

**Minutes of the meeting of Welney Parish Council**  
**held at The William Marshall Centre, Hurn Drove, Welney on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September, 2016 at 7.30 p.m.**

**Present:** Cllr.K.Goodger (Chairman), Cllrs. H.Cowles, P.Edmunds, J.Elliott, G.Rainbird, Dist.Cllr.D.Pope , 6 members of the public and the Clerk.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**1. Apologies for absence** - Received from Cllr.K.Cowles, Cllr.L.Bombata (who will try and make it if possible) Dist.Cllr.V.Spikings and C.Cllr.H.Humphrey

**2. Declaration of Interests** – None at this stage.

**3. Public Participation**

The following items were raised by members of the public:

- Pollarding of trees on the Wash Road – Matter for Highways
- The question of the Acoustics in the New Building which were considered to be very bad.
- Possibility of Play Equipment on the Playing Field – Matter for the Trustees to consider.
- The question of the cost of the roof on the New building was also raised - continuing discussion regarding the existing roof and whether it was flat or pitched.
- It was noted that the cost of the new building had been published in the Welney News – would the income and expenditure continue to be published – advised this is a matter for the Management Team.
- Planning Application for variance of 2 conditions of the original condition. Question was asked what these were and the meeting was advised that a member of the public had complained and therefore a further planning application had had to be submitted to the Borough Council.
- The solar panels were raised once again and the Chairman stated that as everything concerning the solar panels had been before the Council for consideration and decision. A decision was made and everyone was happy. Two members of the public had written into a previous meeting and had not received a reply to their communications – the Clerk was requested to send a written reply.
- At this point the Chairman stopped the Public Participation section, as only items on the Agenda can be raised without prior notice. No notice had been received and the William Marshall Centre was no longer on the Agenda for the Parish Council meeting, it having been transferred to the Trustees Meeting/Management Committee agenda as they are responsible for the Building and the Playing Field. He confirmed that if members of the public were not happy with the way in which the new building had been constructed and approved then they should put any complaints in writing to the Monitoring Officer at the Borough Council.
- Mr.P.Fox representing RUG addressed the meeting and advised that the Borough Council would not give any undertaking that they will not apply for planning permission on the Sandgate Corner Field in the Future. RUG are considering applying for a Village Green status for the Field and asked for Parish Council support. Dist.Cllr.Pope confirmed that a representative of the Borough Council would be making an inspection of the field on 22<sup>nd</sup> September and he would report back immediately afterwards with the outcome. It was agreed to leave this matter in abeyance until the October meeting.

**4. Casual Vacancy**

The vacancy was advertised in the last Welney News and notices have been displayed on the Notice Boards etc. No applications had been received at present and the clerk confirmed that the vacancy will appear in the next issue of the Welney News.

**5. The minutes of the meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> August**, having been circulated to all Councillors, were confirmed as a correct record of that meeting and signed by the Chairman.

**6. Matters Arising**

None

## 7. Finance

The following invoices have been received for payment and on the proposition of Cllr.Elliott, seconded by Cllr.H.Cowles and agreed, the cheques were signed:

Foster Renewables – Installation of Solar Panels on New Hall	9,933 . 38
Westcotec – Lighting maintenance for street lights	133 . 34
Mazars – Audit Fee	480 . 00
Mrs.P.Copeman -Clerks Expenses	44 . 90

Paid by Direct Debit

Clerks Salary	255 . 68
E-On – Electric for lights	81 . 12
Anglian Water – Water to new hall	38 . 36

Notes:

1. The Clerk confirmed that the Audit had been completed and the signed paperwork received back from Mazars. The official required notices have been displayed on the notice boards. The reason the fee is so high this year is because of the much increased total in the income and expenditure. The fees are based on a scale and under normal circumstances the invoice would have been £100 plus VAT.
2. E-On have now sent a statement showing that the account for the new hall is £103.13 in credit. They are continuing to issue statements on a monthly basis.
3. The Clerk confirmed that she had spoken to Tony Smart regarding the payment of the grass cutting for the Playing Field to the Cricket Club, and he has confirmed that this year it will be dealt with by one payment only. He is going to confirm the exact number of matches played at the end of September and then the cost for these can be deducted from the whole years grass cutting and a cheque for the balance would be sent after the October meeting.

