

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Welney Parish Council**  
**held at The William Marshall Centre, Hurn Drove, Welney**  
**on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April, 2017 at 7.30 p.m.**

Present: Cllr.K.Goodger (Chairman), Cllrs. M.Barker, L.Bombata, H.Cowles, P.Edmunds, P.Gardiner, K.Lind, G.Rainbird, Dist.Cllrs. V.Spikings and D.Pope, 5 members of the public, Ms.A.Wardle (Editor of the Welney News) and the Clerk.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

**1. Apologies for absence** - None

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

**3. a. Public Participation**

1. Mr.T.Bennett raised the problem of Maintenance of Rights of Way within the Parish. The Parish Council had been informed by Highways that the contract for the cutting had been issued for the current year, but Mr.Bennett had information that this matter had been taken out of the hands of highways and therefore if the Council wished to take this in house next year then it may be possible to do so. It was agreed to obtain an update from Highways.

2. Mr.Bennett then raised the question of the footpath from Stockyard Farm to the Old Nursery on Wisbech Road. This was a long outstanding problem and he suggested bypassing the local highways and going straight to the top.

3. He also reported that the slip way on the other side of the Wash Road leading to the cattle pens had been made up and it would be interesting to know how much it had cost.

The Chairman then stopped Mr.Bennett and suggested that all matters should be put in writing before the meeting so that Council had the opportunity of considering them.

**b. Comments from District or County Councillors** – None.

**4. Minutes of last meeting**

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting and the Parish Council meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> March, having been circulated to all councillors, were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record of those meetings.

**5. Matters Arising**

**a. Sandgate Corner Field** - Following the last meeting a letter was sent to the Borough Council confirming that the Parish Council would be prepared to take over the lease, for a period of 20 years, but that they do not wish to have the Play Equipment Area included. Nothing further had been heard.

**b. Better Broadband for Norfolk** – Councillors had been circulated with all the information from the Borough Council and also from Karen O'Keefe at Better Broadband for Norfolk. A poster detailing the subsidy scheme which may be available for those not included in the roll-out was also circulated.

**c. Welney News** – Ms.Wardle confirmed that she would prepare the questionnaire for circulation to Councillors so that information could be included in the Welney News.

**d. Community litter Pick** – Following the last meeting a request was sent to the Borough Council who have confirmed that they have the equipment available but they need a date for the litter pick, a specific contact and the location of where the bags will be collected from. Cllr.Gardiner agreed to take this matter over and the Clerk handed him all the paperwork. Suggested dates were 23<sup>rd</sup> April or 21<sup>st</sup> May but the final date would be confirmed in due course.

**6. Finance**

The following invoices were received for payment and on the proposition of Cllr.Cowles, seconded by Cllr.Edmunds with 7 in favour and Cllr.Bombata against, the cheques were signed:

CAN (used to be the Rural Community Council) Subscription	20 . 00
Hodson Office Supplies – 2 notice boards for WMC (via Chairman)	98 . 38

Westcotec – Light maintenance – Jan and Feb.	133 . 34
Borough Council of KL & W.N. - Emptying Dog Bins	405 . 60
Borough Council of KL & WN – Health Centre Car Park	150 . 00

Direct Debit:

Clerks Salary	255 . 68
Anglian Water – WMC	18 . 22
E-On Street Lights	94 . 21

The meter for the solar panels at WMC was read again on 22<sup>nd</sup> March and E-on have confirmed a further payment of £47.97 will be made during April. Next reading due 22<sup>nd</sup> June.

**7. Adoption of Parish Council Documents.**

a. Update of Emergency Plan – Following the last meeting the information had been updated circulated everyone with a revised copy and a copy of the cascade telephone call out. Cllr.Rainbird confirmed that the incorrect telephone numbers were shown for him, and these were amended. Cllr.Gardiner also suggested that the local radio station numbers should be included. It was then proposed by Cllr.Gardiner, seconded by Cllr.Rainbird and agreed that the amended version be adopted and a copy would be sent to all councillors.

b. Annual Adoption of Standing Orders and Financial Regulations – Following brief discussion it was proposed by Cllr.Edmunds, seconded by Cllr.Gardiner and unanimously agreed that the Standing Orders and Financial Regulations should be formally adopted for a further year.

**8. Correspondence**

1. BCKLWN – News sheet regarding Community Infrastructure Levy – circulated to all councillors for information
2. Ouse Washes Flood Reservoir Update – March 2017
3. Ouse Washes Landscape Partnership – Mini Guide
4. Norfolk Association of Local Councils – Model Contract for Employees
5. Police Connect – 15.3.17 and 27.3.17 etc.
6. Op.Randall – Various Newsletters including 10.3.17
7. e-mail from Cllr.Edmunds dated 28.3.17 regarding Stolen Fencing (Circulated to all councillors)
8. Letter from V.Pratley re Defibrillator (circulated to all councillors) – A copy of the reply direct from Cllr.Edmunds had been circulated to all councillors. Cllr.Edmunds confirmed that he is still waiting further information from the Heartbeat Trust.
9. RAF Marham – Open Day – Notice displayed in the Hall.
10. Cllr.Edmunds advised the meeting that there had been one or two instances of fencing been stolen within the Village – and people should be vigilant.

