

WELBOURN PARISH COUNCIL

NOTES OF THE MEETING OF WELBOURN PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 10th MARCH 2010 IN WELBOURN C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL, HIGH STREET, WELBOURN
AT 7.30pm

PRESENT

Mr. J.R. Storer, Chairman
 Councillors: Mr W Goodhand (WEG), Mr S Lawson (SL), Mr V Brealey (VB),
 Mrs A Walker (AW), Mr T Copley (TC)
 District Councillors: Mr M Wylie (MW) and Mrs M Overton (MO)
 Mr M McBeath Clerk
 Mr Richard Thorpe (Village Handyman) was present as a member of the public.

		<u>ACTION</u>
03.01.00	<u>PUBLIC FORUM</u> Mr Thorpe reported that he had tidied up the moat and, during that work, had noted that garden waste had been dumped in the Moat. Councillor Wylie remarked that such dumping was illegal and liable to prosecution.	
03.02.00	<u>CHAIRMAN'S REPORT</u> The Council noted the recent funeral of Mr Wildblood and thanked Councillor Goodhand for his fine tribute at the service. Councillor Goodhand proposed a Vote of Appreciation for Mr Wildblood. This was seconded by Councillor Storer. It would be necessary to ensure that PC documents and property still at Appletoft were recovered. LALC had agreed to publish an obituary on Mr Wildblood. Councillor Goodhand had agreed to supply the copy. The Chairman reported that he had received the equipment for setting up a broadband hub in the new IT room in the Village Hall. The broadband service was going to cost £15 per month but it was hoped to recoup some of this expense from the Police in exchange for access to the office. Setting up of the IT room was planned for the following Friday and Saturday, when records and furniture were to be moved. He had bought replacement parts for the flag pole outside the Village Hall vandalised last year and would be claiming the expense in due course. The flood light which had been taken down and set aside from the old hall had also been vandalised. It was intended to scrap the light fittings but retain the pole.	
03.03.00	<u>APOLOGIES</u> Mr Short was away on private business. Mr Gibson was unwell. PCSO Lingard was unable to attend, having been placed on operational duties.	
03.04.00	<u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES (MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT) ORDER 2007 (SI2007/1159)</u> No interests declared.	
03.05.00	<u>MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING</u> The minutes of the last meeting held on Wednesday 10 th February 2010, copies of which had been circulated earlier to members, were approved. Proposed VB. Seconded MO.	
03.06.00	<u>CLERK'S REPORT</u>	
03.06.01	A garden hedge in the village was making the footpath unusable by wheelchairs and forcing them into the road. The Clerk was instructed to write to the householder concerned and ask that he cut back his hedge. This was seen as more reasonable approach than getting Highways to do so with a flail.	Clerk
03.06.02	The Clerk suggested that the mass of dead leaves on the grass on Jubilee Green were unsightly and risked killing the grass. He had been unsuccessful in getting Highways to clear them. It was decided to task the Handyman with clearing them.	VB
03.06.03	The Council approved the Clerk's intention, the following week, to attend an LALC training course on completion of Annual Audits.	Clerk

03.07.00	<p><u>FINANCIAL REPORT</u></p> <p>The financial report showed current expenditure at £12,787.29 with a balance of £15,671.69. A payment of £178 had been received from the Rural Payments Agency re Castle Hill. Queries were raised about the National Savings element of the reserves since the pass book had been mislaid. The Clerk was instructed to ascertain the full status of this account and obtain new documentation.</p>	<p><u>ACTION</u></p> <p>Clerk</p>
03.08.00	<p><u>COUNTY COUNCIL / DISTRICT COUNCIL MATTERS</u></p> <p>Councillor Wylie reported that NKDC, LCC and the police had increased their element of Council tax for FY 10/11 by 1.8%, 2.6% and 3% respectively.</p> <p>There was discussion about a recent letter inviting young volunteers to apply for an adventurous session at PGL at Caythorpe in early April. The Clerk was instructed to co-ordinate and record any applications from within Welbourn.</p> <p>Councillor Overton added that details of NKDC's internal budget had still to be agreed. She stated that, in the light of the recent case of serious long term child abuse perpetrated under the aegis of Lincolnshire agencies, significant changes had been introduced to ensure adequate communication within and between all concerned agencies.</p> <p>She added that LCC had awarded a new Highway Maintenance contract which incorporated a factor of customer satisfaction as a condition of payments.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
03.09.00	<p><u>REPORTS FROM PORTFOLIO HOLDERS</u></p>	
03.09.01	<p><u>Allotments</u> Councillor Walker reported that the allotments had been marked out but as she had been forced to move house at very short notice most other allotment matters were 'still in boxes'.</p>	<p>AW</p>
03.09.02	<p><u>Cliff Villages Cluster Meeting</u> Councillor Copley stated that he and Councillor Gibson had sent in a letter complaining about the behaviour of an individual on the Air Show Committee at the recent Cluster Meeting.</p>	
03.09.03	<p><u>Planning and Countryside</u> Councillor Goodhand had written to the Planning Officer at NKDC suggesting a number of benefits to the village that might be appropriate under Condition 6 of the Brooke House development. He was in discussion with Natural England about possible funding for Castle Hill. He was expecting a visit from them to examine Castle Hill.</p>	
03.09.04	<p><u>Highways and Footways and Drains.</u> The drainage project was still awaiting the construction of the ditch from the bottom of Graves Hill to the ditch below the poultry farm but Mr Overton was, as yet, unable to proceed with it. The Clerk had prepared a report on the state of all roads in the parish and had been in discussion with the relevant Highways Officer about repairs. LCC had stated that repairs would be carried out as soon as possible. It was noted that two of the worst potholes in Beck Street had already been patched.</p> <p>Mr Richard Coxe had recently constructed a ramp to bypass the deteriorating steps up the railway embankment behind the school. The Clerk had also been in touch with the NKDC ranger office about maintenance of Stepping Out walks. The rangers had welcomed the ramp and confirmed that they would continue to maintain the walks this year much as before. The ranger allocated to Welbourn was due to meet the Clerk the following week with a view to highlighting problem areas.</p> <p>The footpath in front of Orchard House between The Green and the Main Road was excessively muddy since the wood chippings put down by the PC and the owners had been washed away in last year's floods. The Clerk was instructed to seek the views of the owners of Orchard House about possible resurfacing materials.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
03.09.05	<p><u>Police and NHW.</u> Councillor Copley stated that there had been two reported cases of theft at Sir William Robertson school. He said that he and Councillor Gibson were due to attend the next Police Community Panel Meeting on the 11th March. He said that at the last meeting, policing priorities had been to deal with antisocial behaviour by youths at Waddington and vehicles travelling through the villages with faulty lights, and asked if anyone had any priorities that they would like putting forward. He added that that he was to attend a meeting at NKDC on the 25th March to review the Service Level Agreement between the Police and the Cliff Parish Cluster regarding the deployment of the Speed Indicating Device.</p>	
03.09.06	<p><u>Village Matters</u> The Editor of Two Villages Magazine was proposing to reduce the number of issues from 10 to 6 per year and sought comment from the Council. In general the</p>	

