

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WELNEY PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN THE PARISH HALL, WELNEY, ON TUESDAY 4th OCTOBER, 2011 at 7.30 p.m.

Present

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

Also present: Mr.Max Francis, Mrs.Francis and approximately 7 young persons from the village.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting, thanked them for attending and said how gratifying it was to see some young persons at a Parish Council meeting.

1. Apologies for absence

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

2. Public Participation

The Chairman then adjourned the meeting for Public Participation. He confirmed that a letter had been received from Max Francis on behalf of approximately 20 friends, asking if the Parish Council would give consideration to the setting up of a Skate Park. The Council were advised that such a development would cater for a large cross section of the young people, and there was a general discussion as to what type of equipment would be required and also possible means of obtaining funding. Following exchange of information, the young people were thanked most sincerely for attending and the Council confirmed that they would look into this matter further under the heading of the Playing Field, and would of course keep the young people fully informed of developments. The Chairman then re-convened the meeting.

3. Declaration of Interests

Cllrs.Goodger and Rainbird both declared an interest in the Local Development Framework Plan which would be discussed under Agenda Item 11.

4 Minutes of Last Meetings

The minutes of the Meeting held on 6th September, 2011 having been circulated to all councillors were confirmed by all present and signed by the Chairman as a correct record of the meeting.

5. Matters Arising

1. Possible In-House Training – Following the last meeting the Clerk had contacted County Office to see if there were any local Councils considering such training who we could join up with, both so far nothing had been heard.

2. Possible Village Screening – Cllr.Bennett promised to provide an update on this item at the November meeting.

3. Review of Parish Appraisal – No review had yet been commenced, but it was agreed to leave this matter on the Agenda for the next meeting as it was felt that this was possibly something that could be attended to during the winter months.

4. Proposed Power and Recycling Centre at King's Lynn – Nothing further to report.

5. Joint Meeting of Local Councils – The Clerk confirmed that an e-mail had been received from Nordelph on 15th September confirming that before they re-scheduled the recently cancelled meeting, they had written to all other Councils to see if they wished to continue. Nothing further has been heard. After considerable discussion it was agreed to contact all the Councils previously involved to request that the Joint Meetings should continue, and that Welney would host the next meeting, either towards the end of November or possibly early in the New Year. A date would be decided at the next meeting.

6. Dog Bins/Waste Bins – Following the last meeting, the Clerk reported that she had tried to find out the costings for the housing required for a 2340L Wheelie bin. The only one which had been found was for a wooden housing at a cost of £125.00 incl.V.A.T. with a £25 delivery charge.

Following discussion it was agreed to contact the Borough Council again to find out exactly what type of housing is required and obtain confirmation from them regarding any charges for emptying such a bin. It was also agreed to contact the Environment Agency and point out that we were considering this bin because of the rubbish left on the river banks and the fact that parishioners were very concerned, and to ask them for any help they can give as obviously the rubbish on the banks should be their concern as well.

6. Finance

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

Mrs.P.Copeman – Clerk Expenses		23 . 75
Welney Croft Cricket Club – 2 nd half years payment for grass cutting	362 . 50	
Less hire charges for Cricket matches played at Welney (7)	<u>175 . 00</u>	187 . 50
Paid by Direct Debit		
13.9.11	E-On Street Lighting	59 . 81
1.10.11	Mrs.P.Copeman – Salary	255 . 68.

7. Parish Hall.

The electricity meters were checked before the start of the meeting and £3.00 was received.

The Clerk confirmed that she had received an e-mail from Mrs. Sutton at Elgoods, confirming that they area still anxious to proceed with the purchase and sale of the Parish Hall Site. They anticipate that the sale of a property at Peterborough should be completed within the next 12 weeks at which time they will be in a position to proceed with the Parish Hall site. They promised to keep the Parish Council fully informed of developments.

The Clerk confirmed that she had attended the Parish hall on 15th September to meet Julia Heywood of the Borough Council to carry out the Premises Intervention Inspection – Food Hygiene. Nothing had changed since her last visit and she had no problems with the hall and its facilities. She has made a note in her records that we are planning to build a new hall and it will need to be registered with the Council once completed.

8 Proposed New Community Centre

The meeting was presented with a letter from Mr. Briscoe of Peter Humphrey Associates in which he enclosed a copy of the Stage 1 Tender Specifications together with Site Layout plan, Building plan, Elevations 1 & 2, and Building Sections plans. He asked that we let him know of any suggestions for Contractors that could be added to the tender List for the Stage 1 Invitation. Following a short discussion it was agreed that the Clerk would forward a copy of the Specification to all councillors so that they could study this and it was also agreed to ask Mr. Briscoe for a list of the Contractors he was proposing to contact.

Community Centre Questionnaire – These had been printed and forwarded to the Editor of the Welney News and should be included in the WN when distributed. Some copies had already been delivered and the Clerk confirmed that she had received 7 questionnaires back, all in favour of the new building. Extra copies of the History which appeared in the Welney News, and the Questionnaire were provided for the distributors as there are properties within the village that do not have the WN and the distributors had agreed to put the paperwork through the doors of those residents.

9. Playing Field

Football Goal for the Playing Field - .Following the last meeting, the Clerk had contacted Mr. Loveday to ask for a quotation for a half size goal but nothing further had been heard.

Council then went onto discuss the proposition from Mr. Max Francis asking for the Parish Council to consider providing a Skate Park for the young people as outlined under Public Participation. It was agreed that there may be funding available for the cost of such a venture from the Lottery, Sport

England, Fenland Adventurers and possibly Marshalls Charity. However in the first instance it was agreed to contact local councils who had already undertaken such a project to get an idea of the price. The Clerk had found some prices from the internet and the young people had confirmed the type of equipment which they would require in the first instance. Cllr.Elliott confirmed that she was aware of a company in North Norfolk who had second hand equipment for sale and she agreed to make enquiries as to what the prices were and what might be available.

