

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WELNEY PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN THE PARISH HALL, WELNEY, ON TUESDAY 6th SEPTEMBER, 2011 at 7.30 p.m.

Present

Cllr.K.Goodger (Chairman) Cllrs.T.Bennett, T. Bray, S.Dobson, J.Elliott, T.Eyles, C.Freer,
V.Pratley, G. Rainbird and the Clerk
Also present: Dist.Cllr.V.Spikings

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Dist.Cllr.D.Pope and C.Cllr.H.Humphrey.

2. Public Participation

None.

3. Declaration of Interests

Cllr.Bennett confirmed an interest in the planning application for Rutland House, Tipps End
Cllr.Eyles confirmed an interest in the vibration problems on Main Street, Welney

4 Minutes of Last Meetings

The minutes of the Meeting held on 2nd August, 2011 having been circulated to all councillors were confirmed by all present and signed by the Chairman as a correct record of the meeting, following an amendment to the date under Item 6 Matters Arising – Section 9

5. Matters Arising

1. Community Speed Watch – Cllr.Bennett confirmed that he had nothing further to report and the matter would be deferred until a later date.

2. Field to the North of Chestnut Avenue – Welney Allotments. The allotment holders held a meeting on 11th August and discussed plans for the future. Everyone agreed to help with grass cutting and water filling and keeping the areas around their individual allotments tidy. The question of burning rubbish was discussed and it was agreed that if the wind and weather were right, then it would be helpful to arrange for a bonfire, the ash and residue from which could be ploughed back until the uncultivated area of the field. They will be holding further meetings on a quarterly basis.

3. Possible In-House Training – Nothing had been heard from Christchurch and Nordelph had confirmed that they had already made arrangements to join another Council. It was agreed that as the Parish Council now had several new members, training would be useful, and contact would be made with Norfolk County Office to see if there were any other local councils we would join up with.

4. Possible Village Screening – Rural Touring Cinema Scheme – Nothing further to report at present.

5. Review of the Parish Appraisal – No action had been taken on this item at present, but it was agreed to leave on the Agenda for the next meeting.

6. Proposed Power and Recycling Centre at King's Lynn – The Clerk confirmed that a letter had been sent to Mr.Eric Pickles MP requesting that the planning application for the Power Station and Recycling Centre should be called-in, and copies had also been sent to various ministers and MPs. Letters of acknowledgement had been received from the Borough Council, Planning Services at Norfolk County Council and Henry Bellingham MP.

7. Welcome Pack for Newcomers – The Clerk provided copies of the current Welcome Pack to all Councillors and it was approved and agreed. Details of new residents were supplied and the Clerk would forward a copy. Cllr. Bennett also requested three copies which he would hand out.

8. Queens Diamond Jubilee Celebrations – 2nd to 5th June, 2012. The Clerk confirmed that she had spoken to Mr.Steve Kerr and he confirmed that his Band would be available to play for Dance/Social Evening as part of the village celebrations, on Saturday 2nd August, 2012. It was agreed to include this item on the Agenda for the January meeting, when further arrangements could be made for the event.

9. Possible First Aid Classes - Nothing further had been heard from Mr.Moseley.

10. Joint Meeting of Local Councils – Confirmation was received that the meeting arranged for 7th September at Nordelph had been cancelled, and a new date would be notified in due course.

11 Dog Bins/Waste Bins – Following the last meeting, the Clerk had spoken to Mr.Keith Lovejoy of the Borough Council and he had confirmed that they would be prepared to empty a 240L Wheelie-bin situated in approximately the same spot as the current dog waste bin, for the sum of £85 per year. However the Parish Council would have to pay for the bin and the correct housing which needed to be installed on site to keep the bin safe. It was agreed that the Clerk would obtain the prices for the bin and housing and then the matter would be considered again at the next meeting.,

6. Finance

On the proposition of Cllr. Bray, seconded by Cllr.Rainbird, and agreed, the following invoices were approved and the cheques were signed:

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|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| MHB Services Limited – Street Lighting Maintenance 13 th August to 12 th October, 2011 | 115 . 78 |
| Mazars – Audit Fee year ended 31.3.11 | 162 . 00 |
| Mrs.P.Copeman – Clerk Expenses | 21 . 38 |
| Paid by Direct Debit | |
| 4.8.11 E-On – Electric for Hall | 41 . 90 |
| 5.8.11 E-On – Electric for Pavilion | 30 . 02 |
| 13.8.11 E-On Street Lighting | 59 . 81 |
| 1.9.11 Mrs.P.Copeman – Salary | 255 . 68 |

Audit for year ended 31st March, 2011 – The Audit has now been completed and Mazars have confirmed everything is in order and signed the Annual Return form. A copy of this together with the necessary completion notice is displayed on the Parish Notice board and is also on the Parish Council website.

