

WELBOURN PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WELBOURN PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON  
WEDNESDAY 8<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2014 IN WELBOURN VILLAGE HALL AT 7:30PM

PRESENT

Mr. J.R. Storer, (RS)

Chairman

Councillors: Ms Sarah Brown (SB), Mrs Maureen Lunn (ML), Mr Robert Cross (MC), Mr John Lucas (JL), Dr Adam Paxton (AP), Mr Robert Gibson (BG), Mr Stephen Short (SS)

District Councillors Mrs Marianne Overton and Mrs Laura Conway, PC Hanson

Three members of the public.

Mr Malcolm McBeath

Parish Clerk

		<u>ACTION</u>
01.01.00	<u>PUBLIC FORUM</u> PC Hanson stated that there were no reported crimes on record for the previous month. He remarked that the incidence of scrap metal theft had much decreased following recent legislation and that the police were being more successful in monitoring scrap metal dealers. The effective contribution of the Dog Warden to public order was noted.	
01.01.01	Mrs A Short complained that the Clerk's request to residents to only put A5 sized notices on the parish notice board to ensure fairness all round was unreasonable, unnecessary and arbitrary. She felt that A4 sized posters were quite appropriate. The Chairman responded that Council were aware of the small notice board and were trying to obtain a larger one although a recent bid via the PO for a grant had not succeeded.	
01.02.00	<u>APOLOGIES</u> All members were present.	
01.03.00	<u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u> Nil	
01.04.00	<u>CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS</u>	
01.04.01	The Chairman reported that he had discussed with Mrs Berridge the state of the Playing Field after the Caravan Club meeting. The caravanners had put down paving slabs to overcome the mud at the entry point and the VH Committee had agreed to reimburse the expense. The club had much enjoyed their visit and intended to come again. He suggested that a solution to the damage to the surface beyond the slabs could be overcome next time by the VH Committee obtaining a suitable heavy duty mesh which could be laid over the mud for specific events. He would coordinate this idea with Mrs Berridge	RS
01.04.02	The Chairman reported that he had received numerous complaints about the Clerk publicly expressing his personal opinion about a matter to be put before the Council which they had not yet discussed and thereby creating a false impression of Council policy. Council formally reprimanded the Clerk for his actions, noting that this was not the first instance of such poor judgement.	Clerk
01.05.00	<u>MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING</u> The minutes of the previous meeting held on 11 December, copies of which had been circulated earlier to members, were approved with a minor	Clerk

	correction to para 13 to add 'or repair' after "remove" at sub para 8.	<u>ACTION</u>
01.06.00	<u>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES</u>	
01.06.01	<u>War Memorial.</u> The chairman had arranged a site visit with a firm from Grantham with view to getting a quote for necessary repairs to the war memorial and had recently passed to the clerk a contact in Newark for a similar purpose. He had recently discovered an agency which might provide funding for the repairs and would explore the idea further.	RS
01.06.02	<u>Fly Tipping</u> A resident had left his hedge trimmings in the verge after cutting his hedge, despite a friendly caution from the Clerk. This counted as fly tipping and was reported to the Dog Warden in his capacity as litter monitor. The warden agreed and intended to take the matter up to the offender and report the situation to NKDC.	Clerk
01.07.00	<u>COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCIL MATTERS</u>	
01.07.01	Mrs Conway reported that, as a result of representations, the required opening hours of the Navenby Local Access Point had been cut to match the new reduced funding. She regretted very much to have to state that the Cluster bid for funding for a Youth Worker had not been approved and that they would have to start again. She pointed out that the final District budget was yet to be agreed and that hard choices would have to be made.	
01.07.02	Mrs Overton reported that the Central Lincs Core Strategy had been withdrawn without the intention to replace it so such matters, by default, would need to be assessed in light of the National Planning Policy Framework, although it was intended to create a Local Plan by 2016. Two test cases at Branston were in the pipeline and would show how the Policy would be applied locally. She suggested that this situation gave the Neighbourhood Plan more force since it would be the only local reference available in any short term planning situation affecting Welbourn.	
01.08.00	<u>CLERK'S REPORT</u>	
	Stephen Francis had been tasked with the repair of the broken gutter fittings on the V Hall and replacing the broken post on the Parish Notice Board. He had also been asked for an opinion on what to do about the gravel in the V car park. Through the Chairman, he had offered to replace most of it with proper hard core leaving a light coating of gravel.	
	The margins of the playing field had been closely mown but the contractor had not driven on the Hill for fear of damage to the surface but would come back at the next frost to finish the work.	
	The selected contractor had been told of the acceptance of his quote to clear the tennis court area but had not acknowledged. Mrs Broadbent had clarified the funding issues over the tennis court refurbishment and the intended timescale.	
	Data Cabling had called and reset the VH Wi Fi. At the request of a resident and in consultation with her neighbour, the Nookin street label by the Church had been repositioned where it is more visible to visiting delivery drivers.	
01.09.00	<u>FINANCIAL REPORT</u>	
01.09.01	The financial report showed expenditure of £795 for the previous month with reserves at £13,870.	
01.09.02	Dog warden and litter picker grants had been applied for and received.	

