

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WELNEY PARISH COUNCIL**  
**HELD IN THE PARISH HALL, WELNEY**  
**ON TUESDAY 4<sup>th</sup> JUNE, 2013 AT 7.30 P.M.**

**Present**

Cllr.K.Goodger (Chairman), Cllrs. S.Dobson, J.Elliott, C.Freer, V.Pratley and G.Rainbird,  
Dist Cllrs. V.Spikings and D.Pope and the Clerk.

**1. Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs.T. Bennett, T.Bray and T.Eyles and  
C.Cllr.H.Humphrey

**2. Public Participation**

None

**3. Declaration of Interests**

None at this stage.

**4. Minutes of Meeting**

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> May, 2013 having been circulated to all  
Councillors, were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record of the meeting.

**5. Matters Arising.**

**a. Parish Council News** – Cllr.Bennett had prepared a series of notes for consideration by  
Councillors and these were handed out for discussion at the next meeting.

**b. Catterick or Bust** – The Clerk confirmed that she had met the organisers of the walk at the Playing  
Field on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May and they put up their tents and mess tent. Everything was left in order and  
very clean. It was understood that there were 7 or 8 walkers and they had all left by 10 a.m. on the  
Monday morning – despite the terrible weather. It was understood that the walk to Catterick would  
take them 12 days and they were hoping to raise several thousand pounds for Help for Heroes.  
Nothing further had been heard from them.

**c. Local Development Framework – Update** – Nothing further has been heard, but the meeting was  
advised that the matter is in hand and further information will be available shortly. The matter  
should be up for public consultation at the end of July when any further amendments or alterations  
can be considered.

**d. Possible Village Waste Digester** This item was raised by the Chairman but it was agreed to defer  
it to the next meeting so that further information can be obtained.

**6 Finance**

**a. Approval of Accounts for Payment** – The following invoices were received and on the  
proposition of Cllr.Freer, seconded by Cllr.Rainbird and agreed, the cheques were signed:

Mrs.P.Copeman – Clerks Expenses	16 . 20
Mrs.P. Copeman – Purchase of New Printer and Ink Cartridges from Argos, as agreed at the last meeting	65 . 68
Welney Croft Cricket Club Half years grass cutting on playing field	362 . 50
Anglian Water – Water supply to Parish Hall	36 . 88

Paid by Direct Debit

1.6.13 Mrs.P.Copeman – Clerks Salary	255 . 68
11.6.13 E-On – Electric for lights	62 . 19
11.6.13 E-On – Electric for Parish Hall	50 . 18

**b. The Annual Accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2013**

All Councillors had been provided with a full set of the accounts for the Parish Council and Parish Hall and Playing Field for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2013 and all present confirmed that everything was in order. The Clerk confirmed that the Internal Audit had been carried out and everything was correct and the Annual Return had been signed and dated. The Annual Return was then signed by the Chairman and the Clerk/RFO and dated and the Clerk confirmed that this would be sent to the Auditors before the deadline of 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2013.

**c. Parish Council Insurance.**

Following the last meeting the Clerk had contacted the Insurance Brokers for the Aviva Insurance Policy and they had given a breakdown of the premium and confirmed that the Parish Hall was insured for £75,161.21 and the Pavilion for £52,330.91 Details were provided as follows:

*Should a building be destroyed by an insured event such as a fire, the policy will provide cover up to the sum insured applicable at the time of the incident, to meet the cost of rebuilding the premises. Should a building sustain partial damage the policy will meet the repair costs in full provided the sum insured is adequate., Should the sum insured at the time be less than 85% of the correct reinstatement value, Aviva reserves the right to ask the Parish Council for a proportionate share of the loss.*

After a great deal of discussion it was agreed to ask for clarification of the wording as follows:

If the building is insured for £75,000, in the event of a disaster by an insured event, and it is not possible to repair, would the Parish Council get the full value of £75,000 for the replacement even if it is not rebuilt on the existing site? One of our Councillors used to work as a Loss Adjuster and has queried the wording and would like it explained in plain English. The matter would be discussed again at the next meeting when the information had been received.

**7. Empty Houses in Chestnut Avenue.**

Despite the information given to the last meeting, it is now understood that the whole project has been delayed. because of the evidence of bats in some of the roof spaces, and also the house martins which have built their nest under the eaves on some of the houses. The Foreman for Fosters (Builders) said that the bats have to be checked out and correct action taken, and they cannot do any work on the houses where the birds are nesting. Apparently they have done some work with regard to stripping out the interiors of some of the vacant houses, but he advised that it could put the contract back by at least six months.

**8 Possible Litter Pick in and around the Village.**

Contact would be made with the Borough Council so information could be available at the next meeting.

**9. Parish Hall.**

The electricity meters were checked and the sum of £9.00 was removed for the month since the last meeting.

**10. Proposed New Community Centre.**

Initial contact has been made with English Brothers regarding the possibility of obtaining a price for a timber framed Community Centre and the Clerk confirmed that she would speak to them on the telephone the next day to speak to Mr.Jay Hubbard and get an idea of the price before the next meeting. As soon as a price was received this would be circulated to councillors for their information. It was also agreed to see what other companies might be available within the area, to quote for a timber framed building.

