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## Welney Parish Council

### Minutes of the Meeting of Welney Parish Council, Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2024, 7.15pm at the William Marshall Centre

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

**Those Present:** Cllr Gardiner, Cllr Goodger, Cllr Lowry, Cllr Bombata, BCLlr Rose, Clerk M Hilton.

**Apologies:** Cllr Spears, BCLlr Spikings

**Public:** two

#### MINUTES

1. **Welcome and Opening remarks:** the Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. He asked the Council if item 8ii could be moved to 2b, this was approved.
2. **To receive apologies for absence:** these were approved.
- 2b. **(8ii) to discuss the Casual Vacancies:** a member of the public has submitted an interest in becoming a Councillor. After a unanimous vote Sarah Gaylor signed her Parish Council Register of Members Interest and Declaration of Acceptance Forms and was asked to join the table.
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 still does not understand why he has received a letter (dated October 2023) from the Council explaining he is a vexatious complainer and that only new items from him will be discussed. The Chair stopped the parishioner from repeating issues from the March 2021 minutes as the Council is happy with the minutes. He was told again to go to the Monitoring Officer or Ombudsman with his issues.
  - BCLlr Rose said the Council Tax relief was either 100% relief or nothing. The Parishioner present then tried to talk over the BCLlr. BCLlr Rose said he is on the Safety and Security Panel. He also said he had set up a new group called the Progressive Group.
6. **To discuss and consider the Action Log from previous meetings:**
  - A 30pmh sign to be installed on the gateway into the village. Mr Leek is dealing with this. No yet completed.
  - There is surface water near Sandgate Meadow. The Clerk has reported this. Nothing to report on this.
  - Meadow Gate Lane sign is going to be replaced.
  - Potholes at Chestnut Ave have been repaired.
  - Cllr Gardiner reported a pothole on the Wash Road towards Littleport, the Clerk will report this.
  - Cllr Goodger reported a cover that has sunk in the road at Hurn Drove, the Clerk will report this.
  - Cllr Gardiner asked the Clerk to ask when the Wash Road is due to be resurfaced.
  - Cllr Gaylor reported a pothole in Tipps End, the Clerk will report this.
  - The Restricted Byway sign along Hurn Drove near White Cottage was on the floor, Cllr Goodger and Cllr Spears have repaired this.
7. **To review, Safeguarding, Data Protection, Risk Management, Financial Risk, Training and Development Policies.**

All policies were approved.  
Cllr Gardiner asked for the Emergency Plan to be added to the next agenda.
8. **Reports from individual Councillors, Council Groups and Clerk**
  - i* To hear an update on Wash Road: Cllr Goodger reported the signs have been a nightmare over the last few months. With some working and some saying the wrong depth. CCLlr Dawson is working on getting

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the signage improved. Cllr Goodger is meeting with the Environmental Agency and Highways and he will ask for an update on proposals for the Wash Road and will report back to the Parish Council. The Clerk will write to Highways to ask why the flashing sign at Three Holes still has not been repaired. Highways said the flashing sign at the top of New Road was unrepairable. The Clerk was asked to add this to the action log.

- ii To discuss the emergency contact numbers for the defibulator: Cllr Lowry asked for her name to be removed from the list as did Cllr Gardiner. The Clerk was asked to contact the other members of the list to see if the wish to stay on the list. Cllr Lowry will produce an article to put on Facebook asking for more volunteers to come forward.
- iii To discuss Biodiversity Duty for Welney Parish Council: a brief discussion was held regarding this, and it was agreed that Sandgate Meadow is biodiverse. The Councillors agreed they would consider Biodiversity when new planning applications come to the Council. The Clerk had emailed the Council a Biodiversity Policy which was approved
- iv To receive an update on Hurn Drove resurfacing works: Cllr Goodger said Cllr Spears had received four quotes for the resurfacing. CIL and PPS grants have been applied for by the Clerk. Cllr Goodger said that Marshalls Charity have been supportive of an application for a grant to be made to them. Cllr Goodger will speak to residents before any work is started.

### 9. To note any Health and Safety issues: none reported

### 10. Finance

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

#### Payments for February 2024 Authorisation

Payee	Goods/Services	VAT	TOTAL	DD/EP <small>electronic payment / direct debit</small>	Supplier/Service
Melanie Hilton Salary	737.46	0.00	<b>737.46</b>	EP	49.5 hours
HMRC	214.13	0.00	<b>214.13</b>	EP	Month 10
Nest Pension scheme	29.61	0.00	<b>29.61</b>	DD	Clerks pension
Paul Spears	3.74	0.75	<b>4.49</b>	EP	Engraving for Christmas Lights trophy
William Marshall Centre	2,000.00	0.00	<b>2,000.00</b>	EP	Grant awarded for upkeep of the hall
Wisbech Payroll	97.35	0.00	<b>97.35</b>	EP	Payroll provider for Oct-Dec 2023
K and M Lighting Services	25.66	5.13	<b>30.79</b>	EP	Street light maintenance
Npower	155.29	7.76	<b>163.05</b>	DD	Street light energy
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£3,263.24</b>	<b>£13.64</b>	<b>£3,276.88</b>		

- 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.
- iv. To discuss the grant application made by William Marshall Centre: this was approved.
- v. To approve an internal auditor for 2023\_24 AGAR. The Clerk said Robin Goreham will charge £40 this year. This was approved.

### 11. To propose any items for the next agenda:

- Cllr Bombata asked for SAM2 data to be added to the agenda

### 12. To note the date of the next parish council meeting – 5<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at 7.15pm at William Marshall Centre. The Parish Assemble will be at 7.15 followed by Full Council meeting.

### 13. Close: the meeting closed at 20.12pm

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

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