**9. Planning Matters**

- a. 16/01943/F – Pisces Country Park  
Use of Site as Holiday Park with proposed increase in units. Application granted 10.3.17
- b. 17/00229/F – Welney Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust  
Erection of Temporary Enclosure etc. dated 20.3.17  
Circulated to all councillors – Proposed by Cllr.Bombata, seconded by Cllr.Edmunds and agreed that the application be recommended for approval.
- c. 17/00544/F – Mr.M.Sennitt  
2 storey extension to side and rear of Kendrick Cottage, Suspension Bridge. Welney  
Circulated to all councillors – Proposed by Cllr.Bombata, seconded by Cllr.Edmunds and agreed that the application be recommended for approval.
- d. BCKLWN – Local Plan Site Allocations and Development Management Policies  
e-mail dated 24.3.17 – Circulated to all councillors for information.

## **10. Highway Matters**

- a. Reply forwarded to Mr.Tim Bennett following the last meeting, as per e-mail dated 9.3.17 sent to all councillors. Agreed to obtain clarification from highways regarding the points which Mr.Bennett had raised under Public Participation.
- b. Highway Areas and Maintenance Teams – Confirmation of County Set up with effect from 1/4/17
- c. Letter received from Mrs.Rayner forwarded to Andy Wallace at Highways with a request for an update of the situation regarding the footpath on March Road – which had previously been promised as scheduled for 2017/18 season. Also requested that Highways look at possibly tidying up the Marker Posts on the Wash Road. Nothing had been heard and it was agreed to request an answer and possibly arrange a further site visit with Mr.Wallace to go around the village highways and footpaths.
- d. **Parish Partnership Scheme** – All councillors had been circulated with the successful outcome of the application for 50/50 funding for the SAM2 speed monitoring equipment. The Parish now have to raise their 50% share amounting to £1,400. Five sites for the SAM2 equipment were discussed and agreed and the necessary forms would be completed and sent off as soon as possible. There was a short discussion regarding the fund raising for the amount needed and hopefully this would be possible during the current financial year. The question of speed monitoring by the Police in the village was also raised and it was noted that they do not attend very regularly. It was agreed to contact the PCSO to see if she could attend future meetings of the Parish Council.

## **11. William Marshall Centre**

e-mail dated 28<sup>th</sup> March had been received from Cllr.Bombata requesting the following resolution be included at the meeting, for discussion. It had been circulated to all councillors

*"The Parish Council requests that the Contractor for the William Marshall Centre should provide the Council with two sets of figures, one detailing the original quote and the second detailing the cost of the centre "as built". He also moved that the Council publish these figures in the interests of transparency"*

There was then discussion and the meeting was reminded that the building was now up and running, was a marvellous benefit to the village and everyone should move on and enjoy the facility. Any changes made to the original quotation had been fully approved by the Parish Council. The Chairman explained that all changes had been documented and the council had approved everything before any action was taken.

The Clerk produced two sets of figures for consideration, one being the original estimate given to the Action Team dated 15.1.2015 and the second being the final invoice from MRC dated 31.3.2016 Also included was a list of the additional costings which had been paid by the Parish Council.

Cllr.Bombata then proposed an alternative resolution:

*The Parish Council produces two sets of figures, one detailing the original quote and the second detailing the cost of the centre "as built" and that these figures should be published in the interests of transparency.*

This proposal was seconded by Cllr.Rainbird and unanimously agreed, and the details were handed to Ms.Wardle hopefully for inclusion in the next issue of the Welney News.

## **12. Parish Council Website**

- a. Application forms sent off to Norfolk County Office on 8.3.17 with regard to the Transparency Act Funding pot but nothing had been heard at the time of writing.
- b. Parish Council website – Nothing further had been done regarding this at present, but it would be looked at as soon as possible.

## **13. Items for next Agenda.**

- a. Fund Raising ideas for SAM2
- b. The Clerk announced that she would be retiring and would prepare an advertisement and information for the next meeting, in order to find a new clerk.
- c. The Chairman confirmed that at the next meeting – the A.G.M. Of the Parish Council - he would not be standing for re-election to the post of Chairman.

There being no further business the Chairman thanked everyone once again for attending and declared the meeting closed at 8.30 p.m.

Signed .....G.Rainbird.....(Chairman) Dated .....2<sup>nd</sup> May, 2017.....