
Welney Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Welney Parish Council, Tuesday 7th February 2023, 7.15pm at the William Marshall Centre

Committee Members: Cllr Harvey (Chair), Cllr Barker, Cllr Lowry, Cllr Spears (Vice Chair), Cllr Gardiner, Cllr Goodger.

Those Present: Cllr Lowry, Cllr Harvey, Cllr Barker, Cllr Gardiner, Cllr Goodger, BCllr Rose, BCllr Spikings, CCllr Dawson, Clerk M Hilton.

Apologies: Cllr Spears

Public: two

MINUTES

- 1. Welcome and opening remarks:** the Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- 2. To receive apologies for absence:** these were approved
- 3. To declare any conflicts and pecuniary interests on any items on this month's Agenda:** Cllr Barker and Cllr Goodger, Marshall's Charity item. Cllr Gardiner Main St Crossing item
- 4. To approve the Minutes from the last meeting:** these were approved and signed by the Chair
- 5. Public Forum (ten minutes only):**
 - A parishioner asked for help with a wildlife issue. Delph House have installed lights in the trees which are left on all night. He is concerned about the affect this will have on the wildlife for example owls. He was advised to talk to Delph House in the first instance, if there is no joy with them, then contact the Environmental Department at the Borough Council.
 - Before the next parishioner spoke the Clerk read a short statement to him... in response to your recent correspondence, Welney Parish Council have no issues with the statement that BCllr Rose made at the Parish Assembly in March 2022 that you refer to. The statement was regarding the William Marshall Centre (WMC)and the trustees also have no issues with the statement. No further action will be taken by Welney Parish Council or WMC. The Council has advised you to go to the monitoring officer at the Borough Council, if you are unhappy with this.
The parishioner had received an email from the Clerk in November 2023 and asked if the Council were aware of this email? They all assured him that they had indeed been privy to this email and had helped in its wording. He believes that BCllr Rose may have his own agenda with the builders of the WMC such as damage limitation in financial favour of the builder! He asked if it was a democratic decision of the Council to ignore his allegations? He was told (and has been before) that the WMC Trustees had discussed the matter and found no reason to believe the accusations made by this parishioner.
 - BCllr Dawson gave an update on Highways issues in the parish. An gave a quote letter to the Chairman for the resurfacing of Hurn Drove. He suggested getting Freebridge on board to see if they would help with the funding of the resurfacing work. He is seeking some funding from highways. He also presented Cllr Goodger with a new measure for the Wash Road.
- 6. To discuss and consider the Action Log from previous meetings:**
 - Verge white lines, despite a promise of a meeting in November 2022 with Mark Sharman this never happened. CCllr Dawson asked the Clerk to email him for contact details of Mark's Replacement as he has moved jobs.
 - A traffic cone which is covering up the remains of an obsolete or missing traffic sign thought to be a triangular series of bends hazard sign. Still waiting for this to be sorted, apparently its on a BT box, highways have reported this to BT. Clerk will chase this

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- The tree covering the solar panel on Wash Road, this has been completed and it has made a difference to the telematic device.
- Two finger posts have been reported, one at Back Drove and one at Wisbech Rd. An email from David Mills to the Clerk said he assured the Council these were in the system to be repaired/replaced but it would take a while.
- A pothole at Rutland House Wisbech Road has been reported and now has a white line around it, so should be repaired soon. The white line has disappeared and the pot hole is still there. The Clerk will chase this.
- Missing cats' eyes on Main Street and missing verge white lines, Cllr. Gardiner is waiting for a meeting with Mark's replacement regarding the white lines so this will be reviewed at the same time.
- Post snapped off opposite the pub. The Clerk has reported this
- New solar lights, installed today, one is on all the time and one is not working at all.

7. To consider a representative for Marshalls Charity: Cllr Lowry was voted on as the Council's new representative. The Clerk will inform the Charity secretary.

8. Reports from individual Councillors, Council Groups and Clerk

- i. To approve planning applications: *none to report this month.*
It was reported an agricultural building East of Old Croft Farm March Rd Tipps End has a caravan on site with no one living in it. They are living in the upper floor of the barn which currently has no windows in it. The Clerk will report to Mick Bates and copy BCllr Spikings in on the email.
- ii. To discuss the Christmas Lights Competition: this was won by Andrew Clayton on New Road. The cup has been presented to him. It was agreed that plaques will be put on the cup showing the address of the winners. This will be done when the cup is returned in December.
- iii. To discuss placement of defibrillators and installation costs: it was agreed to discuss placement when the grant is awarded. There may be another grant available from the Borough Council of £1000. Cllr Harvey has received a quote from the same company as the current defib in the phone box. Cllr Lowry reported that the light in the phone box is not working Cllr Harvey will investigate. 100 Business cards have been received to put through letterboxes with the emergency number on. Cllr Harvey will see if another 150 can be purchased.
- iv. To discuss Main Street crossing: there has been a dropped kerb installed on the development side of the road, but nothing on the other side as yet. Cllr Gardiner has complained to the developer as a resident that the dropped kerb will be near his and his neighbour's driveway, as this may cause a traffic hazard. The Council concluded it was too late to change the planning permission now.

9. To note any Health and Safety issues: none to report. Cllr Gardiner will produce a list to send to the Highway Rangers to complete.

10. Finance

- i. To note payments made since last meeting: these were approved

Payments for February 2023 Authorisation					
Payee	Goods/Services	VAT	TOTAL	DD/EP <small>electronic payment /direct debit</small>	Supplier/Service
Melanie Hilton Salary	720.52	0.00	720.52	EP	51 Hours
Melanie Hilton Expenses	17.18	1.64	18.82	EP	Mileage for Parish Council, folders and dividers for 2023-24 accounts
HMRC	206.43	0.00	206.43	EP	Month 10
Nest Pension scheme	28.05	0.00	28.05	DD	Clerks pension
Wisbech Payroll	85.95	0.00	85.95	EP	Payroll processing Oct-Dec 2022
Westcotec	111.12	22.22	133.34	DD	street Light Maintenance
Npower	70.96	3.55	74.51	DD	Street light energy November 2022
TOTAL	£1,240.21	£27.41	£1,267.62		

- ii. To note income and expenditure balances reconciled from the previous month: this was noted
- iii. To note the Quarterly Progress against Budget: this was noted

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iv. To approve the internal auditor for 2022-2023 Agar. Robin Goreman was approved to be the internal auditor.

11. To propose any items for the next agenda: get these to the Clerk in good time.

- To discuss celebrations for the Kings Coronation
- To discuss a 1st Aid Course for the villagers
- To discuss the WMC grant application

12. To note the date of the next parish council meeting – 7th March 2023 at 7.15pm Parish Assembly followed by Full Council meeting at William Marshall Centre

13. Close: the meeting closed at 8.40pm

Signed by the Chairman Date

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