

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WELNEY PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN THE PARISH HALL, WELNEY, ON TUESDAY 4th DECEMBER, 2012 at 7.30 p.m.

Present

Cllr.K. Goodger (Chairman) Cllrs T.Bennett, T.Bray, S.Dobson, J. Elliott, T. Eyles, G.Rainbird, V. Pratley, Dist.Cllr.D.Pope and the Clerk.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and extended grateful thanks to Cllrs.Elliott and Pratley for making the long journey round because of the Wash Road being flooded.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. C.Freer, Dist.Cllr. V.Spikings, and C.Cllr.H.Humphrey.

2. Public Participation

None

3. Declaration of Interests

None at this stage.

4 Minutes of Last Meetings

The minutes of the meeting held on 6th November, 2012 were confirmed by those present and signed by the Chairman as a correct record of that meeting.

5. Matters Arising

a. Stopping the Incinerator at King's Lynn – Following the last meeting all councillors had been supplied with a copy of the literature that Cllr.Bennett provided relating to Duratrast and their alternative form of dealing with waste material. Letters had also been received from the Borough Council with reference to the public enquiry and if anyone wishes to speak at the Enquiry then requests must be submitted in writing. Cllr.Pope gave information regarding the proposals that are in hand and confirmed that the Borough Council are working against the incinerator and looking at alternative forms of dealing with the waste material. Following further discussion it was agreed to leave the matter in abeyance until February when hopefully the outcome of the Public Enquiry would be known, and then discuss the matter again.

b. Welney Water Tower –Copies of an e-mail that Cllr.Eyles had sent to the new owner of the Water Tower had been circulated but no further communication had been received from anyone.

c. Sandgate Corner Allotment Field. – It was confirmed that this was one of the points up for discussion at the Open Meeting on 16th November, but no thoughts or comments were received. It was confirmed that it would be included on the Agenda for the Formal Meeting on 11th December. The Chairman had received a further request from Mrs. Barr to consider use of part of the field for pigs, but it was confirmed once again that the Lease that the Parish Council agreed with the Borough Council clearly stipulated that no livestock would be allowed on the field and this point is not up for negotiation. The Chairman agreed to advise Mrs.Barr accordingly. The Chairman and Vice Chairman also confirmed that as soon as they have time and the weather improves slightly, the field will be tidied up and the grass paths cut once again.

6. Finance

On the proposal of Cllr Dobson, seconded by Cllr.Rainbird and agreed, the following cheques were signed:

Mrs.P.Copeman – Clerks Expenses	37 . 77
G.D.Green – Repairs to damaged brick wall supporting the disabled ramp and brickwork under steps at Parish Hall	198 . 62
G.D.Green – Replacement of damaged glass at Pavilion	91 . 22
Norfolk Association of Village Halls – Annual Sub.	15 . 00

The following payments are made by Direct Debit		
1.12.12	Mrs.P.Copeman – Clerks Salary	255 . 68
15.11.12	E-On – Street Light Elect	62 . 19
11.12.12	E-On – Electric for Parish Hall	105 . 47

Two Invoices had been received from Anglian Water for the Parish Hall
 One for the period 18.11.11 to 6.7.12 shows a credit of £21.38 and the second for the period 7.7.12 to 15.8.12 shows a zero balance with nothing to pay
 Similarly two invoices had been received for the Pavilion – Period to 19.11.12 Credit balance of £6.02

Precept pre-discussion – Councillors then had a short discussion regarding the Precept which will need to be agreed at the January meeting, to be sent off to the Borough Council by the end of January 2013. The Parish Council precept had been increased to £250 per year since 2008, and Councillors were asked to consider what Precept should be requested for the coming year. The Chairman mentioned the fact that some villages in part of Norfolk were benefiting from a pot of money formed by Section 106. Cllr.Pope confirmed that there will be a small pot of money in the BCKLWN area in due course, but it is likely that this will have to be bid for in due course.

Possible Change of Bank Accounts. – Cllr.Bennett advised the meeting that he had become concerned by the image that Barclays Bank our current bankers had acquired over recent months and years and requested consideration is given to possibly changing the Parish Council bank accounts. However after a brief discussion it was agreed that this was not necessary and the accounts would remain as at present.

Annual Grants – The Clerk confirmed that she had received the Annual Request from the Church for a donation towards the cost of cutting the Churchyard. This would be considered at the January meeting in the usual way.

7. Review of Parish Action Plan

Following the last meeting, a report was prepared with details of the changes and this would be included in the next edition of The Welney News. Unfortunately the file was too big to include the whole Action Plan on the Parish Council website, and this problem is being investigated with the webmasters. However a section had been included on the parish council website showing the changes and requesting that if anyone does not have a copy of the original Action Plan then we would be pleased to supply with a hardcopy of a PDF version.

8. Open Meeting

The Open Meeting was held on Saturday 10th November in the Parish Hall and a brief report had been circulated together with details of the Formal meeting advertised for 11th December at 7.30 p.m. There was a general discussion regarding the Formal Meeting and an Agenda was agreed as follows:

Welcome and Introduction by Parish Council Chairman, Cllr.Goodger and introduction of Councillors present, and any current user groups.

Proposed New Community Centre.

Where we are at the present time. Plans on display.