01.10.00	<u>REPORTS FROM PORTFOLIO HOLDERS</u>	<u>ACTION</u>
01.10.01	<u>Village Hall</u> . Hirings were picking up again. The caravan club were booked in	
01.10.02	for Burns Night. <u>Highways and Drains</u> . During recent works by Anglian Water to flush sediments out of the mains, an undue amount of water had been discharged into the Moat causing an unwelcome rise in the water level of the pond since the outlet was part choked by root growth. SB had noticed this and had cleared the outlet to protect the bungalow against flooding. It had been realised that the ditches at the top of Hall Lane in the LCC loop had not been maintained and were choked. LCC Highways had been requested to remedy this deficiency.	
01.10.03	<u>Castle Hill</u> . English Heritage had advised that the intended tree works on Castle Hill would be acceptable provided certain conditions were agreed to.	
01.10.04	<u>Parish Plan</u> . The Parish Plan was on schedule and would be revealed to the public in April after all members and the advisers were happy with it.	
01.11.00	<u>TO CONSIDER CONTRIBUTING TO THE PROPOSED DEFIBRILLATOR</u> Mr Close and Mrs Maplethorpe explained the purpose and use of a defibrillator and their plan which was to raise sufficient funds (to which they hoped the Council would contribute) to purchase a defibrillator (or more if possible) for the village as an immediate first aid device for cardiac arrest cases. It would be stored in a hardened, vandal proof case at a high visibility central location but would require power and would be PIN controlled with the PIN coming from the Ambulance service on request. The local ambulance service would complete routine maintenance on it. Statistically it might only be used once in two years. The local nursing homes did not have any. Council agreed unanimously in principle to give financial support to the fund.	
01.12.00	<u>TO REVIEW MAINTENANCE PRIORITIES FOR 2014</u> After much discussion it was agreed on the following: To advertise for and engage a regular part time handyman. To continue to action the recommendations of the tree safety report. To ensure Highways acknowledge ownership of the roadsides fences around the Monument and if not to see what could be done to improve them. To continue to support the tennis court project. It was accepted that the village hall parking problem fell under three headings. The gravel, the damaged grass and the need for a larger area. There was no support for an extension car park but it was agreed to fund the improvements to the gravel area at a cost of £650 as a first step. It was up to the VH committee to buy and deploy a protective mat for the damaged area as necessary.	Clerk Clerk Clerk Clerk Clerk  RS
01.13.00	<u>PLANNING</u> The applications for No 9 Beck Street and Jasmine Cottage had been approved.	
01.14.00	<u>ENGLISH HERITAGE CONDITIONS FOR CASTLE HILL TREE WORKS</u> It was agreed to accept the conditions set out by EH.	

01.15.00	<u>PRECEPT 2014</u> After consideration of all the options and commitments in the budget it was decided to set the precept at £17,750, which showed as a 2.9% increase on the NKDC dedicated spread sheet.	<u>ACTION</u>										
01.15.00	<u>CHEQUES</u> Payment of the following accounts was approved: <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 80%;">J R Thorpe November and December</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£188.87</td> </tr> <tr> <td>E-on routine electricity supply</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£147.79</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P A Orme - warden services</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£120.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>M McBeath - salary and costs (seat repair)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£146.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PO Ltd - PAYE McB</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£30.00</td> </tr> </table> and Transfer £300 from deposit account to current account.	J R Thorpe November and December	£188.87	E-on routine electricity supply	£147.79	P A Orme - warden services	£120.00	M McBeath - salary and costs (seat repair)	£146.50	PO Ltd - PAYE McB	£30.00	Clerk
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01.16.00	<u>ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING</u> Choice of contractor for tree work on Castle Hill.											
01.17.00	<u>DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING</u> The date of the next Parish Council Meeting will be Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> February 2014 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.	All										

There being no further matters to discuss, the Chairman duly closed the meeting at 9.45pm.

Copies to: District Councillors Conway and Overton, All PC Members, Parish Website.