7. Parish Hall.

The electricity meters was checked before the start of the meeting but there were no monies

With regard to the Purchase and Sale of the hall Site there was nothing further to report at present but contact would be maintained with Elgoods to keep up to date with developments.

8 Proposed New Community Centre

The Clerk confirmed that following the last meeting she had advised Mr.Briscoe that the Council were happy with the draft specifications for the new hall. She had also requested a copy of the final Stage 1 Tender documents and a list of the Contractors he is proposing to send them to.

Following a recent Working Party Meeting, Councillors then discussed the questionnaire that would be sent out with the next Welney News. Cllrs. Bray, Dobson, Pratley and Bennett had all produced various questionnaires and Cllr. Bray suggested that there would excellent parts to all four. After a brief discussion Cllr.Dobson agreed to take all four versions and produce a final questionnaire. This would be e-mailed to all councillors for their approval in readiness for printing. Cllr. Bray confirmed that he would provide the paper and the Chairman confirmed that he would print them off. The Clerk agreed to provide a photo of the proposed Community Centre for inclusion on the form.

9. Playing Field

Football Goal for the Playing Field - .Following the last meeting, the Clerk had received a quotation from Mr.John Loveday for a full size Bespoke Muga Unit complete with basketball hoop and backboard. After consideration of the quotation it was agreed to contact Mr.Loveday again and ask if he could let us have a quotation for a half size unit as it was felt that the full size one would possibly be too big. The matter would then be considered again at the next meeting.

The Clerk confirmed that the Charity Commission Annual Return and Record Form had been completed on line and a hardcopy was in the file.

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10 Correspondence

1. Norfolk Association of Local Councils – Copy of Norfolk Link, Details of the AGM on Saturday 1st October, 2011 10a.m. – 1 p.m.- East Tuddenham Village Hall,, Norfolk Police Authority Pocket Fact Guide 2011, Norfolk Association of Local Councils – Annual Report 2010/11
2. Norfolk Rural Community Council – Funding Training Seminar – 24th September 10 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. at 7th King’s Lynn Scout Headquarters, Portland Place, South Lynn, K.L. (£10 per person booking fee by 12th September.
3. E-Funding Update – Issue 4
4. West Norfolk Voluntary and Community Action – Recently awarded a grant to deliver free training throughout West Norfolk from which local residents could benefit – training is to help bring the Internet to more people in rural areas who have little knowledge or use of the “on line” service.
5. A.P.Bramley, Countryside Services, Fordham, Cambs – Hoping to get business from Local firms and Councils to cut footpaths which the County Council are not longer going to do.
6. Glasdon Products for Local Councils
7. Linda Briggs – Various updates regarding the Vibration damage to Main Street, Welney – including details of the meeting with Elizabeth Truss MP. Cllr.Eyles whose property is affected by this problem gave a brief update of the situation.
8. Clare Hanna, Housing Standards, Borough Council – The potential impact of the Dale Farm Evictions on Norfolk Services – Information session on Friday 9th September between 3 and 4.30 p.m. at The Town Hall, Saturday Market Place, King’s Lynn.
9. Cambridgeshire County Council – Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Site Specific Proposals Plan – CD for information or can be viewed at www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk and www.peterborough.gov.uk
10. Royal Horticultural Society – Details of RHS Britain in Bloom,
11. The Playing Field – Norfolk Playing Fields Association Newsletter – Summer 2011.
12. Norfolk County Council Library & Information Service – 8th August – Thanks for Council’s help in letting them have the use of the Parish Hall for the children’s Circus Stars Summer reading challenge. Unfortunately no children attended but they are hoping to run a similar event next year with better advance advertising.
13. Cambridgeshire ACRE – Latest News Digest
14. Amazon Leisure – Details of Community Gyms.

11. Plans and Planning Matters

The following planning application had been received from the Borough since the last meeting. Ref No. 11/01212/0 – Mr.J.Barry, Replacement 4/5 bedroom Detached Dwelling House and detached double garage, Old Welney Hotel, Bedford Bank, Welney, Wisbech, Cambs. Councillors had considered the application and agreed to recommend approval, but grave concern was expressed with the recommendation, relating to the access road which is a private unadopted roadway. After further discussion it was agreed to ask the planning department whether there were any guidelines relating to the numbers of vehicles using similar roads.

