



## WELNEY PARISH COUNCIL

**The meeting was a virtual meeting using the Zoom meeting platform and was held on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2021 at 7.00 p.m.**

### MINUTES

1/21 Apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Councillor Giles.

In attendance: Councillor Harvey, Councillor Barker, Councillor Loveday, Councillor Wardle, Councillor Lowry, Councillor Pratley.

Councillor Spikings (BC), Councillor Rose (BC), Councillor Humphrey (CC) Jennifer Millard (Clerk).

Councillor Harvey took the Chair in light of the absence of Councillor Giles.

2/21 Minutes of an ordinary meeting held on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2021

It was resolved to approve the minutes of the last meeting with all in favour.

3/21 To receive Declarations of Pecuniary Interest on agenda items.

No declarations of pecuniary interest were declared.

4/21 Public forum for electors to address the Council.

a) Ms Sally Claxton asked for information regarding the increase in the precept.

b) Ms Sally Claxton queried why the William Marshall Centre was currently closed as there was no mention of this in any previous minutes.

c) Mr Green queried at what date the William Marshall Centre will be available for public use after lockdown.

d) Mr Peter Gardiner raised concerns about the condition of the roadway at Hurn Drove and queried why general caretaking duties were not being undertaken around the recreation ground.

5/21 Report on Items not the Agenda.

No items were raised.

6/21 Casual Councillor Vacancy.

The Clerk confirmed that there are had been no further interest in the current Councillor Vacancy.

7/21 Discuss any Planning Application in the Village.

21/00241/F – Retention of holiday lodge (Plot 10A) and use of land for stationing 4 additional holiday lodges at Acorn Holiday Park, Bedford Bank, Welney.

Councillor Barker confirmed that in summary this application was to increase the number of pitches available for holiday lets.

21/00396/F – Variations of Conditions 2 & 6 of Planning Permission 20/01966/F: Variation of condition 2 of planning permission 20/0026/F to change the position of main house at Long Acre, March Road, Welney, Norfolk.

Change to existing permission to have an annexe above the garage.

It was resolved that the Parish Council would support both the applications. Four Councillors were in favour and there were 2 abstentions.

8/21 Discuss any Highways Issues in the Village.

It was resolved to have a Highways Working party (to include Councillor Harvey and Councillor Lowry and one Volunteer member of the public) in accordance with the document provided with the Clerk with five in favour and one abstention.

The Council heard a verbal report from Councillor Lowry on Highways matters.

9/21 Discuss reports on Training.

The Clerk confirmed that she had enrolled on the CilCA qualification and had completed the first module in draft. The Clerk confirmed that she was self-funding the course at the current time but hoped that the Council would consider refunding her in future years.

10/21 Discuss any Finance Issues.

For the benefit of members of the public, the Clerk talked the budget which had been formulated to prepare the 2021/22 precept request.

- To approve invoices received

Reference	Invoice Title	Method	Detail	Amount	VAT	Total
4902	NALC Annual Subscription	To be authorised	Norfolk & National Charge & Website Hosting	£175.56		£175.56
	Expenses	To be authorised	March 2021 Clerks Expenses	£8.10		£8.10
	Salary	To be authorised	March 2021 Clerks Salary	£702.52		£702.52
	Salary	To be authorised	March 2021 Caretaker Salary	£95.73		£95.73
BC110060266	Dog Poo Bin Emptying	To be authorised	KLWNBC 4 bins (weekly emptying) year to 28.02.21	£314.08	£62.82	£376.90
7394	Community Heartbeat	To be authorised	Defibrillator and Cabinet (Outstanding part payment)	£652.34	£25	£677.34
12125	Westcotec	To be authorised	Street Lighting for January & February	£111.12	£22.22	£133.34
00004937282-014	Plusnet	Direct Debit	Phoneline & Internet	£34.09	£6.84	£40.91
H198C2ED70	E-On	To be authorised	E-on (Electricity)	£124.38	£6.22	£130.60
MISC017217	Car Park Donation 2020-21	To be authorised	KLWNBC GP Car Park Donation / Grant	£150		£150

Queries were raised with the regards to the invoice from Community Heartbeat in respect of the defibrillator. After some general discussion the Clerk was asked to approach the member of the public who currently dealt with the defibrillator as to the current situation and the item was to be added to the next agenda. In the meantime, payment of this invoice was to be deferred.

It was resolved that BC & GP surgery and ask what our money pays for in terms of upkeep (although the 2020/21 would be settled).

Councillor Barker confirmed that the Council paid for broadband and a phone at the William Marshall Centre. The Clerk no longer works from the William Marshall Centre and does not intend too.

After some discussion it was resolved to remove the call package, which would present a £16 per month saving, with all in favour.

- To appoint auditor

Clerk has received a written quotation from Heelis & Lodge who provide Local Council Services Internal Audits. The quote is for £185 which includes a visit. It maybe that I can deliver items, or they can be couriered and less expense.

It was resolved with all in favour to proceed with Heelis & Lodge as auditor.

- Banking

Due to ongoing ill health of the Chairman, matters with regards to the banking had not been resolved. This item would be kept on the Agenda.

#### 11/21 Grant Funding Policy & Grant Request from RUG

No grant funding request was received from RUG.

It was resolved with all in favour to utilise the Grant Application and Grant Policy going forward. The Clerk explained that she hoped that Community Groups would be encouraged to apply for monies, which could be considered when the proceedings year's budget was being prepared.

#### 12/21 Community Infrastructure Levy Grant

The Clerk confirmed that from her own investigations, significant work was required prior to a submission for CIL monies for a new playground could be made. It was agreed that this would be kept under review.

The Clerk confirmed that a communication had been sent to a representative of Westcotec regarding highways issues which required funding. This seemed like an ideal CIL application and efforts would be made to apply in this respect by the end of the month.

Councillor Loveday had received one written quote for fencing the recreation ground, but it was agreed that this required further consideration and consultation before a CIL application could be made.

#### 13/21 Dog Waste Bin Update

The Clerk confirmed that a submission to the Borough Council had been made in respect of the installation of a new dog poo bin.

14/21 Welney Playing Field Charity Update

Recreation Ground

The Clerk confirmed that she had received a compliant regarding the condition of the recreation ground and confirmed and various Councillors had visited the site and that the Cricket club had been approached and asked to remove items belonging to them. An Action plan had been prepared and this would be considered at the next meeting of the Charity.

Councillor Harvey and the Clerk had sought requests for pest control in respect of the mole hills. Only one written response had been received. It was resolved to proceed with the quote at a cost of £112.50.

The Clerk had sought four written quotes for tree surveys but there was some disparity between the cost of the quotes. The Clerk would investigate this matter further and report back at the next meeting.

William Marshall Centre

A statement prepared by the Council / Charity in March 2021 was shared on screen and remains on the Parish Council website.

It was anticipated that a further statement would be made in the days following the meeting.

15/21 Missing Post Box

There had been no further progress with regards to the stolen post box, the Clerk would chase the matter.

16/21 Communications Strategy

It was resolved with all in favour to accept the proposal for a Communications Working Party in accordance with the document prepared by the Clerk and Councillor Wardle.

(The internet connection was unstable for Councillor Barker at this moment)

17/21 Items for the Next Agenda

Defibrillator (training & storage).  
Litter picking.

18/21 To agree the date of the next meeting to be held Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2021

The Chairman thanks the member of the public for their attendance.

19/21 Resolve to exclude **public and press** in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted concerning staffing

The meeting closed at 9pm.

Agenda prepared by:

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