fixed a temporary rope fastener. The Chairman left the meeting having declared an interest in Hale Drove and the Vice Chairman took the Chair. On receipt of the ideas put forward by Mr.Bennett for Hale Drove to be made a permissive route, details had been obtained from Highways Rights of Way department. Two ways this could be done: Parish Council to take it on subject of course to an agreement between the P.C. and the Landowners adjacent to the Drove, and the maintenance of the roadway would then be the responsibility of both the Parish Council and the landowners. Second way is for an individual to apply for the Drove to be made a Concessionary Path. He would have to go through the same procedures with the landowners and obtain their agreement in the same way and he would then have to bear any costs and expenses involved as an individual. After discussion it was proposed by Cllr.Bray, seconded by Cllr.Pratley and unanimously agreed that the Parish Council would not take any further action and leave Hale Drove as it is. The Chairman then returned and took the chair.

12. Planning Matters

1. Query received from resident regarding extending the use of the yard at Howard Kent Transport. Agreed to contact Borough Planning Department for advice and recommendations

2. Planning application No.14/01184/F – A. & E.G. Heading Limited – General purpose agricultural building at Burgess Farm, Manea Runs, Welney. Support the application - all in favour.

13. Highway Matters

Reply to Alastair Rhind, New Anglian Local Enterprise Partnership - defer to the next meeting in absence of Cllr.Wardle. Broken flood gate at Delph Bridge reported and is being dealt with by Highways. Pothole on March Road has been repaired, as has the footpath on Main Street. Highway Rangers visiting Welney week commencing 13th October. To report to Highways – Dip in road at Flights End, Hundred Foot Bank has returned. Ask for at least signs to be installed to warn motorists and then work carried out for the problem.

E-mail from Westcotec regarding possibility of installing three new street lights on March Road, Welney leading to the Playng Field. Hold in abeyance until the next meeting for further discussion.

14. Community Emergency Plan

Copy of Emergency Plan and telephone cascade sent to all councillors. New cascade will be sent out following co-option of new councillors.

15. Items for Next Agenda

- a. Possible revision and update of Parish Action Plan
- b. Cllr.Gilbert – Fund raising
- c. Team Building
- d. Website

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.40 p.m and thanked everyone for their attendance.

SignedK.Goodger.....(Chairman)

Dated7th October, 2014.....