

WELBOURN PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WELBOURN PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 14th APRIL 2010 IN WELBOURN VILLAGE HALL, AT 8.00 pm

PRESENT

Mr. J.R. Storer, Chairman
 Councillors: Mr W Goodhand (WEG), Mr V Brealey (VB), Mrs A Walker (AW),
 Mr T Copley (TC), Mr A Gibson (BG)
 District Councillors: Mr M Wylie (MW) and Mrs M Overton (MO)
 Mr M McBeath Clerk
 Miss Sarah Brown was present as a member of the public.

		ACTION
04.00.00	<p><u>PUBLIC FORUM</u> Miss Brown reported that she had found that, towards the end of the winter, a number of salt bins had been refilled with salt only rather than a mixture of salt and sharp sand. Salt on its own was of limited value since paths quickly refroze and, without grit, became even more hazardous. She also reported that the salt bin on Cow Lane was no longer there. The Clerk was tasked with finding out what had happened to the bin and making the point about salt alone to LCC Highways.</p>	Clerk
04.01.00	<p><u>CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS</u> As the meeting followed the Annual Parish Meeting, the Chairman had nothing to say which had not already been said.</p>	
04.02.00	<p><u>APOLOGIES</u> Mr Lawson was unable to attend. The Police were all tasked elsewhere</p>	
04.03.00	<p><u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES (MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT) ORDER 2007 (SI2007/1159)</u> No interests declared.</p>	
04.04.00	<p><u>MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING</u> The minutes of the previous meeting held on Wednesday 10th March 2010, copies of which had been circulated earlier to members, were approved. Proposed AW. Seconded TC.</p>	
04.05.00 04.05.01 04.05.02 04.05.03 04.05.04 04.05.07	<p><u>MATTERS ARISING</u> <u>Footpath encroachment</u> The Clerk reported that he written to the occupant of No 11 Beck Street asking him to cut back his hedge to allow wheelchair users to get past but that he had not had a response and that hedge had not yet been cut. <u>Orchard House footpath</u> The Clerk had spoken with the occupants of Orchard House about resurfacing the footpath between The Green and the Main Road. It had turned out that they owned the path and had been maintaining it. Mr and Mrs Grundy had no objection to the Parish Council replacing the path covering but would like to be kept informed of any plans. <u>National Savings Account</u> The Clerk had initiated searches by NS&I and 'Lostmyaccount' for the missing Investment Account information but had not yet had any answers. <u>PGL event</u> There had not been any applicants from Welbourn for the recent PGL event. <u>26 The Green</u> NKDC had advised the Clerk that a retrospective planning application concerning the garage roof at 26 The Green had been received. It was anticipated that this would be processed in due course.</p>	
04.06.00 04.06.01 04.06.02	<p><u>CLERK'S REPORT</u> <u>LALC Course.</u> The LALC course advertised as a training session on completion of audits had not taken place as advertised because the speaker engaged had cried off at the last minute but some useful ideas and contacts had been gained at the SLCC meeting which had been substituted. <u>Communications from LCC and NKDC</u> The Clerk had written to both LCC and NKDC to ask them to consider emails as a first resort when communicating with Clerks. This was</p>	

