

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WELNEY PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN THE PARISH HALL, WELNEY, ON TUESDAY 7th JUNE, 2011 at 7.30 p.m.

Prior to the Parish Council meeting, Councillors had met at the Allotment Field off Chestnut Avenue, at 7 p.m., to make an inspection of the allotments and the field in general.

Present

Cllr.K.Goodger (Chairman) Cllrs.T.Bennett, S.Dobson, C.Freer, V.Pratley and the Clerk
Also present: Mr. T. Bray, C.Cllr.H. Humphrey and Dist.Cllrs.V.Spikings and D.Pope,

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and extended congratulations to both District Councillors on being re-elected to the Borough Council.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr.T. Eyles, Cllr.S.Kerr and Mr.G.Rainbird.

2. Public Participation

None.

3. Declaration of Interests

None at this stage.

4. Co-option to fill two vacancies.

Following the last meeting, it was agreed to speak to Mr.Trevor Bray and Mr.Graham Rainbird to see if they would be interested in joining the Council. Both persons had confirmed their willingness to be co-opted onto the Council. Both co-options were unanimously agreed, and Mr.Bray was asked to join the table and handed the necessary paperwork for completion. Mr.Rainbird had previously sent his apologies because of a prior appointment, and the Clerk agreed to confirm his co-option and arrange for him to complete all the paperwork.

The Clerk confirmed that she had received a telephone call from Cllr.Kerr with his apologies and also tendering his resignation from the Council. He had promised to put his resignation in writing and it was agreed that once this was received, then a letter should be sent to Cllr.Kerr thanking him for all his help in the past. A further co-option would then be needed to fill this new vacancy,

5 Minutes of Last Meetings

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 10th May, 2011 having been circulated to all councillors were confirmed by all present and signed by the Chairman as a correct record of the meeting.

6. Matters Arising

1. Community Speed Watch – Cllr.Bennett confirmed that he had approached Mr.D.Levesley to see if he would be prepared to take over the Community Speed Watch and was hopeful that this would be the case. He also confirmed that he would be approaching all those persons who had shown initial interest. He also advised the meeting that Welney would be an off-shoot of Upwell/Outwell and as soon as all parties were confirmed, contact would be made with Mr.Humm to start the training.

2. Field to the North of Chestnut Avenue – Welney Allotments. Councillors had inspected the allotment field and were happy with the way in which the current allotments were being developed. It was hoped that in future more allotments might be let. Grateful thanks were recorded to Cllr.Bennett for keeping the grass area at the side of the field and the paths cut, and also to Mr.Stuart for keeping the unlet part of the field clean and tidy. It was also agreed that for the time being Mr.Stuart would be asked to continue. The Clerk reported that the allotment holders were having a social gathering/meeting on Friday 10th June on the field – weather permitting.

3.Dog Bins– . Nothing further to report at present.

10 . Proposed New Community Centre

All Councillors had been advised that the Planning Permission for the proposed new Community Centre was received dated 19th May, 2011 and a copy of the permission was handed to each councillor for their information, so that they were all aware of the conditions attached to the permission. One of the conditions is that the junction from March Road to Hurn Drove has to be made up to Highways standard and this would be very costly. It was agreed to contact Highways to see if there might be any financial help available for this because the acute angle and the drop to Hurn Drove was partially caused by highway improvement works to the corner sometime ago.

A letter was also received from Mr. Briscoe confirming the planning permission and setting out some points that need to be addressed. It was agreed to contact him to confirm the fees that he would charge to continue working for the Parish Council through to completion of the project, including obtaining three quotations which would be required before any applications for grants could be made. It was also agreed to ask if he would attend the next meeting of the Parish Council to advise on the way forward and give as much help as possible.

With regard to funding applications, it was also agreed to ask Ms. Lucinda Leonard of the Norfolk Rural Community Council if she would be prepared to attend the next meeting to talk about grants that may be available, and to give general advice. It was also agreed to register with Mr. Mike Carter of Fens Adventurers Rural Development Programme where there is also grant money possibly available.

Following further discussion, it was agreed that a letter should be sent to all the Hall and Pavilion User Groups advising them that as the Planning Permission has now been approved, now comes the business of raising the money. Advise them that we shall be meeting the Architect and a Representative of the Rural Community Council hopefully at the next meeting, and shortly after we shall hope to arrange a joint meeting of all user groups etc. to make sure that everyone is happy and to hopefully come up with any ideas for fund raising.

