

WELBOURN PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WELBOURN PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
 WEDNESDAY 9th APRIL 2014 IN WELBOURN VILLAGE HALL AT 7:30PM

PRESENT

Mr. J.R. Storer, (RS)	Chairman
District Councillor Mrs Laura Conway	
Councillors: Ms Sarah Brown (SB), Mrs Maureen Lunn (ML), Mr Robert Cross (MC), Mr Stephen Short (SSt), Mr John Lucas(JL), Mr Stephen Spedding (SSg)	
Sgt Begley, PC Hanson	Lincs Police
Mr Malcolm McBeath	Parish Clerk

04.01.00	<u>PUBLIC FORUM</u>	<u>ACTION</u>
04.01.01	PC Hanson introduced his new beat manager, Sgt Tom Begley.	
04.01.02	The police reported that they had recently been very successful in recovering stolen bicycles. They had noted, however, that few people bothered to record the serial number of their bike nor record any unique distinguishing marks; all of which were important to the bikes being returned to their rightful owner.	
04.01.03	There had been two cases of theft in the preceding month: one of a catalytic converter from off the vehicle. A recent random security sweep on an estate had found far too many cars unlocked with valuable items on view.	
04.01.04	The police were now offering a free security survey.	
04.02.00	<u>APOLOGIES</u> Councillor Gibson had an unavoidable social engagement.	
04.04.00	<u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u> Nil	
04.04.00	<u>CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS</u>	
04.04.01	The Chairman pointed out that he had been approached by parishioners to ask what was being done about the Good Citizens Nominations which LCC was seeking. It was decided that the Chair should make a specified nomination for the Most Deserving Couple category on behalf of the Council but for no other.	RS
04.04.02	Arrangements had been made to have a public demonstration of the new Defibrillator as a preliminary event for the Annual Parish Meeting on 23 April at 7pm. Publicity posters were already out. All members were asked to attend.	All
04.05.00	<u>MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING</u> The minutes of the previous meeting held on 12 March, copies of which had been circulated earlier to members, were approved.	
04.06.00	<u>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES</u>	
04.06.01	<u>War Memorial.</u> Nothing had come so far of the grant applications for refurbishing the war memorial. The PCC were still involved but had yet to put the matter to the Diocesan Court for approval.	RS
04.06.02	<u>Dogs.</u> A notice requesting that dogs be kept on a lead on the Playing Field but might be released on Castle Hill had been put on the parish notice board.	

04.07.00	<u>COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCIL MATTERS</u>	<u>ACTION</u>
04.07.01	LC described a letter from Ian Fytche, CEO of NKDC, to Leadenham PC on the possible issue of travellers on Station Yard. Whilst Mr Fytche admitted that removing travellers can be a very expensive and lengthy business, he was not prepared to do anything until something had actually happened. Nor was he prepared to set up emergency (administrative) cover against a possibility and, in any case, it would be pointless since NKDC could not do anything about an 'invasion' short term without going through due (slow) process. It was felt that this was not a situation worth pursuing further.	
04.07.02	A meeting on this topic of all interested parties was to be convened shortly in Sleaford. The Chairman offered to attend.	RS
04.08.00	<u>CLERK'S REPORT</u>	
04.08.01	A lot of work had gone into preparing the tennis court for refurbishment. It was now ready. There had been a very good turnout for the families' painting event.	
04.08.02	There had been difficulties with BT over a lost bill. Their billing department had been updated and the bill paid.	
04.08.03	After review, the preferred contractor had added £100 to his original quote for remedial work on Castle Hill, mostly for the extra work involved in providing a method statement for English Heritage.	
04.08.04	Highways had declined the request for kerbs on Moat Lane but had accepted repairs to the Castle Hill fence opposite The Nookin and remedial vegetation works in Hall Orchard Lane.	
04.08.05	A failed street lamp had been replaced most promptly. The relevant records had been updated.	
04.08.06	An internal auditor had been found. She would start in mid April.	
04.08.07	As directed, the Clerk had bought and installed a full time back up hard drive.	
04.09.00	<u>FINANCIAL REPORT</u> The financial report showed expenditure of £268 for the previous month with reserves at £11,723 but around £500 was committed for the intended Castle Hill tree works and the bill for the car park rebuild was still to come. (c£600). A significant typographical error in the finance spreadsheet was pointed out and rectified. The new year's precept had been received. There was concern about the apparent continual spending of reserves but it was pointed out that this was deliberate policy to ensure the reserves remained sensibly modest.	
04.10.00	<u>REPORTS FROM PORTFOLIO HOLDERS</u>	
04.10.01	<u>Village Matters.</u> Recent repairs to Broach Lane had been every well done. The Beck was starting to grow pond weed so needed a few bales of barley straw to inhibit it. RS agreed to obtain them and the necessary netting to contain the straw to prevent further fouling of the outlet	RS
04.10.02	<u>Village Hall.</u> The VH finances were very healthy and the level of business was picking up. Mrs Berridge had resigned as chairman. Now that there were so few clubs in the village It was important to publicise the need for more committee members. The VH Cte was going to advertise the vacancy for Chairman. It was agreed that Messrs Storer and McBeath should between them manage the practical maintenance of the hall as assistants to the	