## 8. Old Parish Hall

Grateful thanks to everyone who came along on 7<sup>th</sup> August and cleared the majority of the rubbish from the Old Parish Hall. There are still some items to collect but would it be possible for persons to spare an hour or two to help sweep out and generally clean up as soon as possible. Confirmation had been received that the official hand over will take place at 10 a.m on 11<sup>th</sup> October and the Clerk will be meeting the lady from the Environment Agency on that day to give her all the keys. However prior to this they need their Agents to carry out a Condition Survey (for which they will arrange a date and time)) so it would be good if the building could be cleared before they carry out their survey. Cllr.Cowles confirmed that she would make arrangements with the Clerk to do a clean up.

The electricity and water cannot be disconnected until the actual hand over as both utility companies need to know who the customer responsible for the bills will be and also the hand over date.

## 9. Correspondence

a. e-mail from RUG regarding the future of Sandgate Corner Field and asking for Parish Council support – circulated to all. - Mr.Paul Fox confirmed that he would send a report following the meeting with the Borough Council and the matter would be included on the Agenda for the next meeting.

b. e-mail from Ted Harper at Upwell regarding the planning application at Townley Close, Upwell – circulated to all Following a brief discussion it was confirmed to the meeting that the Parish Council have no powers to act in connection with this matter as it is outside the Welney boundary.

c. Signpost Magazine from Community Action Norfolk

d. CPRE – Letter dated 4.8.16 re Devolution for Norfolk and Suffolk.

e. Police Connect Message – 24.8.16 Circulated to all

f. -do- 25.8.16 -do-

g. -do- 28.8.16 -do-

h. e-mail from RUG regarding Dog Bins at Sandgate Corner dated 1.9.16 – Circulated to all. - After consideration it was agreed to include this matter on the agenda for the next meeting and the Clerk would find out the cost of emptying the dog bin.

i. Police Connect Message – 30.8.19 Circulated to all

j. -do- 31.8.16 -do-

k. -do- 1.9.16 -do-

I. NHS West Norfolk – Meeting at Downham Market on 13.9.16 – Circulated to all.

10. Planning Matters

a. Welney Neighbourhood Plan – This was briefly discussed at the last meeting with useful input from Dist.Cllr.Spikings – Agreed to put on the Agenda for this meeting to see if the matter can be taken forward. Nothing further to report – Matter deferred until next meeting.

b. Planning Application – It was confirmed to the meeting, from the last meeting, that a resident of the village had raised queries with the Planning Department regarding certain matters relating to the new building which had not been carried out in accordance with the approved plans. This meant a further planning application had to be submitted. The Borough Council have confirmed receipt of this under reference No.16/01519/F dated 24.8.16 Variation of conditions 2 and 5 of planning permission 15/00427/F. The application can be viewed on line at <http://online.west-norfolk.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do>? The decision of the planning department should be forthcoming by 12<sup>th</sup> October. There was a fee of £97.50 to be paid for this application but MRC have currently met the cost of this after being reminded that if they had followed the approved plans correctly, this extra application would not have been necessary.

The Clerk confirmed that a Planning Application relating to Hobby Cottage, Hundred Foot Bank, Welney had been received online on 6<sup>th</sup> September. Full details and reference numbers were given and Councillors would take the opportunity to inspect on line. If no adverse comments were received within seven days, the Clerk would return the form to the Borough Council recommending Approval.

11. Highway Matters

All the highway problems which were raised at the last meeting have been reported to the appropriate person together with a request for information as to what they are able to do to the surface of Hurn Drove. Nothing had been heard and it was agreed to make further contact as soon as possible.

Parish Partnership Scheme – It was agreed at the last meeting to explore the possibility of a TROD on March Road and following a brief discussion it was agreed to find out more information regarding the price, whether it would include the piping of the dyke and any funding arrangements available to the Parish Council to meet the 50/50 costings for this scheme.

Brought forward from the last meeting– e-mail from Ian Shirley asking if the Parish Council could ask Highways for help regarding traffic in Main Street. He expressed concern that on several occasions when indicating to turn into his own drive, vehicles travelling in the same direction had simply ignored him and overtaken him. He was very concerned about the consequences. It was agreed to report the matter to Highways and the Police and copy C.Cllr.Humphrey into the correspondence.

E-mail received from Trevor Bray regarding the Drains outside his house (forwarded to all councillors) asking if Council can approach Highways to see what action can be taken. Agreed to take this matter up with Highways.

There is still a problem with the road near Flights End, Hundred Foot Bank and vehicles are in danger of grounding out on the uneven surface – Report to Highways.

The meeting was advised that the Highway and Community Ranger will be in Welney during the week commencing 10<sup>th</sup> October. Any specific items should be reported in good time for them to be considered.

12. Items for Next Agenda.

None

There being no further business the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed at 8.15 p.m.

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

Dated .....4<sup>th</sup> October, 2016.....