

Minutes of the Meeting of The Welney Parish Council
held at The William Marshall Centre, Hurn Drove, Welney
on Tuesday 1st November, 2016 at 7.30 p.m.

Present: Cllr.K.Goodger (Chairman), Cllrs. L.Bombata, H.Cowles, P.Edmunds, J. Elliott, G.Rainbird, Dist.Cllr.D.Pope , 8 members of the Public and the Clerk.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and welcomed Ms.A.Wardle and Mrs.V.Pratley the new editors of The Welney News.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr.K.Cowles, Dist.Cllr.V. Spikings and C .Cllr. H. Humphrey

2. Declaration of Interests

Cllr.Edmunds declared an interest in Item 10b – Correspondence.

3.a. Public Participation

The question was raised with regard to the car park and parking facilities at the new building. The Chairman explained that this was a matter for the Trustee and no doubt they would be looking into ways of raising funds to complete the work.

b. Comments from District/County Councillors. - Cllr.Pope asked how many people were aware of what devolution means and now it might affect Parish Councils. He gave a brief outline of the situation for Norfolk and advised that further information would be available in due course.

4. Casual Vacancy on the Council.

Mr.Mathew Baker of Tipps End had expressed an interest in joining the Council. He had supplied information regarding himself which had been circulated to Councillors, and on the proposition of Cllr.Edmunds, seconded by Cllr.Cowles and with everyone in agreement, he was invited to join the Council. He duly signed the acceptance of Office form and was handed an envelope with all relevant paperwork.

5. Minutes of Last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 4th October, a copy of which has been sent to all councillors, were confirmed subject to a small amendment, and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

6. Matters Arising

a. R.U.G. and the Future of Sandgate Corner Meadow. – A letter had been received from RUG dated 25th October which had been circulated to all Councillors. This was discussed and questions asked of the RUG representative and the District Councillor. It was confirmed to the meeting that there would be no cost to the Parish Council if they should take over the lease, and it was also confirmed that there would be no building on the field. It was also agreed that if RUG should fold then the field could be given back to the Borough Council so there would be no cost to the Parish. After further discussion it was proposed by Cllr.Rainbird, seconded by Cllr.Bombata and agreed that the Parish Council should apply to the borough to take over the Sandgate Meadow Park on a long lease – to try for 50 years.

7. Consider a meeting with complainants to try and resolve outstanding issues.

Cllr.Goodger outlined this proposal and it was agreed that it would be a good idea to arrange a meeting with complainants to resolve outstanding issues, After discussion it was proposed by Cllr.Goodger, seconded by Cllr.Rainbird with 7 in favour and 1 abstention, that the Council should form a Working Committee and ask the members of the Old Action Team if they would be prepared to meet and discuss the issues that have been raised under public participation, and various correspondence over recent months.

8. Finance

There are no invoices for payment this month.

Direct Debit payments

E-on – electricity for lights

91 . 17

Clerks Salary

255 . 68

E-on had estimated the meeting reading for the electricity to the William Marshall Centre, but it was confirmed that their estimation is well above what has actually been used. When the next bill was received, the Clerk confirmed that she would read the meter and contact E-on with the correct reading.

9. Parish Hall

The Clerk confirmed that she had sent an e-mail to everyone dated 11th October, 2016 following the meeting with the representative of the Environment Agency explaining their short term proposals for the Parish Hall. She also confirmed that the three fire extinguishers had been collected and delivered to the new Hall. However since the visit by the Environment Agency Building Surveyors, it had been confirmed that the building was condemned and the Agency would be holding a meeting during the middle of November to decide on their future plans.

The notice board and cigarette holder to the outside of the building have to be removed and there are still a few items inside. Final electricity and water bills will be paid shortly and the sum of £103 will be refunded from the insurance company on the cancellation of the building cover.

Cllr.Bombata asked for an Agenda item to include an issue which he feels should be raised with the Environment Agency regarding continued use of the building, but in view of the information regarding the building being condemned his request was withdrawn.,

Cllrs.had been circulated with a letter from Ms.Wardle asking if it would be possible for her to have the Welney Parish Hall Sign from the front of the old building. Ms Wardle was advised that no-one had any objections, but as the building had been handed back to the Environment Agency she would need to approach them for their permission.

10. Correspondence

a. e-mail from Mr.Gilbert regarding Public Participation and Standing Orders

Following a short discussion it was agreed to send a reply to Mr.Gilbert confirming that the rules regarding Public Participation had not been altered, they had simply been strictly enforced.

b. Change of Address notification for Sermal now known as Belleview, March Road, Welney

c. Notification of Address for 1 & 2 High Hill Farm, Main Street, Welney

d. Ouse Washes Landscape Partnership – Mr.Gilbert used to be our representative but he has resigned and they wonder if we wish to appoint a new rep for the last two meetings of the partnership.

Agreed that no new representative would be appointed, but asking if there are any events happening, then the Chairman and/or Vice Chairman could attend.

e. Police Connect – Crime Report – 6.10.16

f. Op,Randall – 14.10.16

g. Community Action Norfolk - 14.10.16 – Community Land Prices – Affordable Housing

h. Police Connect – Weekly Crime 19.10.16

i. Police Connect – 20/10.16

j. Op.Randall Report 21.10.16

k. Police Connect – 22.10.16

l. Police Connect – 23.10.16

m. Police Connect – Weekly Crime 26.10.16

11. Planning Matters

a. Hobby Cottage, Hundred Foot Bank, Welney 16/01539/F – First Floor Extension

Approved by the Borough Council 17.10.16

b. Neighbourhood Plan – Call for Sites and Policy Suggestions Consultation 18.10.16

Letter from the Borough Council circulated to all for information.

12. Highway Matters

a. The Clerk confirmed that she had written to Andy Wallace at Highways on 11.10.16 (councillors copied in) and having not heard anything from him wrote again on 24.10.16. Confirmation had now been received that he is on

leave until 31st October.) Agreed to contact him again and ask for replies to our queries as soon as possible. It was also confirmed that the sign indicating the problem at Flights End has been moved and should be put back in the proper position so that at least motorists have some warning. At present it is understood to be in a farmers gateway,

b. The following e-mail had been received from Christchurch dated 21.10.16:

At our last Parish Council meeting the speed limit and lack of signs for sharp corners through Tipps End was discussed. The Parish Council would like to do something but it is obviously difficult as part is Norfolk and part Cambridgeshire. Initially I am contacting you as a courtesy, and wonder if this is something that Welney have ever looked at? I have contacted our local highways person to ask how we would proceed and will keep you informed if you feel it is of interest? The Clerk confirmed that the e-mail had been acknowledged and it was agreed to ask Christchurch to keep us informed of any developments.

13. Future Relationship with the Welney News

Cllr.Bombata asked for this item to be included. As The Welney News now has new editors, could the Council see if they can foster a new working relationship and agree working protocols regarding articles submitted about the Council/Councillors. Cllr.Bombata outlined his thoughts and felt it could be advantageous to meet the Editors and see if there was a possibility of the Council being informed of any articles submitted for inclusion so that a suitable reply (if necessary) could be printed at the same time, rather than having to wait two months. The Editors confirmed that it was a committee that runs the Welney News not just the editors. It was agreed to write to the Welney News and see if a meeting could be arranged,

14. Items for Next Agenda

- a. Notice Boards
- b. Parish Website.

There being no further business the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed at 8.20 p.m.

SignedK.Goodger.....(Chairman)

Dated6th December, 2016.....