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## Welney Parish Council

### Minutes of the meeting of Welney Parish Council, Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2022, 7.15pm 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, Clerk M Hilton.

**Public:** two

**Apologies :** Cllr Steele, BCllr Spikings and CClr Dawson

#### 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:** none were received.
- 5. Public Forum:** a parishioner said he was pleased to see the William Marshall Centre open again. He asked why the Clerk never accepted him as interim chair in September and she explained that a vote had to be held at a public meeting not by lobbying other Councillors. He also has personal issues with a Borough Councillor but was told this should remain outside the Parish Council meeting. Another member of the public reported there is a Community Interest Company been formed regarding the old village hall on Main Street. He also issued paperwork for the Council to read. If the bid is successful profits would go to the community.
- 6. To discuss Action Log:**
  - To Seek old files: Files have been returned by Mr. Cox. Still waiting for the return of the files held by the police.
  - The basketball hoop installation will start on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2022
  - Bedford Bank: no further update.
  - One roundel and the outer road white lines are still to be completed. Councillor Spears and Gardiner have met with Andy Wallace and this will be completed in Spring 2022.
  - Elderly Signpost rusty post: a new one has been ordered by Highways. Clerk to ask highways to contact Cllr Gardiner before installation as a new location is preferred.

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

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---

## Welney Parish Council

- Chestnut Ave. this has been repaired but after only a week it has cracked and weeds have started to grow through. Waiting on Highways for remedial work.
- Back Drove at a Highways meeting a 'DO NOT FOLLOW YOUR SATNAV' sign was ordered. Clerk emailed Andy Wallace in January 2022 and is waiting on a reply.
- Councillor Gardiner will investigate two old bank accounts at Barclays Bank, this is still yet to be done.
- To move the noticeboard, Councillor Gardiner and Spears meet with Andy Wallace and this will be moved to outside the church, Highways will check for any cables or pipes that maybe there before it is moved. Consent from the Internal Drainage Board will cost £30, Councillor Goodger will apply for this Clerk is required to order new legs for this to be moved. Councillor Goodger also said the Croft was being dredged in about six weeks' time.
- Queens Platinum Jubilee, it was discussed having a bonfire rather than a beacon and maybe have a BBQ at the same time. A discussion regarding planting trees took place: a donation maybe made by BCLlr Spikings for these. Councillor Gardiner will do some research on which trees are suitable and arrange a site meeting for the locations.
- Steps new old phone box have been reported to Highways as the rails are unsafe. January 2022 Clerk asked Andy Wallace to concrete them in and Councillors will then repaint.
- Councillor Goodger has spoken with Mr. Dennis Markham regarding a memorial plaque for Amy Markham which the Council has received money for, the family will decide on the inscription for the memorial sign/plaque.
- A pot hole at Delph Bridge on A1101 has been repaired.
- The kerb stones at the corner of Hale Drove House have been reported, but not yet repaired.
- Clerk to order one bracket and fixing strap for the SAM2 camera.
- Dennis Markham, ref Amy's memorial, I had told the meeting I had spoken to Dennis and he was to talk to the family to decide the inscription for the memorial sign.

**7. To discuss the Parish Councils website:** the new website is up and running. Please type [welneypc.info](http://welneypc.info) into the search bar. This is the only website for Welney Parish Council.

**8. To discuss delegated powers for Clerk and Committees,** this was approved.

**9. To discuss the Old Village Hall on Main Street:** Councillors Lowry and Gardiner declared an interest in this. A discussion took place as to whether this was even a discussion for the Parish Council. The Clerk advised as it is owned by the Environmental Agency and was a condemned building probably nothing the Council can do. All agreed it is an eyesore, papers given out by a parishioners

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---

## Welney Parish Council

will be read in preparation for the next meeting. Borough Councillor Rose advised the Clerk to contact Nathan Johnson from CSNN.

**10. To discuss the closure of A1101 Summer 2022 due to installation of flood barrier blocks:**

the Clerk was asked to inform Highways of this work and could repairs due in Welney be completed at the same time.

**11. To approve Robin Goreman to complete the internal audit for 2022:** this was approved

**12.** To discuss and approve the following policies:

- Press Media Policy
  - employment policies and procedures
- all policies were approved, these will be on the new website shortly.