Advice had been received that the following application had been referred to the Development Control Board for consideration:

Ref No. 11/00725/F – Mr. & Mrs. Smart, Continued Standing of Park Home and Touring Caravan at Bluebells, Wisbech Road, Tipps End.

However a letter was received from the Borough Council dated 1st September, 2011 stating that the application had been withdrawn.

The following planning application was received for consideration:

Ref No. 11/01353/F – Mr. & Mrs. G. Bettis, Single Storey extension to the rear of Rutland House, Wisbech Road, Tipps End.

After consideration of the plans and application details, it was unanimously agreed to recommend to the Borough Council that this application should be approved.

Cllr. Bennett raised the question with regard to the size of Conservatory which could be built onto a property without the need for planning permission. The Clerk agreed to find out the full information and report back to the next meeting.

12 Highway Matters

On 12th August, 2011 the Clerk had meeting with Andy Wallace and Jon from Highways and discussed the following outstanding matters:

1. Barriers at Suspension Bridge. These have been damaged since December, 2010 when they were left in the condition that they are now in. Despite repeated confirmation that the work would be carried out, we are now told it will be mid to late August. We are technically mid August now, but so far nothing has happened. ***(As you will no doubt be aware, work on the barriers commenced on 22nd August and is still in progress)***

2. Damaged 30 mph sign on Wisbech Road. This sign was hit by lightening on 21st April, 2011. We understand that negotiations have been taking place with BT to move it to a slightly different position to avoid the Broadband Cable, but have not been informed when this work will be carried out. ***(A new sign has now been repositioned slightly further along the road)***

3. Wash Road Levelling – This is part of the agreed programme following the meeting held in December, 2010. However we are advised by Karl Rands that Andy is aware of the patching work to help prevent flooding and on Monday 8th August the contractors were made aware of the works which will be completed before winter. The site has been surveyed and Andy will interpret the survey to establish where the patching can be undertaken. The Parish Council will then be advised when the work will be undertaken, under a road closure order. ***(I understand from Andy that this work is in hand and should commence within the next couple of weeks.)***

4. Main Street, Welney – Surface is in a bad condition with cracks, holes and breaking up in some places

5. Serious hole in the surface of the First bridge, leaving Welney towards Littleport. ***(This is in hand with the Bridges Department and will be completed a.s.a.p.)***

6. Ditch alongside the A.1101 Wisbech Road from Chestnut Avenue, towards to the Old Welney Nursery is in a really bad state and has not been cleaned out for years. Some edging work has been carried out along the path side of this ditch – wondered if there was anything further that could be done.

7. Footpath from the Old Welney Nursery to Stockyard Farm, Wisbech Road. It was agreed sometime ago that certain parts of this path are in need of making up with planings or gravel to give a firm surface ***(Andy was concerned that this had not been attended to as both he and Jon remember this from sometime ago) Cllr. Bennett confirmed to the meeting that this area had now been sprayed but no further action had yet taken place.***

8. Overhanging Trees at Tipps End – We wrote a couple of months ago regarding overhanging trees near Diamond Farm at Tipps End. We asked if you could contact the owners to have the trees cut back, but don't know if anything has been done.

9. Series of overgrown hedges at Tipps End – Welney Side (north side) of March Road from Rutland Arms Corner to Markham's Corner at Tipps End. These hedges are causing problems because they are narrowing the width of the road and it is gradually causing the edges of the road to subside.

10. March Road, Welney – From the left hand corner after Kent's Haulage around to the first property in Tipps End, the road is in a very bad state of repair and urgently needs attention.

Following the meeting the 2 representatives left to inspect the outstanding matters and have since confirmed that they will keep the Parish Council up to date with developments on the outstanding matters.

It was reported to the meeting that there had been yet another accident on the Wash Road where a vehicle had left the road after failing to take the last corner. It was agreed to ask C.Cllr.Harry Humphrey if he would enquire as to the possibility of having double white lines put on the Wash Road in an effort to see if this would encourage drivers to watch their speed and not overtake.

13 Items for Next Agenda

Nothing.

There being no further business the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed at 9 p.m.

SignedK.Goodger (Chairman)

Dated.... .4th October, 2011.....