04.06.03	intended to reduce costs and to make it easier to update Councillors. <u>LALC training courses</u> The Clerk had misunderstood the nature of the recent request from LALC for a subscription of £65 which was not, as understood, an annual subscription but an invitation to subscribe for membership of annual councillor training courses. The invitation to renew the Annual Subscription had since been received and LALC had agreed to credit the £65 towards that subscription if the Council did not want to take up the opportunity to attend training courses. It was agreed that Councillors did not want to attend training courses.	<u>ACTION</u> Clerk
04.07.00	<u>FINANCIAL REPORT</u> The Financial Report had been given at the Annual Parish meeting and showed that the Council had spent £13,376 in the previous year and had a reserve of £15,200. The Chairman pointed out that it was considered inappropriate for a council to have such a large reserve but that he suggested that it be used to fund necessary work on the New Hall and be reduced thereby over the year to come and possibly to minimise later precepts. This was agreed.	
04.08.00	<u>COUNTY COUNCIL / DISTRICT COUNCIL MATTERS</u> Councillor Wylie reported that the planning application for the super dairy at Nocton had been withdrawn in the face of difficult questions which the sponsors had been unable to answer satisfactorily. It was anticipated that it would be resubmitted. He thanked the PC for their work during the year. Councillor Overton highlighted the launch of the U3A at Wellingore recently and added that various interest groups were to be supported within it. She added that the main problems which Nocton Dairies had been unable to resolve were slurry storage (in view of the very large volumes involved) and potential pollution of the aquifers.	
04.09.00 04.09.01 04.09.02 04.09.03 04.09.04	<u>REPORTS FROM PORTFOLIO HOLDERS</u> <u>Police and Neighbourhood Watch</u> TC reported on behalf of the Police that a motorbike had been stolen during the previous month. <u>Parish Plan</u> BG suggested that the Parish Plan appeared to be losing momentum and needed more support from the PC in order to keep it alive. <u>Planning and Countryside</u> Councillor Goodhand had not yet had any response from NKDC concerning his suggestions for the S106 benefits to be gained from the Brook House development. There was concern that this matter should be kept in the open and not resolved without due consultation. The RPA had invited him to apply for funding for Castle Hill again for this year, despite indications last year that funds might be withheld. <u>Highways and Footways and Drains</u> . As reported at the Parish Meeting, LCC had approved funds for the drainage ditch scheme. The Chairman hoped to coordinate works as soon as practicable. Without Mr Overton's ditch the scheme could not be started. <u>Allotments</u> AW reported that all allotments had been allocated and that all rents had been collected.	
04.10.00 04.10.01	<u>PLANNING MATTERS</u> There were no planning matters to report,.	
03.11.00	<u>HANDYMAN TASKING</u> There was concern that the Handyman was becoming self tasking. Given that he worked for himself it was appropriate to leave him to decide on his own schedules but not to allow him to do whatever tasks he chose. It was agreed that Mr Thorpe should attend council meetings from time to time to advise Council what he suggested need to be done and that the Council would allocate priorities and tasks.	
04.12.00 04.12.01	<u>CORRESPONDENCE</u> <u>Lights Maintenance</u> Council had been advised that under new regulations they were required to be able to demonstrate that the street lights were electrically safe. This would involve certification by a competent person. E-on who already maintained the lights under an annual contract had offered to do this task at a cost of £5 per light. It was felt that this was excessive for the work involved and the clerk was tasked with seeking alternative	

04.12.02	<p>quotes.</p> <p><u>Dunston PC re Nocton Dairy</u> Dunston Parish Council had written to all affected parishes asking them to be aware of Dunston's concerns about the proposed new dairy. Details had already been emailed to councillors. As the application had since been withdrawn, the matter was not discussed further.</p>	<u>ACTION</u> Clerk																
04.13.00	<p><u>Bollards for New Car park</u></p> <p>The Village Hall Development Committee had wanted to undertake works around the (new) car park to keep unauthorised cars off the playing fields. The Chairman had just received a quote from Ian Batchelor to supply and install concrete bollards around the car park and also to ease the earth ramp beside it and create a bund between the tarmac and the trees to restrict cars. These were for £1100 and £1350 plus VAT each respectively. He wanted approval to authorise these tasks.</p> <p>It was felt that it would be unwise to spend these sums without obtaining further quotes. The clerk was tasked with finding alternative quotes and the Chairman was authorised to select the most suitable one and get the work done.</p>	Clerk/ RS																
04.14.00 04.13.01	<p><u>CHEQUES.</u></p> <p>Payment of the following cheques was approved:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">To LALC for annual subscription (as invoiced less payment already sent)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£120.23</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">To Cliff Villages Property Maintenance for work in March</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£229.24</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">To Chris Bleaden grass cutting March</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£249.23</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">To E-on for street lighting to 31 Mar</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£179.46</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">To Arbre-Care for work on the fence by the V Hall next the Beck</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£587.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">To M McBeath for expenses</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£72.59</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">To M McBeath re salary for Feb and March</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£207.06</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">To PO re McBeath PAYE</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£51.60</td> </tr> </table> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">The transfer of £2000 from HICA to CA was authorised</p>	To LALC for annual subscription (as invoiced less payment already sent)	£120.23	To Cliff Villages Property Maintenance for work in March	£229.24	To Chris Bleaden grass cutting March	£249.23	To E-on for street lighting to 31 Mar	£179.46	To Arbre-Care for work on the fence by the V Hall next the Beck	£587.50	To M McBeath for expenses	£72.59	To M McBeath re salary for Feb and March	£207.06	To PO re McBeath PAYE	£51.60	
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04.16.00	<p><u>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</u></p> <p>The date of the next Parish Council Meeting was confirmed as Wednesday 12th May 2010 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.</p>	ALL																

There being no further matters to discuss, the chairman duly closed the meeting at 9.30pm.

Copies to:

All PC Members

County Councillor R Phillips.

District Councillors M Wylie and M Overton,

Beat Manager: PC Hanson, Bracebridge Heath Police Station