**13.** Reports from Individual Councillor's, Working Groups and Clerk:

- To discuss planning applications Cllr Barker: Planning Application Consultation 21/02296/F Proposed barn conversion, demolition of 2 No outbuildings to be replaced with one new outbuilding at Croft Barn Wisbech Road Tipps End Welney WISBECH Norfolk the *planning group advises approval of this application*
- To discuss 'Make Welney Beautiful': *Cllr Spears*, this fund was set up by Dennis Birch and Councillor Barker. So far £100 has been spent on bulbs which have been planted around the village. A future proposal is for raised planter beds, these will need to be maintained and watered. Highways will need to approve the positions of these. Clerk will contact Andy Wallace regarding this.
- To discuss Welney Christmas Tree: *Cllr Spears*, to have a Christmas tree either planted or an artificial one near the Church, Councillor Spears will look into the prices for an artificial one as this may be the easiest option for the site.
- To discuss Welney Flooding Steering Group – *Cllr. Barker* to update on feedback from Floodwatch Facebook Group. The poll discussed at last month's meeting has not yet taken place. The impact of the questions may be better when the road is actually flooded. County Councillor Chris Dawson was unable to make this meeting but said after the meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2022 (with Liz Truss MP) the steering group should make contact with nearby villages to ask questions regarding impact of when the A1101 floods and closes. It was suggested by Councillor Goodger that the barriers that close the road could be done by the Floodwatch, it would be quicker and also would only go up when the road is impassable. The Clerk will contact County Councillor Dawson to seek approval for doing this. The barriers were approved to be kept at Councillor Goodger's yard.
- An update on the liaison with Norfolk Police regarding Speedwatch - *Cllrs Gardiner, Harvey and Spears* a meeting was held with Joanna Higgins and the Councillors requested more police presence when Speedwatch team are out. Apparently, the police would need training in order to do this. There will be a TEAMS meeting with Paula Guilley and the Speedwatch team. Speedwatch starts again on the 8<sup>th</sup> February 2022 and will be weekly. There is a Facebook group that was set up a while ago and the team will ask on there for volunteers to help the speedwatch team. At the recent SNAP meeting the police reported 16 people had been caught speeding through Welney.
- Highways matters - To discuss frequency of liaison with Andy Wallace and Jason Morse as per Councillor Dawson's request. The Clerk was asked to correspond with Highways and seek a prioritisation list of work from them.

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- Two Street lights to be funded from CIL monies reported at January meeting - Is this proposal to be progressed in this financial year? It was decided to wait until the CIL grants and the Parish Partnership Scheme grant have been decided to see what funds would be left to install two more streetlights maybe on March Road.

### 14. Finance

- The outstanding payments to be approved for payment. These were approved

Payments for February 2022 Authorisation					
Payee	Goods/Services	VAT	TOTAL	DD/EP <small>electronic payment / direct debit</small>	Supplier/Service
Melanie Hilton Salary	725.73	0.00	<b>725.73</b>	EP	57 hours
Melanie Hilton Expenses	9.00	0.00	<b>9.00</b>	EP	16 miles each way Meeting WMC
Melanie Hilton Expenses	180.00	36.00	<b>216.00</b>	EP	new website domain and WIX hosting
HMRC	239.39	0.00	<b>239.39</b>	EP	Month 11
Nest Pension scheme	30.27	0.00	<b>30.27</b>	DD	Clerks pension
Advanced Payroll Services	25.00	0.00	<b>25.00</b>	EP	Payroll services for December 2021
Westcotec	111.12	22.22	<b>133.34</b>	DD	Street light maintenance
Npower	111.54	5.58	<b>117.12</b>	DD	Streetlight electricity supply
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£1,432.05</b>	<b>£63.80</b>	<b>£1,495.85</b>		

- To note the cashbook, the cashbook was noted
- The bank statements for October, November and December 2021 were approved and signed by Councillor Barker
- The Clerk was asked to make sure CIL payments are paid into the Unity Trust bank account.

The public were asked to leave for a confidential matter. A letter is being written to Barclays bank to establish issues that have arisen with a former Clerk.

### 15. Items for the Next Agenda

- To review Parish Council representation on the Marshalls Charity Committee
- To review Parish Council representation on the Bishops Land Charity
- To discuss installation of a new defibrillator in Tipps End

**16.** To agree the date of the Parish Assembly meeting to be held Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2022 at 7.15pm followed by Full Council meeting at 7.45pm.

**17.** To Close: the meeting closed at 9.40pm

Signed by the Chairman ..... Date .....

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