

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WELBOURN PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 13th DECEMBER 2016 IN WELBOURN VILLAGE HALL AT 7:30 PM

PRESENT

Mr. John Lucas (JL)

Chairman

District Councillor: Mrs Catherine Mills (CM) (brief visit only)

Councillors: Mr Robert Cross (MC), Mr John Storer (RS), Mr Stephen Spedding (SSg), Mr Stephen Short (SSt), Miss Harriet Huntsman (HH).

Mr Malcolm McBeath

Parish Clerk

PC Hanson and PCSO Flannigan

12.01.00	<u>PUBLIC FORUM</u>	<u>ACTION</u>
12.01.01	The Police reported the theft of two sets of Christmas lights from a garden in The Nookin. They also advised that 2 PCSOs were leaving and would not be replaced in the short term.	
12.02.00	<u>ACCEPTANCE OF REASONS FOR ABSENCE</u> Mrs Overton and Mrs Stark were at work. Mr Gibson had a prior engagement but the reason for Mrs Lunn's absence was not known.	
12.03.00	<u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u> Mr Lucas reminded of his interest in the telecoms mast but Council considered that since the decision had implicitly already been taken in principle to accept the mast his interest was no longer prejudicial so he remained.	
12.04.00	<u>MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING</u> The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 9th November, copies of which had been circulated earlier to members, were approved.	Clerk
12.05.00	<u>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES</u>	
12.05.01	<u>Castle Hill</u> . Advice from Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust and Historic England (HE) was still awaited on the most appropriate way forward on the care and planting of Castle Hill.	
12.05.02	<u>Emergency Plan</u> Due to pressure of other work, no further time had been possible on the emergency plan.	
12.05.03	<u>Drains</u> All appropriate village landowners had been notified of their responsibilities for maintenance of their adjacent drains. Only one so far had been seen to do anything. The clerk was to remind highways of the need to tidy the verge in Hall Orchard Lane. If necessary, JL would mention to the Llamyman manager the need to properly maintain the ditch at the end of Crosby Lane.	Clerk JL
12.06.00	<u>DISTRICT AND COUNTY MATTERS</u>	
12.06.01	CM agreed to find out whether the Parish Council would be charged for the recent by-election. She drew attention to the ongoing public examination of the Local Plan and reminded of the expected county council elections next year.	

12.06.02	She was aware of local concerns about speeding in villages and obstruction of main roads by cyclists. She pointed out that locally operated speed traps in another village followed up by formal warning letters had proved very effective in curbing excessive speeds. When it was pointed out that previous administrations would not countenance such measures she agreed to explore the options.	<u>ACTION</u>
12.07.00 12.07.01 12.07.02 12.07.03 12.07.04 12.07.05 12.07.06 12.07.07 12.07.08	<p><u>CLERK'S REPORT</u></p> <p>The site meeting for the proposed mast had generated the idea of placing the mast near the football club shed because it would be less obtrusive there than in the far corner and offered better coverage of the village since the trees in the archdeacon's garden would screen it if sited elsewhere.</p> <p>The clerk had obtained a copy of the original deeds to the playing field agreed with the Church Commissioners in 1976 and had confirmed a restrictive covenant about further developments on the field and had identified with whom within the Church to seek release from the covenant if the mast proposal were accepted.</p> <p>There had been concern about damage to the field drains under the playing field by installing mast services and the play equipment. The clerk had found the original drawings and had passed them to the relevant agencies expressing our concerns. Only the mast company recognised the potential problem.</p> <p>NKDC had repaired the fence to our requirements but the solicitors were still sorting out the conveyance and formal permission for access to the sides for maintenance so the purchase was not yet complete.</p> <p>The condition of the Manor stables had been discussed with the manager. The owners were aware of the problem and had the maintenance of the building in hand.</p> <p>Internal events and correspondence had revealed shortfalls in our procedural paper work - notably publications policy and standing orders. Action was being taken to remedy them.</p> <p>The clerk drew attention to the current consultation about the retention of rural post offices following the withdrawal of a gov't subsidy from Post Office Limited. He had responded to draw attention to the unsuitability of the prime criterion as unduly urban centric at the expense of the rural population.</p> <p>The clerk continued to be concerned about damage to verges by thoughtless driving because of the subsequent formation of potholes and the adverse effect on the appearance of the village. He suggested solid kerbs were necessary and pointed out that Highways were most unlikely to fit them nor the long-awaited dropped kerbs which were very necessary so it might be appropriate for the Parish to fit them anyway. The suggestion was not supported.</p>	
12.08.00	<p><u>FINANCIAL REPORT</u></p> <p>The financial report showed spending of £693 last month with £23,055 in reserves. Overall spending was within budget although Castle Hill was significantly overspent. The annual grass cutting subsidy had not yet been paid.</p>	

