
Welney Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Welney Parish Council, Tuesday 4th April 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 Spears, Cllr Barker, Cllr Gardiner, Cllr Goodger, BCllr Rose, BCllr Spikings, Clerk M Hilton.

Apologies: CCllr Dawson (CCllr Dawson arrived at 8.30pm)

Public: three

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:** None given
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 a question of BCllr Rose, regarding an email from 2022. BCllr Rose will search through his emails. Another parishioner also asked a question of BCllr Rose regarding Building regulations and modular buildings (the William Marshall Centre is a modular building). BCllr Rose told the parishioner to contact Ian Smith from Building Control. The parishioner said he would contact Liz Truss MP.
6. **To discuss and consider the Action Log from previous meetings:**
 - Missing Traffic sign Wash Road: Andy Wallace visited this on 14/2/23 still no update, the Clerk will report again
 - A BT box, highways have reported this to BT, but still nothing done on this, Cllr Goodger will report this to BT himself.
 - Verge white lines, and cat eyes on Main Street, Andy Wallace is looking into this, the white lines would only be done if needed on the Wash Road, not on Main Street as they are not needed. Andy was going to look into the NCC policy regarding cat's eyes, they are scheduled to replace 400, but that is for the whole of Norfolk. He said they are not compulsory on 30mph roads.
 - Two finger posts have been reported, one at Back Drove and one at Wisbech Road. 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. Cllr Spears reported the one on Back Drove had now been repaired.
 - Post snapped off opposite the pub. This is still not repaired
 - Road at the top of Hurn drove has a hump in it: this has been reported several times and Andy Wallace did look at it in Feb 2023. The Clerk will report this again.
 - The Hives Main Street: the drain cover has been repaired but it rocks making a loud noise as traffic passes over it, this has been reported but the Clerk will do it again.
7. **To review the Assets Register:** this was approved
8. **Reports from individual Councillors, Council Groups and Clerk**
 - i. **To approve planning applications:**
 - Planning Application Consultation 23/00299/F Demolish rear single storey extension and rebuild on new 250mm thick piled RC raft at 4 Hernesside Hurn Drove Welney Norfolk PE14 9SB. *The Council advises approval of this application*

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- Planning Application Consultation 23/00362/RM Reserved Matters Application for one replacement dwelling at The Cottage Back Drove Welney Wisbech Norfolk PE14 9RH. *Welney PC cannot see any problem with this as the current property is derelict. However, can we ascertain what work will be done for access to the property as currently a grass track?*
- Planning Application Consultation 23/00333/F. Convert existing structure to living accommodation for a holiday let at Bank Farm Hundred Foot Bank Welney Wisbech Norfolk PE14 9TN *the Council advises approval of this application*

The Council approved the decisions made.

- ii. **To discuss an additional finger post - top of New Road - Direction to Village Hall:** *Cllr Spears*. there is already a sign that says village hall at the top of the road, no further signage is required.
- iii. **To agree outdoor location of defibrillator:** *Cllr Spears*: the new defibrillator will be attached to the fence right hand side of the front doors. Cllr Harvey will contact MRC regarding their quote for the electricity supply required for the defibrillator of £385 plus VAT as another quote of £220 inclusive of VAT has been received by the Playing Field charity.

Cllr Goodger will investigate a good location in Tipps End for another defibrillator as the Parish has received a CIL grant for two more defibrillators for the Parish. Another location will be sought over the other side of the Wash. Cllr Harvey will register all defibrillators online.

- iv. **To agree a date for Welney litter pick:** *Cllr Gardiner*. Date agreed 14th May 2023, Cllr Harvey will inform Welney News to advertise in the next magazine and Cllr Spears will put on Facebook page 'What Happens in Welney' tea and coffee will be provided afterwards at The William Marshall Centre.
- v. **To discuss Wash Road flooding / signage and updates:** *Cllr Goodger*. There is to be a Flood Watch meeting with Jay Moore, Cllr Dawson and Carl Rands. The Environmental Agency have a pot of money available and it will be discussed if a graduated sign board and a camera can be purchased and installed. Also better signage is going to be looked at. The Facebook page is being used well with nearly 10,000 followers. Cllr Goodger has seen a draft document which will allow the Parish Council to deploy the barriers under instruction. The telemetry readings have been incorrect and the Clerk was asked to report the broken aerial to Westcotec. Discussion are still taking place with Liz Truss MP regarding the flooding of the Wash Road. The Clerk will also report the illuminated sign on Main Street that still is not working to Westcotec.

9. To note any Health and Safety issues: none to report.

10. Finance

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

| Payments for April 2023 Authorisation | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|---------------|------------------|---|---|
| Payee | Goods/Services | VAT | TOTAL | DD/EP electronic payment /direct debit | Supplier/Service |
| Melanie Hilton Salary | 679.14 | 0.00 | 679.14 | EP | 48 Hours |
| Melanie Hilton Expenses | 9.00 | 0.00 | 9.00 | EP | Mileage for Parish Council meeting |
| HMRC | 188.36 | 0.00 | 188.36 | EP | Month 12 |
| Nest Pension scheme | 24.26 | 0.00 | 24.26 | DD | Clerks pension |
| Upwell Computer Repairs | 85.00 | 0.00 | 85.00 | EP | Supply and fit new replacement laptop battery |
| London Hearts | 1,251.00 | 0.00 | 1,251.00 | EP | Defib sited at WMC (pd 28/3/23) |
| NPTS | 24.00 | 0.00 | 24.00 | EP | Freedom of Information training (Clerk 25/5/23) |
| Wisbech Payroll | 85.95 | 0.00 | 85.95 | EP | Payroll Jan to March 2023 |
| Westcotec | 111.12 | 22.22 | 133.34 | DD | Street Light Maintenance |
| Npower | 60.00 | 3.00 | 63.00 | DD | Street light energy February 2023 |
| TOTAL | £2,517.83 | £25.22 | £2,543.05 | | |

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Cllr Gardiner is unhappy with the 50/50 split with the Clerk training cost with Upwell, he believes 80/20 would be a more suitable split due to the electorate numbers in both villages. However, the 50/50 split was approved some time ago. It was agreed to not change this at the present time.

- 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

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

The Playing Field Committee approved The Coronation mugs and it was agreed to purchase 40 mugs for the children of Welney

12. To note the date of the next parish council meeting – Annual Parish Meeting of the Council 9th May 2023 at 7.15pm followed by Full Council Meeting at William Marshall Centre

Cllr Dawson arrived just before the meeting closed, he reported he was in consultation regarding the poor surface of Hurn Drove. He has asked Highways how much the pothole repairs will cost and if that money could then be used to resurface the road to a good standard. The Clerk has heard nothing from Freebridge regarding any financial help towards this. The rest of the money for the resurfacing could be applied for from Marshalls Charity. The Council approached Andy Wallace regarding shavings as a temporary measure to fill in the pot holes. the Council would do the work themselves. Cllr Dawson asked the Clerk to email him regarding this as a temporary option.

13. Close: the meeting closed at 8.40pm

Signed by the Chairman **Date**

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