

Minutes of the Meeting of Welney Parish Council
held in The Parish Hall, Welney
on Tuesday 2nd February, 2016 at 7.30 p.m.

Present: Cllr.K.Goodger (Chairman), Cllrs.L.Bombata, H.Cowles, P.Edmunds, J.Elliott, R.Gilbert, G.Rainbird, Dist.Cllrs.V.Spikings and D.Pope, 10 members of the Public and the Clerk.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the February meeting of the Parish Council.

1. Apologies for absence received from Cllr.K.Cowles, and Cllr.Bombata who arrived approximately 8 p.m.

2. Declaration of Interests – Cllr.Edmunds declared an interest in Item 7(b) and Cllr.Goodger in item 8

3. Public Participation

The following points were raised by members of the public:

- Any information regarding a defibrillator for the village? Agreed an article would appear in the next Newsletter.
- What are the future plans for the Parish Hall? Not known at present.
- Wash Road Closed due to flooding – Road diversion signs had been put in the wrong place, as they had been put further along Main Street away from the March Road turning. Is there an agreed written procedure in place with Highways for the closing of the Wash Road? The Chairman confirmed that these matters would be dealt with under Highways later in the Agenda. Also confirmed he had attended a meeting at Downham Market with Highways, Councillors and Members of Parliament who were all well aware of the problems being experienced with the flashing signs and were looking into this with Westcotec. No update available at present.
- Would a new planning application be required because of the change of heating in the new building?

4. Minutes of Meetings – Minutes of the meetings held on 12th and 19th January having been circulated to Councillors were agreed and signed by the Chairman, following a small amendment to the minutes of 19th January.

5. Matters Arising – Village Clean up. No comments had been received following the item in the Parish Council Newsletter regarding a clean up using personal on community service and it was agreed to contact the Borough Council to find out exactly what is involved in arranging such a scheme.

6. Policy to Deal with Offensive Remarks at Meetings – Adjourned until next meeting.

7. Finance

The following invoice had been received for payment and the proposition of Cllr.Rainbird, seconded by Cllr.Edmunds with all in favour the cheque was signed

Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk

Election expenses from May 2012 £599.39

The following cheque was also approved for payment on the proposition of Cllr.H.Cowles, seconded by Cllr.Gilbert and agreed, and was therefore signed

MRC – Deposit for the New building £81,874.80

The meeting was advised that a cheque for £96,037.02 had been received from Marshall's Charity. This was made up of the Charity's generous donation of £100,000 for the new building on the playing field, less the Third Party Funding (being 11% of the approved grant from WREN) which was a condition of their grant.

b. R.U.G. And V.A.T. - Further e-mail from R.U.G. circulated to all councillors. However Council's original decision still stood that they could not become involved with reclaiming VAT for R.U.G.'s expenditure.

8. Parish Hall

The electricity meters had been emptied and the sum of £32.00 removed.

Cllr.Bombata had prepared a survey to go to the young people of Welney and surrounding areas concerning the Youth Training Enterprise and Social Centre which was being considered and which could possibly be held in The Parish Hall. Once the level of interest was known, further decisions could be made.

Extension of the Current Hall Lease – Councillors were reminded that the current lease of the hall expired on 25th March and following information received from the Environment Agency it was proposed by Cllr.Edmunds, seconded by Cllr.H.Cowles with 6 in favour and 1 abstention, that the Parish Council should ask for an extension of one year initially, to cover any period whilst the new building was being completed.

The Chairman explained that Marshall's Charity had hired the Parish Hall for a meeting the previous week, but in view of their generous donation to the Village, no charge had been made for that meeting. Agreed.

9. New Hall on Playing Field

a. The meeting was then given an update with regard to the current situation with the Old Pavilion and the new Building.

- UK Power Networks had been instructed to disconnect the power to the Old Pavilion and a job number had been received confirming that this would take place on Friday 5th Feb.
- Cllr. Gilbert would be attending to disconnect the water supply
- Matthew Lawrence Demolition had been advised and as soon as they were advised that the power was disconnected, they would commence demolition, hopefully week commencing 8th February.
- Work day on 23rd January – Enjoyable day and lots of work completed. Container moved to the other side of the field, and tree taken down to make room for the new building. The tree surgeon had confirmed that he would be prepared to take down the remaining trees, and it was agreed that new trees would be planted in due course to replace them.
- Solar Panels – One quotation had been received, two other awaited before final decision is made.
- The Chairman confirmed that he would be visiting MRC on 3rd February and taking the cheque for the deposit (approved under item 7) He would also collect the Contractor Integrity Form which had been signed by MRC.
- Three phase electricity – The cheque was drawn and signed in the sum of £1,330.80 (including VAT) on the proposition of Cllr.Gilbert, seconded by Cllr.Elliott with all in favour.
- Insurance of Old Pavilion – Insurance company had been contacted and councillors advised of their advice. After brief discussion it was proposed by Cllr.Gilbert, seconded by Cllr.Edmunds and agreed, that the pavilion should be left on the Insurance until such time as the demolition commenced and then removed. Insurance for the new building would be added as soon as it was finally handed over by the Contractor.
- The Chairman had received a request from MRC to confirm the type of floor covering in the main hall. He confirmed that their would be non slip in Changing rooms, Toilets and Kitchen etc., and after a brief discussion it was agreed with five councillors in favour that non slip should also be installed in the Main Hall.
- It was then agreed that the next meeting of the New Building Committee should take place on Monday 15th February, 2016 at 7.30 p.m. in the Parish Hall. The Agenda would be agreed within the next few days and then forwarded to everyone on the Committee.
- It was also agreed to hold a Playing Field Trustees meeting following the March Parish Council meeting and invite members of the Management Team so that they could be made aware of their responsibilities.
- Cllr.Edmunds confirmed that he would take a series of photographs during the demolition and that these could be included in the next Press Release required under the WREN rules.