A suggestion was also made with regard to hiring some equipment as a first stage, to enable us to find out the level of interest before committing the Council to the full expense of purchasing. There was also a brief discussion as to where the equipment could be sited and it was felt that there was sufficient space on at least two areas of the playing field.

Once more information was available a further discussion would be held and the young people would be kept fully informed at all stages. The Clerk did confirm that she had spoken to the Borough Council who had confirmed that planning permission would not be required for a Skate Park provided it was built by the Parish Council on land owned by them and that it was no more than 4m in height and 200 cu.m. in size.

10 Correspondence

1. Borough Council – Council meeting agendas and minutes
2. The 2013 Review of Parliamentary constituencies in England – Consultation period until 5.12.11 Full details on webs site www.independent.gov.uk/boundarycommissionforengland.
3. Norfolk China Limited – The Queens Diamond Jubilee Celebrations – Details of Mugs and Commemorative ware.
4. Norfolk Constabulary – Police issue heating oil security advice.
5. Elizabeth Truss MP – 15th Monthly Report.
6. Borough Council of KL&WN – 1.9.11 Draft Statement of Licensing Policy – Licensing Sex Establishments.
7. Linda Briggs – Copy of e-mail report following Elizabeth Truss MP visit to Welney on 2nd September.
8. Norse Commercial Services – Landscape Developing and Fencing and Grounds Maintenance
9. West Norfolk Committee of the CPRE – From the Local Plan to Localism a talk by Adrian Parker Planning Consultant – Wednesday 19th October – West Norfolk Professional Development Centre, Kilhams Way King’s Lynn. Reply by 11th October.
10. Norfolk County Council – Letter giving details of venues for the subject “Views on the future of small schools in Norfolk”. This was handed to Cllr.Freer and Cllr.Dobson for their information.
11. Cambridgeshire ACRE Newsletter – The Clerk confirmed that a new law had been introduced regarding First Aid Equipment for Village Halls. She had obtained a copy of the up to date schedule and the Council gave permission for the First Aid Boxes in the Hall and Pavilion to be brought up to date and an Accident Book to be provided at both locations.

11. Plans and Planning Matters

Councillors were advised that a fully copy of the Site Specific Allocations and Policies Development Plan Document had been received from the Borough Council. The consultation period for this runs until 15th November. All councillors had been provided with a copy of Section 9.28 which refers to Welney together with a copy of the VDA plan and copies of the Appendix which shows 10 separate areas of land within Welney Parish which were put forward for consideration but refused by the Borough. Council then had a lengthy discussion regarding this and it was felt that no consideration for the wishes of the parishioners had been taken into account. The Borough Council had received copies of the Village Appraisal which showed that parishioners wished to have small scale development within the village. The main reasons for refusal were flood related, but it was felt that the only way the village and surrounding areas would ever be flooded is if the banks burst, as Welney is protected by some of the best flood defences in the country. It was agreed that all Councillors would study the paperwork at length before the next meeting and then put forward their comments so that a suitable reply could be sent to the Borough Council.

A booklet entitled “How to respond to Planning applications – an 8 step guide” had been received from the CPRE and members were given the e-mail address to download their copies.

Following the last meeting, the Clerk had obtained a list of the regulations from the Planning Portal relating to the installation of conservatories, and this was read out to the meeting.

A letter was received from the Borough Council confirming that the planning application for the replacement 4/5 bedroom detached dwelling house with detached double garage at Old Welney Hotel, Bedford Bank, Welney, had been withdrawn.

Following the last meeting, the following planning application was received and details were sent to all councillors. No comments or objections were received and the form was returned recommending approval.

Ref.No. 11/01493/F Mr. & Mrs. Shaw, Hobby Cottage, Hundred Foot Bank, Welney
Rear two storey extension to existing dwelling.

The following planning application was also received and following discussion it was recommended for approval with all in favour

Ref. No. 11/01573/F – Mr. & Mrs. Smart

Continued standing of park home and touring caravan at Bluebells. Wisbech Road, Tipps End.

12 Highway Matters

An e-mail had been received from C.Cllr.Harry Humphrey dated 28.9.11 confirming that he would support Councils' request for a double white line to be put across the Wash Road in an effort to try and stop speeding, overtaking and accidents. He requested a list of accidents which had occurred, and it was agreed to confirm approximate numbers.

Several of the points raised with Highways at the meeting in August have now been dealt with but the Clerk will contact the highways engineers to find out the current position on those outstanding.

Confirmation had been received that the highway Rangers will be visiting Welney during the week commencing 31st October and they requested details of any work which needs to be carried out.

Letter dated 12th September from NCC Highways Department – Delivering Local Highway Improvements in partnership with Town and Parish Councils. In July councillors agreed that £100,000 of next years 2012/12 budget would be made available for the partnership with Parish and Town Councils. Letter gives details of the proposals and invites Councils to submit bids. Several schemes are listed which would be acceptable i.e. small improvements such as footways, trods and improved crossing facilities, they can be within or off the highway provided they are linked to the highway. If they are off the highway the future maintenance will fall to the Parish Council. All schemes must be match funded – NCC will only fund up to half of the cost of successful bids. It was agreed that a copy of the letter should be sent to all councillors so that they can study it before the next meeting and a suitable reply can be formulated. Closing date is 20th January, 2012

13 Items for Next Agenda

1. Better communication/information from the Environment Agency.

There being no further business the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed at 9.20 p.m.

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

Dated....1st November, 2011.....