
Welney Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Welney Parish Council, Tuesday 5th September 2023, 7.15pm at the William Marshall Centre

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

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

Apologies: Cllr Bombata

Public: one

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 received
- 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 if the Chair had received a letter from John Loveday, she could not recall this, only a telephone conversation regarding making a statement regarding the hall. The parishioner will report this back to John. The parishioner also stated he was gathering documents to give to the Monitoring Office at the Borough Council regarding issues with Welney Parish Council. The same parishioner asked if he was allowed to record a Parish Meeting, the Clerk informed him he could, but to inform the Council when he did this.
- 6. To discuss and consider the Action Log from previous meetings:**
 - Missing Traffic sign Wash Road: Andy Wallace has stated this will be removed.
 - Post snapped off opposite the pub. This is still not repaired
 - Road at the top of Hurn drove has a hump in it: this is being repaired now, so will be taken off the action log.
 - The Hives Main Street: the drain has been marked for repair.
 - Invoice received for Sandgate Meadow: this still has not arrived
 - 40mph speed sign near Welney House Farm A1101 has been damaged: the clerk has reported this

County Councillor Dawson, spoke about the overgrown verges and said he had taken some photos of these in Welney to pass on. There is an ongoing conversation with Norfolk County Council, regarding extra cuts and the timing of these. CCllr Dawson said he has a small pot of money (roughly £100) which if the Council find a splay that need an extra cut, he would be happy to fund. Currently the agreement about the cutting of the verges is ecological versus aesthetics. it seems villages like the aesthetic better due to the number of complaints. The County Deal meeting is on the 22nd September. He also informed the Council that Highways have employed a Junior Manager and have been given the financial resource to bring in outside contractors to catch up with ongoing issues. It may take several months for them to catch up. CCllr Dawson was asked how many cuts happen in a 40mph road and he said one cut per annum. The Council said if all parties talked together such as Internal Drainage Board, Highways, Borough Council, County Council and Norse a plan of cutting the verges would be a better way of delivering this service. CCllr Dawson said there is a meeting at Marshland St. James, the date has yet to be set, it will be attended by Highways team members, and it's purpose will be to advise and inform of the detail and process relating to Parish Councils undertaking their own verge management.

Clerk to the Council; Melanie Hilton (CiLCA Qualified).

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7. Reports from individual Councillors, Council Groups and Clerk

- i **To approve planning applications:** To discuss planning applications if any: Planning Application Consultation 23/01072/F. New window opening to rear of building at The Old Chapel Main Street Welney Wisbech Norfolk PE14 9RB. *Welney Parish Council supports this application.*

8. To note any Health and Safety issues: none reported

9. Finance

- i. To note payments made since last meeting: a discussion took place regarding whether to pay the final balance of £2000 for the Marshalls Charity loan or just to pay the annual amount of £1000. Cllrs Gardiner and Lowry voted against and Cllrs Spears, Harvey and Goodger voted in favour.

Payments for September 2023 Authorisation

Payee	Goods/Services	VAT	TOTAL	DD/EP <small>electronic payment / direct debit</small>	Supplier/Service
Melanie Hilton Salary	706.60	0.00	706.60	EP	50 Hours
Melanie Hilton Expenses	9.00	0.00	9.00	EP	Mileage for Parish Council meeting
HMRC	200.54	0.00	200.54	EP	Month 5
Nest Pension scheme	26.78	0.00	26.78	DD	Clerks pension
Marshalls Charity	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00	EP	repayment for footpath loan
Westcotec	111.12	22.22	133.34	DD	Street light maintenance
Npower	77.37	3.87	81.24	DD	Street light energy July 2023
TOTAL	£3,131.41	£26.09	£3,157.50		

- ii. To note income and expenditure balances reconciled from the previous month: this was noted
- iii. The Clerk discussed transferring some of the money in the current account into the savings account it was agreed to do this once the savings of £308.97 has been used for a table tennis table at The William Marshall Centre. Currently the interest rate is at 6%.

10. To propose any items for the next agenda: to discuss an additional post for the SAM2 Camera BCllrs Spikings and Rose told the council they had donated between them £600 for a heater for the Church Group.

11. To note the date of the next parish council meeting – 9th October 2023 at 7.15pm at William Marshall Centre

12. Close: the meeting closed at 8.05pm

Signed by the Chairman Date

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