b. Clearance and Disposal of Trees and Demolition Sundries. Cllr.Elliott expressed her concern regarding some individuals benefiting from the wood when the trees are taken down. It was originally suggested that the wood should be auctioned off to those interested. However it was pointed out that the tree surgeon who took down the tree did not make a charge but accepted the logs as payment, and it was up to him what he did with them afterwards. It was agreed that in future all parties would be told that if they were interested in purchasing some of the logs then they must see the tree surgeon. It was then proposed by Cllr. Gilbert, seconded by Cllr.Edmunds with everyone in favour, that Bob (tree surgeon) should be asked to remove the remaining trees.

10. Playing Field

a. Approval of Minutes – Meeting of Trustees held on 12th January, 2016. Minutes circulated to all councillors and signed by the Chairman as a correct record – all in favour.

b. Update of Playing Field Management Committee – Councillors advised that the following representatives had now been confirmed:

Mrs.Karen Fleming, representing the Yoga Group

Mrs.Holly Trundle, representing the Womens Institute

Mrs.Sheree Edmunds, representing the R.U.G. Group

Mr.John Hunt representing the Welney Croft Cricket Club

Cllrs.L.Bombata, P.Edmunds, J.Eliott and R.Gilbert representing the Parish Council.

A list of the current user groups of the Hall and Old Pavilion had been forwarded to all councillors.

11. Correspondence

1. Copies of e-mails to and from the Monitoring Officer re meeting in November (circulated to all councillors.) Chairman confirmed that he had received a reply congratulating the Council on their efforts to work together.

2. Better Broadband – e-mail from Barry Denyer circulated to all councillors. Telephone call from Mrs.Lovell at Tipps End who has very little broadband coverage. She has been in touch with at Better Broadband and also B.T. and would be grateful if Council could keep her informed of any developments..

3. Police Connect 13.1.16 – Spam e-mail warning (Circulated to all councillors)

4. E-mail letter from Mr.Loveday and others re new building (circulated to all councillors)

5. Police Connect Message re Cyclists (Circulated to all councillors)

6. Well Creek Trust AGM received 28.1.16 – Circulated to all councillors)

7. e-mail from PCSO Esther Bortz regarding Burglary in the Welney area. Could not comment on individual cases but advised everyone to be vigilant. Advice would be included in the next Newsletter.

12. Planning Matters

a. Possible Neighbourhood Plan - Cllr. Gilbert advised that he had obtained a large map of the parish and had started marking up areas. He confirmed that the Council should go for more than is needed, but that owners of land must be spoken to before their land is included as they may not wish it to be. The Chairman and Cllr.Gilbert agreed to meet before the next meeting and mark up the plan. Dist.Cllr.Spikings gave a brief explanation of the Neighbourhood Plan and how it would be put together.

b. Parish Training Session – Details circulated to all councillors. Cllr.Gilbert will be attending the session from 3-5 p.m at King's Lynn on 29th February, 2016

13. Highway Matters

Wash Road - Councillors all circulated with copies of e-mails regarding signs, road flooding etc relating to the Wash Road. Also a copy of the e-mail from Highways 1.2.16 relating to Highway matters. It was agreed to write to Highways with regard to the various questions raised under Public Participation, and also to ask if they could look at some of the signage which is far from clear and to remind them that there are no signs for vehicles travelling from Ten Mile Bank along Hundred Foot Bank. There needs to be a sign indicating that the Wash Road is flooded and giving drivers the option of going straight onto Littleport.

Two cases of Fly tipping were reported- one at Hundred Foot Bank on the corner of the road to Ten Mile Bank, near Flights End, and the other at the entrance to the concrete road on the left hand side between Welney and Tipps End. These would both be reported to the clean up team.

14, Houses in Chestnut Avenue

E-mail dated 25.1.16 from Freebridge, circulated to all councillors. Request to Freebridge that Council be kept informed of developments.

15. Items for Next Agenda

None.

The meeting was advised that the Annual Parish Meeting would be held at 7 p.m. On Tuesday 1st March 2016 prior to the March meeting of the Parish Council. The Parish Council meeting would be followed by a meeting of the Playing Field Trustees and the members of the new Management Committee would be invited to attend,

There being no further business the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed at 10 minutes to 9.

SignedK.Goodger.....(Chairman)

Dated1st March, 2016.....