
Welney Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of Welney Parish Council, Tuesday 1st March 2022, 7.45pm at the William Marshall Centre

Committee Members: Cllr. Harvey (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, BCllr Spikings, CCLLR Dawson, Clerk M Hilton.

Public: 4

Apologies : None

MINUTES

- 1. Welcome and opening remarks:** The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting
- 2. To consider and approve apologies for absence:**
No apologies
- 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:** for Bishops Land item, Cllr Goodger and Cllr Lowry declared. For Marshall's Charity item Cllr Goodger and Barker declared. For old Parish Hall item Cllrs Gardiner and Lowry declared.
- 5. Public Forum:** County Councillor Dawson said he would contact Lynn News to highlight the Welney Causeway issues. It was mentioned that due to the increase of fuel prices this should be considered as people have a 20–30-mile detour when the A1101 is closed. This really impacts on people on a low income. This also has an impact on people travelling to hospital appointments. Councillor Goodger and Barker are working on the questions for ask the Floodwatch followers to see how the closing of the road impacts them. Highways need to work on better signage coming from Littleport and also have this in various languages.
- 6. To discuss Action Log:**
 - To Seek old files: The police have now located the old laptop which is currently at Swaffam and will return this and files to Councillor Harvey as soon as possible.
 - The basketball hoop installation this has started and will soon be complete. After payment there is around £300 left a table tennis table was considered but more fund raising will need to take place for this as it is £800.
 - Bedford Bank: The Clerk has spoken with the Environmental Agency they cannot speak about this issue of the road as it is currently with their legal team. They will contact the Council before anything is done on the roadway. A Parishioner was allowed to speak, she said the tarmac had caused a sharp drop on the bank making it difficult to walk there with passing traffic. There is also the issue of speeding and the refuse truck will not go down there anymore since getting stuck on the bank.

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- 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. Still waiting for completion on this.
- 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. Two parishioners contacted the Council asking for this to not be installed after much discussion the Council to have this installed as originally planned. The sign will be placed outside White Cottage on the opposite side of the road. Clerk will contact highways to ask for this to be completed.
- Councillor Gardiner will investigate two old bank accounts at Barclays Bank, Councillor Gardiner has written to Barclays regarding this issue
- To move the noticeboard, Councillor Goodger has applied for permission from the internal drainage board the cost is £50. Once this has been agreed the noticeboard will be moved to the new location outside the church.
- Steps new old phone box have been reported to Highways as the rails are unsafe. Councillors will look to see if these can be repaired by themselves when the noticeboard is moved.
- 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.
- The kerb stones at the corner of Hale Drove House have been reported, but not yet repaired.
- The 'Welcome to Welney sign has been replaced
- The streetlight at Bells Drove is out of alignment, Clerk to report this.
- Due to the storms the signage along Wisbech road have been turned round by the wind. Clerk to report this.
- Along March Rd there is a pile of tyres, Clerk will report to the fly tipping team.
- A sign has been reported missing at Meadow Farm: Councillor Spears has been in contact with Highways and the Environmental Agency, this may have been taken down as no longer a necessary sign, but this has not been confirmed as yet.
- Councillor Gardiner asked the Parish Clerk to contact Highways to request a street sign in Chestnut Avenue to inform motorists that there was a children's playground in the cul de sac along there.

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- Councillor Gardiner also asked the Parish Clerk to establish with Highways or the Borough Council what the cost would be to install a Sandgate Meadow Park street sign in the verge opposite the Chestnut Avenue to inform passing traffic and people visiting Welney where the Park was located.
 - It was reported the conifers at Chestnut Farm will soon be cut.
 - Grange farm will be installing streetlights on their land which should help this dark patch in the village

- 1. **To elect a Vice-Chair:** after the resignation of Councillor Steele a new Vice Chair was elected this is Councillor Spears.

- 2. **To discuss the Old Village Hall on Main Street:** after a discussion the Council decided they would not support the Enterprise Group who wish to see this as a gallery, shop and café. It is between the Environmental Agency and the Enterprise Group. One of the reasons was it would increase the Clerks hours and therefore be expensive to the Parish. Other reasons mentioned was it is a condemned building and needs a lot of money spent on it.

- 3. **To review Parish Council representation on the Marshalls Charity Committee:** a discussion was held over former Councillors still being Council representatives on Marshalls Charity. Marshalls Charity keep Council representatives on the board for four years (even if they no longer serve the Council). The Clerk will talk with Norfolk Parish Partnership and Support (NPTS) for clarification on this.

- 4. **To review Parish Council representation on the Bishops Land Charity:** it was agreed to keep former Councillor Mrs Wardle as the Council representative until the outcome of item three has been received.

- 5. **To discuss a new defibulator at Tipps End:** this will be put onto the June agenda, this has not been budgeted for in 2022-23 therefore, a CIL grant would need to be applied for. Cil grant applications can be applied for in July 2022

- 6. **To discuss the new Parish Council Logo:** it was decided not to change the current logo used on all paperwork.

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

To discuss planning applications Cllr Barker:

- Planning Application Consultation 21/02456/F Continued use of temporary enclosures for housing black-tailed godwits including 1 x portable cabin and 3 x pens at Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust Hundred Foot Bank Welney Norfolk PE14 9TN. *Welney Parish Council advises approval of this application.*
- Planning Application Consultation 22/00159/F Side single storey extension and remodelling of the external elevations, render instead of brick at Silver Crest March Road Welney Norfolk PE14 9SE *Welney Parish Council advises approval of this application.*
 - Welney Parish Council approved these applications.

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8. Finance

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

Payments for March 2022 Authorisation					
Payee	Goods/Services	VAT	TOTAL	DD/EP electronic payment /direct debit	Supplier/Service
Melanie Hilton Salary	691.31	0.00	691.31	EP	53.75 hours
Melanie Hilton Expenses	12.84	0.00	12.84	EP	16 miles each way Meeting WMC, Large letter stamps
HMRC	213.94	0.00	213.94	EP	Month 12
Nest Pension scheme	26.47	0.00	26.47	DD	Clerks pension
Advanced Payroll Services	25.00	0.00	25.00	EP	Payroll services for January 2022
Welney playing Field Charity	60.00	0.00	60.00	EP	Hire of William Marshall Centre 7/12/21, 4/1/22 and 1/2/22
Norfolk Parish Partnership & Support	292.79	0.00	292.79	EP	Subscription 2022/23
Westcotec	57.50	11.50	69.00	DD	Additional bracket set including 2 clips, for Sam2 camera
Westcotec	111.12	22.22	133.34	DD	Street light maintenance
TOTAL	£1,490.97	£33.72	£1,524.69		

- To note the cashbook, this was noted.
- The cost of living pay rise was discussed and approved for the Clerk. Back payment to 1st April 2021 was also approved.

9. Items for the Next Agenda: please forward to the Clerk

- The Clerk reminded Councillor they have full Council training on the 21st March at 7pm
- Also, the NPTS seminar is on the 31st March at Costessey, near Norwich.

10. To agree the date of the next meeting to be held Tuesday 5th April 2021 at 7.15pm.

11. To Close: meeting closed at 9.32pm

Signed by the Chairman Date

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