The Clerk also confirmed that she had spoken Mr.Briscoe at Peter Humphrey Associates and asked if he could confirm what stage we were at with reference to the information mentioned by Frances Wood

regarding The Lottery funding. He has confirmed that we are further ahead than RIBA Stage 2 (this refers to the receipt of planning permission), so can easily confirm this on any applications. With regard to an update of the quotation, he suggested that we contact Mr.Salmons direct. This was done and he has supplied a fresh quotation dated 31<sup>st</sup> May, 2013 in the sum of £312,251.40 plus VAT if applicable. Mr. Salmons also confirmed that, if we contact him again when we are ready, he will then let us have a breakdown of the “fixtures and fittings” for the WREN application.

The Clerk confirmed that she had met with Frances Wood the previous afternoon and had been through most of the application form for the Big Lottery Funding. Mrs. Wood was going to clarify one or two of the questions, and the Clerk would complete the form, send it to Mrs.Wood for checking, in readiness for sending off immediately after the next meeting.

Details had been received from the Borough Council regarding a Funding Fair which will be held on 12<sup>th</sup> June at The Scout Hut in South Lynn from 9.45 to 2 p.m. There will be stalls to browse and listen to presentations from Big Lottery, Heritage Lottery, Wren, Big Society Funding, Norfolk Community Foundation and Foundation East. It could be a very useful and interesting event and it was hoped that someone might be able to attend.

A letter had been received from Belinda Sutton at Elgoods in reply to our letter and a copy had been circulated to all councillors. It was agreed to write and thank her for her letter and send a copy of the meeting report on 22<sup>nd</sup> March with MP and MEP and others for their information. It was also agreed to confirm that the current site of the Three Tuns and the Parish Hall is still in the village development area as the new LDA has not yet been confirmed and will not go out for public consultation until the end of July. The Parish Council would certainly recommend putting in an application before anything changes. Grateful thanks were to be extended for Elgoods help and support and the Council hope that this will continue into the future,

On the subject of Fund Raising, the Parish Council have received a very generous gift of £500 from Mr.John Smart who lives in Cornwall This was originally sent to Roger Giles to be passed onto the Parish Council and to be used for the benefit of the residents of the village. A letter expressing our grateful thanks would be sent to Mr. Smart and he would be advised that the money is currently being held in a ring fenced fund raising account which will ultimately benefit all the residents of Welney.

Grateful thanks were also expressed to Cllr.Pratley who held a Craft/Sewing Evening at the end of May and raised the sum of £50.00 This would also be added to the fund raising account. She did confirm that an enjoyable evening was held and it was hoped to form a Sewing/Craft Group in the village to continue the hobby further.

Cllr.Dobson handed out posters for her Fun Dog Show fund raising event on 22<sup>nd</sup> June, together with a copy of the programme for the event and the Clerk confirmed that she would ask the Cricket Club to fence off the Cricket square so that it was not damaged.

### **11. Playing Field.**

It was understood that Cllr.Bennett had paid a further visit to Mr.Carter regarding the trees alongside the playing field, and that Mr.Carter has done everything to his trees and the remaining work is up to the Parish Council. The Chairman confirmed that he would speak to Cllr.Bennett and arrange for the work to be carried out. The Chairman then declared an interest but stated that the trees on the east side of the Playing Field are now very overgrown and he will be arranging to trim them back sensibly.

### **12 Correspondence**

1. 33<sup>rd</sup> Monthly report from Elizabeth Truss MP
2. A letter had been received from a resident regarding an incident when he had been bitten by a dog whilst walking his dog on the river banks. The Parish Council had taken advice from the PCSO and this information had been passed onto the resident, but no further action was taken as he did not wish to take the matter further.

3. Borough Council – Recycling Caddy Liners – Cllr.Dobson had confirmed that you could purchase these in the Supermarkets, but it appeared that the prices were higher than those quoted by the Borough Council. It was agreed to find out how many were actually on a roll and if the number was acceptable for the price quoted, then the Council would purchase a box to be kept for villagers to purchase rather than having to go to the Council offices.

### **13. Plans and Planning Matters**

Nothing to report.

### **14. Highway Matters/Wash Road**

Following the last meeting the chevrons at Sandgate Corner and the problems on March Road had been reported to Highways for their attention.

An e-mail had been received from Andy Wallace at Highways, and a copy of the agreed dot-matrix sign had been circulated to all Councillors. The e-mail read:

*Hi Pat*

*The quote is in and approved at County Hall. We now have to wait for it to be signed off by the Council Cabinet member for Highways who has yet to be elected. I will keep you posted. See attached a copy of the agreed sign.*

*Regards*

*Andy.*

Notice had been received that the Highway Rangers would be visiting week commencing 8.7.13

The following points were reported for the attention of Highways

1. Overgrown trees on Wisbech Road, Tipps End. Large vehicles will soon find it impossible to drive along the road.
2. A large hole is in need of filling on the Wash Road – last bend heading towards Littleport.

It was also reported to the meeting that the Ten Mile Bank road will be closed for work on 8<sup>th</sup> July, 2013.

### **15. Environmental Matters**

#### **1. Hundred Foot Bank – Concrete access road**

Cllr.Elliott reported that no progress had been made and the Environment Agency was still dragging their heels.

#### **2. Parking Area at the side of the Parish Hall – filling in of pot holes**

Cllr.Goodger confirmed that he had spoken to the E.A. regarding the holes and clarified the situation and the holes had now been filled in with some loose material.

### **16. Items for Next Agenda**

1. Horse and Dog Event on 29<sup>th</sup> September – Cllr.Elliott
2. Possible Concert by Delta Pilots – Harvest Stomp!

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

Signed ...K.Goodger.....

Dated 2<sup>nd</sup> July, 2013.....