04.10.03	VHPFC; bills being attributable to the VHPFC in the first instance. <u>Castle Hill.</u> It was agreed to make a trial cut above the causeway to the outer ditch to bypass the pond. SSg agreed to repair the plinth under the picnic table.	<u>ACTION</u>
04.10.04	<u>Neighbourhood Plan.</u> It was intended to distribute a summary of the agreed policies in the new Plan to all households as part of a three week consultation exercise during which workshops would be held to resolve queries. Following collation of the responses, amendments would be distributed to households via a flyer. The Plan would be submitted to NKDC who will appoint an Independent Examiner to ensure that it meets all the legal requirements. If the Examiner agrees the Plan, NKDC will arrange a local referendum. If more than 50% vote 'yes' then the plan will be brought into force.	
04.10.05	<u>Allotments.</u> There had been problems with dog fouling on the allotments. The offender was known and would be spoken to.	SB
04.11.00	<u>TO RESELECT WHICH QUOTE FOR TREE WORK ON CASTLE HILL</u> Since the new quote from Mr Bavin was now greater than Simpson arboriculture's it was decided to go for Mr Simpson.	Clerk
04.12.00	<u>TO AUTHORISE A DIRECT DEBIT TO BT FOR THE BROADBAND ACCOUNT.</u> It was agreed to set up a direct debit for the BT broad band account.	Clerk
04.13.00	<u>TO NOMINATE A REPRESENTATIVE TO THE RURAL SERVICES SOUNDING BOARD.</u> It was agreed that AP should respond on the Council's behalf to the Rural Services request for a representative.	AP
04.14.00	<u>TO AGREE TO USE BRIAN WILLS AS THE RESERVE HANDYMAN</u> It was agreed that Brian Wills could be tasked in lieu of Mr Thorpe as required.	Clerk
04.15.00	<u>TO DISCUSS A RESPONSE TO LEADENHAM PARISH COUNCIL'S CONCERNS OVER DEVELOPMENTS ON THE OLD STATION YARD.</u> In view of the discussion during LC's report, further action seemed unnecessary.	
04.16.00	<u>CHEQUES</u> Payment of the following accounts was approved: E-on - replacement of failed lamp £240.00 J R Thorpe £288.75 Bleaden - grass cutting - March £360.44 Community Lincs - annual insurance premium £748.67 BT - broadband account £50.40 P A Orme - warden services £90.00 M McBeath – salary and expenses £190.81 PO Ltd - PAYE McB £32.00 and Transfer £2000 from deposit account to current account. A bill for a tree survey in the churchyard was to be returned to the PCC.	Clerk

04.17.00	<u>ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING</u> Annual Governance statement for Annual Audit,	
04.18.00	<u>DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING</u> The next meeting of the Parish Council is due on 14th May at 7:30 pm in the Village Hall.	All

There being no further matters to discuss, the Chairman duly closed the meeting at 9.20pm.

Copies to: District Councillor Mrs Conway, All PC Members, Parish Website.