
Welney Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of Welney Parish Council, Tuesday 7th December 2021, 7pm at the William Marshall Centre

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

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

Public: none

Apologies : Cllr Steele, BCllr Spikings.

MINUTES

- 1. Welcome and opening remarks:** The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting
- 2. To consider and approve apologies for absence:**
Apologies were approved.
- 3. To approve the minutes of the last meeting**
The minutes for the last full Council meeting were approved and signed by the Chair
- 4. To receive Declarations of Interest on the Agenda Items:**
Cllr. Goodger declared an interest in the Bishops Land Charity item 9.
- 5. Public Forum:** no members of the public were present.
- 6. Reports from Individual Councillor's, Working Parties and Clerk:**
 - To receive an update on the Welney Wash steering group: County Councillor Dawson has been in contact with Stephen Barclay MP regarding this. If the road was raised this is believed to be a short term fix and will not last past 25 years. Borough Councillor Rose has also contacted him on the matter, explaining that this will benefit businesses if the road was stopped from flooding. The meeting to be held with Liz Truss MP has been put back to 28th January 2022. Funding will be the key issues for the road improvements as there is not a specific pot of money that will cover this work. Other Parishes need to also lobby Stephen Barclay MP on this topic.

County Councillor Dawson said that are seeking a 2.99% rise in Council Tax.

The Wisbech Incinerator application is now due in quarter one of next year. County Councillor Dawson has put forward the idea that Sutton Bridge power station maybe a better area for this.

The Welney Wash Steering Group have had one meeting so far. A letter will be sent to other Parishes shortly, asking them to support the road improvements. A concern is that if the work started in Spring it may not be completed until the autumn and then is would stay closed due to the flooding. County Councillor Dawson suggested that Wisbech Town Council should also be approached to seek support.

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- To discuss the purchase of an additional Sam2 Unit: Cllr. Gardiner has completed the Parish Partnership Scheme (PPS) application form for a new Sam 2 Unit. The Clerk has returned the form and has received acknowledgment of this.
- To discuss the purchase of new gateways at the entrance and exits to Welney to reduce speeding traffic Cllr's Gardiner and Spears. Cllr Spears has prepared the PPS form the Clerk will send this tomorrow. There may be a cost from highways when these are installed, a cost of £2500 has been added to the proposal. There would be two gateways on Wisbech Road, two on March Road and one at Bells Drove. Councillor Spears is waiting for Andy Wallace to meet him on site to discuss positions and highway management. County Councillor Dawson has requested some funding for this project. The cost of these gateways is £7230 half would come from PPS and the other half from a CIL grant which needs to be applied for. Councillor Goodger said if the gateways could not go in the location agreed on Wisbech Road maybe where the Welcome to Welney signs maybe another site.
- To discuss the purchase of two solar powered footway lights at Chestnut Ave and Wisbech Road. (The entrance and exits to Sandgate Park) Cllr Gardiner. Two streetlights are to be considered for Chestnut Ave and March Road. The cost is £3900 plus VAT. It is proposed these are funded by a CIL funding if received. The Council were handed a list of items that CIL can be used for. The Council wish to consider if they want to apply for the streetlights and put on the January Agenda
- To discuss and agree new projects to be applied for in the new round of CIL grants (the deadline is 1st February 2022) all Councillors. Councillor Gardiner produced a list for what CIL monies can be used for. The Council agreed to think about this in readiness for the January meeting.

7. To discuss Action Log:

- The fraud case: this was discussed at the end of the meeting, with no members of the public present. Old files are thoughts to be with the Police
- Playing field bank account. The Clerk has chased the contractor regarding the concrete pad and basketball hoop installation and received no reply. Councillor Spears will seek to gain more quotes for this, so the basketball hoop can be reinstalled as soon as possible.
- No further update on Bedford Bank Cllr Lowry and BCllr Rose are waiting for a response from the Environmental Agency.
- One roundel and the outer road white lines are still to be completed
- Elderly Signpost rusty post: a new one has been ordered by Highways
- Chestnut Ave. this has been repaired but after only a week it has cracked and weeds have started to grow through. Clerk will add to Andy's list of things to check and complete. No further information regarding this.
- The pot hole on Chestnut Ave has been reported by the Clerk, this has already been reported several months ago by a parishioner. No update on this
- Back Drove at a Highways meeting a 'DO NOT FOLLOW YOUR SATNAV' sign was ordered, but has never arrived the Clerk will chase this.

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- The office at William Marshall Centre: the filing cabinet has been put back. The Clerk will set up a filing system, when all old paperwork has been returned from the police.
- Councillor Gardiner will investigate two old bank accounts at Barclays Bank
- The lock on the litter bin has been repaired. Many thanks to Councillor Spears for this.
- To move the noticeboard, Councillor Gardiner and Spears will arrange a meeting with Andy Wallace to discuss moving this outside the church. Also, to discuss the position of the village gates and Sam2 camera
- Councillor Goodger will make a beacon for the Queen's Jubilee and a tree will be planted in the village.
- Welney Christmas Lights Competition, the Clerk has purchased the winners cup this will be awarded after the 17th December

8. To approve the list of meeting dates for 2022:

This was approved.

9. To volunteer is required for a Parish Councillor to join the trustees of Bishops Land Charity:

Currently this is covered by an ex-Councillor. The Council will think about whether this is appropriate or whether another Councillor should become a trustee.

10. To note Christmas Lights Competition for Welney is being judged 17th December two volunteers required for this. Councillor's Gardiner, Goodger and Harvey with the help of a parishioner will judge this competition.

11. Finance:

- i. The outstanding payments were approved for payment. **All payments to be paid by the next working day.**

Payments for December 2021 Authorisation

Payee	Goods/Services	VAT	TOTAL	DD/EP electronic payment /direct debit	Supplier/Service
Melanie Hilton Salary	718.22	0.00	718.22	EP	56.25 hours
Melanie Hilton Expenses	58.06	7.90	65.96	EP	10 miles each way Meeting Welney Wetland Centre, 8.8 miles Outwell to Wisbech to collect Trophy from Fen Regis, purchase of Cup for Christmas Lights Competition, refreshment at the defibulator training
HMRC	232.66	0.00	232.66	EP	Month 9
Nest Pension scheme	29.40	0.00	29.40	DD	Clerks pension
Advanced Payroll Services	25.00	0.00	25.00	EP	Payroll services for October 2021
Welney Wildlife Trust	50.00	0.00	50.00	EP	room hire for meeting
Westcotec	111.12	22.22	133.34	DD	Street light maintenance
Eon	71.96	3.60	75.56	DD	Streetlight electricity supply
TOTAL	£1,296.42	£33.72	£1,330.14		

- ii. **To note the cashbook:** this was noted
- iii. The Clerk produced the bank statements for Councillor Goodger to inspect. Councillor Goodger confirmed the bank statements and the cashbook figures agreed.

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12. Proposed Agenda items for next meeting:

- To discuss applying for a CIL grant for two new streetlights.

From the Action Log: The Police investigation was discussed; it was agreed that the person involved would receive a Police caution. A sum of money has been returned to the Parish Council bank account.

13. Next meeting date: Next full Council meeting is 4th January at the William Marshall Centre 7pm

14. The meeting closed at 9pm.

Signed by the Chairman **Date**

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