A further letter was received from Mrs. Holly Trundle regarding the trees at the Playing Field which will have to be taken down. After discussion it was agreed to reply to Mrs. Trundle and confirm that it is a condition of the planning permission that the trees must be removed. It is hoped to replace them with native trees on the boundary of the playing field. In view of the recent wind damage caused to one of these trees it would appear that they could well become a health and safety issue and therefore they cannot be left in any event.

11. Playing Field

So far bad weather and lack of visiting teams had meant that there had been no cricket matches held on the field, but it was hoped that this would improve for the rest of the season.
The repair to the leaking tap in the Ladies toilet had now been completed..

12 Correspondence

1. E-mail from Linda Briggs with copy of e-mail from Elizabeth Truss and Anglian Water regarding the vibration problems on Main Street.
2. Monthly report from Elizabeth Truss MP
3. Peterborough City Council – Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Plan – Confirmation that the planning Inspector has found the plan to be sound.
4. Environment Agency – Letter giving details of erosion protection work to be carried out on the Middle level Barrier Bank this summer. The work is mostly in the area of Sutton Gault and Mepal.
5. Southern Area road Safety Committee – Agenda and Minutes of meetings and the AGM
6. Norfolk RCC - - Newsletter May 2011
7. West Norfolk Sports Council – Annual Meeting Thursday 9th June 7 p.m. at Lynnsport, King's Lynn
8. BCKLWN – Annual Council Meeting Agenda and minutes,
9. **BCKLWN – 24th May – Proposed Incinerator, Saddlebow. Suggesting that Councils write to Caroline Spellman MP Secretary of State for the Environment, Food, and rural Affairs to advise her of the views of the Parish Council regarding the Proposed Incinerator and send a copy to the Borough Council.** It was agreed that this item should be kept on the Agenda until such time as the Consultation Document is received, and then the Parish Council would formulate a reply.
10. Norfolk Association of Local Councils 6.6.11 Community Reliance Workshop in July.

11. Cambridgeshire ACRE – Halls for Hire Website. Application form for completion to include the Parish Hall on the website. Agreed that the form should be completed and returned.

13. Plans and Planning Matters

The following planning consultations were received from the Borough Council since the last meeting. Having circulated both to Councillors and received no adverse comments the forms were duly returned to the Borough Council recommending approval in both cases:

Ref: 11/000698/F – Mr. & Mrs. I. Cowell, Proposed single and two storey extensions to White Cottage, Back Drove, Welney.

Ref: 11/00725/F – Mr. & Mrs. Smart, continued standing of Park Home and touring caravan at Bluebells, Wisbech Road, Tipps End.

14 Highway Matters

Following the last meeting the pothole at the junction of March Road and New Road had been reported to Highways but nothing had been done.

Following a letter to Highways with a copy to Elizabeth Truss MP a reply had been received from Highways confirming that the work on the barriers at Suspension Bridge would be carried out during the week commencing 25th May. However two weeks later it was noted that nothing at all had been done. A letter was sent to the MP who in turn contacted Highways. Highways were not aware that the work had not been done, and confirmed that they would make enquiries to find out the current situation. At the time of the meeting, nothing further had been heard.

Confirmation had been received that Jon Barnard has now moved on from Highways and our Highway Engineer is Andrew Wallace.

The following matters were also confirmed for reporting to Highways:

1. Part of the surface of Main Street is breaking up
2. Road outside Blows House, Main Street is cracking in several places where previous repairs have been carried out
3. There are several potholes on the March Road from Mr. James's corner round to Tipps End. The whole stretch of this road needs inspecting and repair work carried out as the surface is in a bad condition.
4. Pothole at the junction of New Road and March Road (reported last month, but nothing done)
5. The footpath around Wisbech Road from the Old Garden Centre to Stockyard Farm still has not been sprayed despite a promise that this would be done several months ago.
6. An update on the patching and levelling of Wash Road would be appreciated. All the survey work has been carried out and so far nothing has been done.

It was also reported that there had been several incidents lately of quad bikes and trials bikes being ridden around the footpaths and fields in the Village without any helmets or safety equipment. It was agreed to pass this information onto the Community Police Officer for the area and ask them to investigate.

15 Items for Next Agenda

1. Creative Arts East had sent information of a Village Screen Evening of Film to be held at Castle Acre. It was agreed to discuss the possibility of such an event at Welney in the future.
2. Review of Parish Appraisal.

There being no further business the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed at 9.15 p.m.

SignedK.Goodger..... (Chairman)

Dated.....12th July, 2011.....