

WELBOURN PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WELBOURN PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON  
WEDNESDAY 9th JANUARY 2013 IN WELBOURN VILLAGE HALL AT 7:30PM

PRESENT

Mr. J.R. Storer, (RS) Chairman  
 District Councillor Mrs Laura Conway (LC)  
 Councillors: Ms Sarah Brown (SB), Mr Robert Cross(MC), Mr Stephen Spedding (SSg),  
 Mr John Lucas (JL), Mr Robert Gibson (BG), Dr Adam Paxton (AP), Mr  
 Stephen Short (SS)  
 Mr Malcolm McBeath Parish Clerk

		<u>ACTION</u>
01.01.00	<u>PUBLIC FORUM</u>	
01.01.01	Mrs Allen drew attention to the amount of damage being caused to Cow Lane and hoped that the one way system would soon be in operation. The chairman replied that he was informed by Highways that their public consultation on the idea would start soon. He particularly thanked the Crosby family for continuing to try to maintain the Lane.	
01.01.02	The police reported by email that there had not been any recorded crimes in the village in the previous month.	
01.02.00	<u>CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS</u> In the light of recent experiences, it was questioned whether the Council ought to meet in December as a matter of course.	
01.03.00	<u>APOLOGIES (reasons for absence)</u> County Councillor Phillips and Councillor Mrs Overton had been invited but were unable to attend. Mr Coxe was unwell.	
01.04.00	<u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u>	
01.04.01	All councillors declared an interest in Agenda item 14 since they are council tax payers who live in the parish.	
01.05.00	<u>MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING</u> The minutes of the previous meetings held on Wednesday 12 November and on 14 December 2012, copies of which had been circulated earlier to members, were approved.	
01.06.00	<u>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES</u>	
01.06.01	The chairman and councillors had met with Western Front Association committee about cleaning the war memorial and had been referred to a professional company. Their advice and quote was awaited.	RS
01.06.02	The clerk had applied for and received litter picker and dog warden grants.	
01.06.03	Two water leaks had been positively confirmed in the village hall mains feed pipe and a quote to replace the length of pipe between the meter and the Hall and fit an isolating valve to the kitchen spur had been received from an Anglian Water Agency. As this quote seemed	

		<u>ACTION</u> JL/RS
	excessive it was agreed to seek alternative quotes locally.	
01.07.00 01.07.01	<u>COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCIL MATTERS</u> LC reported that she hoped lessons had been learned from the way the brown bin charging proposal had been introduced at NKDC. The proposals had been announced without consultation with elected members and the public and without going through the Environment Scrutiny Panel. Elected Members had expressed their dissatisfaction with this conduct at the last Council meeting and it is hoped that due process will be followed in future.	
01.07.02	The Cliff Cluster Youth worker bid had been improved and would be re-submitted. LC was very hopeful that it would succeed.	
01.07.03	The Government had announced a new Transitional Grant which Councils could apply for if they agreed to design their Council Tax Support Schemes in line with Government guidance. The Exec Board of NKDC had voted to recommend to Council to apply for the Grant, which would mean changing the Scheme that went out to consultation. If Council approved the recommendation, this would mean that claimants who at present have 100% of their Council Tax paid by Council Tax Benefit would now only have to pay 5% towards their Council Tax bill rather than 25% previously proposed.	
01.08.00 01.08.01	<u>CLERK'S REPORT</u> The clerk advised of the need to agree to define specified reserves as budget headings for next year. He pointed out that it is regarded as poor practice to hoard underspends from previous years. He advised that, despite Government exhortations not to exceed the rate of inflation with price increases, NKDC had put up the dog bin clearing charge by 5%.	
01.09.00 01.09.01	<u>FINANCIAL REPORT</u> The financial report showed expenditure of £507 for the month with reserves at £18,940 and an under spend of £1296 against forecast.	
01.10.00 01.10.01	<u>REPORTS FROM PORTFOLIO HOLDERS</u> <u>Village Hall.</u> Mr David Raynes had resigned as Chairman; Mrs Sue Berridge was acting chairman. A potential new volunteer to serve on the VH Cte had been identified.	
01.10.02	<u>Highways, Footways and Drains</u> A number of people had thanked the Council, Highways and Mr Storer for creating the new ditch which had proved so effective in protecting the village against flooding this winter.	
01.10.03	<u>Village Matters</u> The sewage pump in Dycote Lane was being replaced after difficulties with overflow. JL had played a major role in clearing the scrub off the verge in front of the Old Rectory.	
01.01.00	<u>WPG</u> A public session was planned for 24 January to present the conclusions of the survey. Another session to a wider audience was planned in February to share the lessons learned in putting results together in the appropriate form.	BG