Possible Community Shop

Do you support a Community Shop and if so where would it be sited?

Sandgate Corner Allotment Field

Any suggestions for the use of that part of the field which has not been used for allotments

Wash Road

Update of the current situation regarding Wash Road.

Any Other Topics

Footpaths and Rights of Way.

Supporting notes would be prepared and sent to councillors in readiness for the meeting and the Agendas would be handed out on the night.

Apologies for this meeting were received from Cllr.Eyles and Cllr Elliott and Cllr.Dobson and Cllr.Freer confirmed that they would attend but would be late as they had an earlier meeting to attend.

9. Parish Hall

The electricity meters had been checked before the meeting and a total of £27 was removed..

The replacement of the Perspex doors to the Notice Board is in hand but has not yet been completed. A delay system has been installed to work in conjunction with the outside light, so that persons leaving the hall after dark have time to lock the door and walk down the steps before the light goes out. The lights have to be turned off in the usual way and then the button near the switches has to be hit and this lights up the outside light and leaves it on for a fixed period of time.

10 Proposed New Community Centre

There was nothing new to report at the present time. No one who attended the Open Morning offered any help or interest in fund raising, and only three people showed any interest at all in the New Community Centre. Following a brief discussion it was agreed to find out from Elgoods whether they are still prepared to proceed on the original terms.

Delta Pilots Concert – 22nd December, 2012. After finding it impossible to arrange a bar for this event, it was decided to advertise the event at a cost of £8 per ticket if purchased in advance (£10 on the door – if any still available) and the ticket price would include light refreshments, such as sausage rolls, mince pies etc., and possibly a glass of wine. A notice to this was in the Welney News. The event is already advertised on the Parish Council website and on the notice boards. It was hoped that councillors will be able to sell some tickets, and also that the residents of the village will support the event. It was agreed to try and decorate the hall for Christmas and set it out with tables and chairs for the evening. There was a discussion regarding light refreshments and some councillors agreed to sort out the numbers for sausage rolls and little nearer the date.

11. Playing Field

Nothing to report at present.

12. Correspondence

1. Glasdon – Equipment for Parish Councils
2. Elizabeth Truss MP – 27th monthly report.
3. Borough Council e-mail with details of new bin collection service. By now all households should have received a copy of the leaflets explaining what will be happening:
Introduction of a weekly collection of food waste and the collection of the black bins and the green bins on alternate weeks. Between end of January and the end of March, most households will receive: a new grey 23 litre food bin, a new grey 7 litre kitchen caddy plus 50 compostable liners, a new black 240 litre bin to replace the current black 140 litre bin (the 140 litre bin will be collected and recycled when the new bin is delivered.) If you wish to keep your existing 140 litre bin rather than have a larger one, then you can do so by contacting the council before Xmas
4. NCC Details of Norfolk Gritting Routes
5. Norfolk AGE UK Campaign for later life in Norfolk – Asking for a donation.

13. Plans and Planning Matters

Further training sessions regarding planning matters had been confirmed by the Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk and these will take place on:
7th February 2013 9 a.m. to 12 noon, 7th February, 2013 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. and 8th February 2013 9a.m. to 12 noon. Confirmation of interest in a place is required by 21st December.

14 Highway Matters

The Clerk confirmed that since the last meeting she had supplied both Andy Wallace and Martin Edmunds with a list of all the outstanding work and Martin Edmunds had promised to look into the matters and get something done as soon as possible. Nothing had so far been heard about anything, and it was agreed to contact Highways for an update as soon as possible.

Following the meeting on 16th November with Highways and the Environment Agency a brief report had been sent to all councillors, all parties who attended the meeting, plus Elizabeth Truss MP and the Police. Two small alterations were received from Dave Gillett of the Environment Agency and these have now been passed onto everyone. Since that meeting e-mails have been sent to Highways requesting clarification on the road flooded/road closed signs and asking for the legal position to be

clarified. It has also been requested that Highways give consideration to the road flooded signs only being displayed when there is only a very small amount of water on the road. So far nothing further has been heard.

Grateful thanks were extended to the Chairman for keeping everyone fully informed during the recent flooding of the Wash Road and the possibility that the bridge may have to be sandbagged.

It was also reported to the meeting that a sign showing the speed vehicles were travelling ...”Your speed is....” had been installed on 3rd December immediately below the flashing 30 mph sign. It was agreed to ask Highways who had installed this as in view of the fact that there was between 3 and 4 ft of water on the Wash Road, the sign was slightly useless!!!!

15. Environmental Matters

1. Hundred Foot Bank – Concrete Access Road

Brief update of the current situation from Cllrs.Pratley and Elliott who indicated that matters are no further forward.

2. Parking Area at the Side of the Parish Hall.

Nothing at all had been done regarding the potholes in the area of the Parish Hall and it was agreed to contact the Environment Agency to see if they could carry out some repair work to the very large potholes,

3. Village Oil Group

Cllr.Bennett advised that he had been approached by a resident interested in setting up a group with a view to getting reduced prices for oil and possibly electricity. If further information was available, the matter could be discussed further at the next meeting.

16. Items for Next Agenda

Nothing.

There being no further business the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed at 9.35 p.m.

Signed K. Goodger.... (Chairman)

Dated 8th January, 2013