12.09.00	<u>TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATION 16/1510/FUL</u>	<u>ACTION</u>
12.09.01	Council supported the application to build a disabled access to the Joiners Arms.	clerk
12.10.00	<u>TO ADOPT UPDATED FINANCIAL REGULATIONS</u>	clerk
	It was agreed to adopt new financial regulations based on the 2016 NALC model.	
12.11.00	<u>TO ADOPT A NEW COMPLAINTS POLICY</u>	Clerk
	It was agreed to adopt a new complaints policy based on the LALC guidance on the subject modified in the light of NKDC's policy on the same subject.	
12.12.00	<u>TO APPROVE A NEW PUBLICATIONS SCHEME</u>	
12.12.01	It was agreed to adopt a new publications scheme based on the standard Gov't model. It was pointed out that model assumed that everyone has a computer and is on line but it was felt that people still had the option of applying to the clerk, despite Gov't policy.	
12.13.00	<u>TO APPROVE AN UPDATED CONTRACT OF EMPLOYMENT FOR THE CLERK</u>	Clerk
	An updated contract of employment for the clerk based on the standard NALC model and current practice was approved.	
12.14.00	<u>TO REVIEW THE COUNCIL'S OBJECTIVES</u>	Clerk
	The objectives were recorded as tasks laid on the council but they were in fact aspirations. It was considered that the council's role was to support and encourage not "seek". Since the bus shelter was now in place this specific objective could be removed. Contact with the SWRA was being maintained in the form of the receipt of the school's quarterly magazine which the clerk had obtained.	
12.15.00	<u>TO UPDATE THE HANDYMAN SITUATION</u>	clerk
	An advertiser in the Two Villages had declined an invitation to take on the role of village handyman while an advert had been placed in Two Villages for volunteers but without any response. A resident had privately expressed an interest, however, so the clerk would follow that up.	
12.16.00	<u>TO EXAMINE A DRAFT BUDGET FOR 2017/18</u>	Clerk
12.16.01	It was thought that the clerk's draft budget for 2017-18 looked sensible and appropriate although the way ahead for the forge remained to be resolved.	
12.16.02	JL mentioned that ArtsNK had approached him asking whether our offer of extra support from our s106 funds was still valid. It was agreed that he should see what was being asked for but should restrict the offer to not more than £3000.	JL
12.17.00	<u>TO DISCUSS THE PROPOSED PLAY AND EQUIPMENT PROJECT</u>	
	In Councillor Lunn's absence council viewed the submitted plan and quote for new play and exercise equipment. It was felt that the whole thing was too ambitious and financially unrealistic so it would be nugatory giving it	

	too much time at this stage so the debate moved on to the next topic.	<u>ACTION</u>																
12.18.00	<p><u>TO AGREE A RESPONSE TO SHARED ACCESS ABOUT THEIR PROPOSAL TO PLACE A TELECOMS MAST ON THE PLAYING FIELD</u></p> <p>Since all the village parties affected agreed to the idea and the proposed siting, it was agreed to accept the proposal subject to acceptance by the village by means of a leafleted survey and a more acceptable offer from Shared Access. The clerk was to so advise Shared Access.</p>	Clerk																
12.19.00	<p><u>CHEQUES</u></p> <p>Payment of the following accounts was approved:</p> <table> <tr> <td>G. W. King and sons (churchyard grass cutting)</td> <td>£110.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BT (VH landline)</td> <td>£47.92</td> </tr> <tr> <td>NKDC (dog waste bin emptying)</td> <td>£558.05</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Eon (street lighting)</td> <td>£108.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P & P French (coppicing, Castle Hill)</td> <td>£180.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BT (broadband) DD</td> <td>£74.40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>M McBeath (November wage)</td> <td>£ 408.85</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PO Ltd (McB PAYE)</td> <td>£101.80</td> </tr> </table>	G. W. King and sons (churchyard grass cutting)	£110.00	BT (VH landline)	£47.92	NKDC (dog waste bin emptying)	£558.05	Eon (street lighting)	£108.00	P & P French (coppicing, Castle Hill)	£180.00	BT (broadband) DD	£74.40	M McBeath (November wage)	£ 408.85	PO Ltd (McB PAYE)	£101.80	
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12.20.00	<p><u>ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING</u></p> <p>Budget and precept.</p> <p>Mast application.</p> <p>Play and Exercise project.</p> <p>Any planning applications.</p>																	
12.21.00	<p><u>DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING</u></p> <p>It was agreed to hold the next meeting on 11th January 2017 at 7:30 pm in the Meeting Room.</p>	All																

There being no further matters to discuss, the Chairman duly closed the meeting at 8.50pm.

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