	<p>Council considered the Magazine to be really interesting and worthwhile in comparison to other village magazines. They appreciated the work that went into it and felt that if the editor wished to reduce her workload then that was fair enough.</p> <p><u>Village Hall</u> A handover and facilities briefing in the new Village Hall was planned for the following Friday. All were invited to attend since it was desirable that as many people as possible knew how to operate the systems and fittings.</p>	<u>ACTION</u>										
03.10.00	<u>PLANNING MATTERS</u>											
03.10.01	<p><u>Planning Permissions</u> The garage at No 26 The Green had been built other than as agreed in the published Planning Permission but the Council had not been notified. The Clerk was instructed to find out whether amended permission had been obtained,</p>	Clerk										
03.10.02	<p><u>Planning Applications</u> The Planning Inspector had refused the appeal over the garage at No 11 Beck Street since it was considered that the original grounds for the refusal were valid.</p>											
03.11.00	<u>HANDYMAN TASKS FOR COMING YEAR</u>											
	<p>Councillor Brealey had instructed the Handyman to tidy the Moat. This had been done. The hours spent clearing the moat were a cause for concern but it was agreed that they were not disproportionate given that there were some months in the year when there would be nothing to do.</p> <p>The Handyman was tasked with replacing a defective front bar on the bench on Jubilee Green, in addition to clearing the leaves as listed at para 03.06.02 above.</p>	VB										
03.12.00	<u>ANNUAL PARISH MEETING</u>											
	<p>It was agreed to hold the Annual Parish Meeting in the Village Hall on 14 April at 7 p.m. The format would be Chairman's address, then Clerk's Report, followed by a presentation on Emergency Planning by an officer from LCC, followed by questions from the public.</p>	WEG Clerk										
03.13.00	<u>CORRESPONDENCE</u>											
03.13.01	<p>LCC had advised that, as a cost saving measure, the Mobile Library would no longer visit the school but that a selection of books would be delivered instead. Council instructed the Clerk to respond to LCC regretting the action.</p>	Clerk										
03.13.02	<p>NKDC had invited the Parish to participate in the Annual Best Kept Village competition but there was no interest.</p>											
03.13.03	<p>LCC had stated that they would not be issuing any more grit bins this winter. It was noted that the existing grit bins had been topped up.</p>											
03.13.04	<p>LCC had invited applications for funding from the Aggregates Levy Fund. The letter was passed to Councillor Goodhand for consideration.</p>	WEG										
03.13.05	<p>A letter had been received from the District Council Monitoring Officer announcing a new protocol for handling complaints against council members. Councillor Overton pointed out that this letter was considered badly written and that the protocol was advisory. Council decided to examine the protocol before adopting it (if at all).</p>	All										
03.14.00	<u>The Beck</u>											
	<p>No further action was intended on the Beck, pending the outcome of the recent application of barley straw. It was confirmed that there were still fish in the Beck.</p>											
03.15.00	<u>CHEQUES.</u>											
	<p>Payment of the following cheques was approved:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">To Welbourn Village Hall Committee for Hall hires</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£30.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">To NKDC re annual Dog Bin Cleaning (5 x £90)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£450.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">To LALC for Annual subscription</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£65.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">To E-On for street light maintenance</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£99.79</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">To Cliff Villages Property Maintenance for work done</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£281.25</td> </tr> </table> <p>Transfer of £300 from deposit account to current account was approved.</p>	To Welbourn Village Hall Committee for Hall hires	£30.00	To NKDC re annual Dog Bin Cleaning (5 x £90)	£450.00	To LALC for Annual subscription	£65.00	To E-On for street light maintenance	£99.79	To Cliff Villages Property Maintenance for work done	£281.25	Clerk
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03.16.00	<u>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</u> The date of the next Parish Council Meeting was confirmed as Wednesday 12 th May 2010 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. This would be after the Annual Parish Meeting.	ALL
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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