

WELBOURN PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WELBOURN PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 13th JULY 2011 IN WELBOURN VILLAGE HALL AT 7:30PM

PRESENT

Mr. J.R. Storer, (RS) Chairman
 District Councillor: Mrs L Conway (LC),
 Councillors: Mrs A Walker (AW), Ms S Brown (SB), Mr A Copley (TC), Mr R Gibson (BG),
 Mr M R Cross (MC)
 Councillors: Mr Andrew Ward, and Ms Eileen Nelstrop representing Leadenham PC.
 Mr M McBeath Parish Clerk

Mr Mark Crosby and Mr Richard Thorpe attended as members of the public. PC Hanson attended for the Police.

		ACTION
07/01/00	<p><u>PUBLIC FORUM</u></p> <p>PC Hanson reported that there had been two recorded crimes in the village in the previous month - one burglary and one theft.</p>	
07.02.00	<p><u>JOINT MEETING WITH LEADENHAM PC - matters of mutual interest</u></p>	
07.02.01	RS observed that the impact of the Localism Bill would require a common response to local issues by both Councils. In particular, the abolition of the Standards Board raised pertinent questions. It was pointed out the Cluster Group was also aware of this development and was actively pursuing similar objectives.	
07.02.02	LALC had publicised a potential scheme to enable rural groups to obtain heating oil at a discount. It was hoped that Leadenham might participate in this idea.	
07.02.03	Although a previous joint meeting had unsuccessfully discussed the idea of making the footpath between Leadenham and Sir William Robertson High (SWRH) school a lot safer, it was understood that the issue was again under review. Since part of the path is in Welbourn Parish it was hoped that Welbourn could contribute. Leadenham PC were proposing to route the path behind the Queensway estate and Househams and under the rail bridge. Welbourn Parish Clerk was tasked with drafting a suitable enabling letter in consultation with Leadenham Parish Clerk.	Welbourn Clerk
07.02.04	Leadenham had not been made aware of the possible proposal to build on land near the railway cottages. It was fully agreed that this would be most undesirable since it would create ribbon development, leading to loss of village identities.	
07.02.05	It was agreed in principle that the two councils should meet quarterly.	
07.03.00	<p><u>APOLOGIES</u></p> <p>SS was on holiday. MO was away on local government business. RC had a previous business appointment.</p>	
07/04/00	<p><u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES (MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT) ORDER 2007 (SI2007/0759)</u></p> <p>There were no declarations of interest.</p>	
07/05/00	<p><u>MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING</u></p> <p>The minutes of the previous meeting held on Wednesday 8 June 2011, copies of which had been circulated earlier to members, were approved. Proposed TC. Seconded RS.</p>	
07.06.00 07.06.01	<p><u>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES</u></p> <p><u>Bus Shelter</u> It had not been possible to progress the bus shelter idea any further since contact had not been made with the developer. The Clerk had meanwhile noted</p>	

07.06.02	<p>another possible, much cheaper source of a timber building and would explore it.</p> <p><u>Fence Around Castle Hill</u> The handyman had modified the fence by the causeway as required but the remainder of the fence around the Hill had yet to be repaired. There were no usable fence materials left over from the modification. Suitable heavy duty plastic fencing was suggested since it would outlast timber and was available in various styles and colours. It was felt that fencing like the new fencing put up as part of the new dyke works could be more appropriate around Castle Hill. The Clerk was tasked with obtaining comparisons.</p>	<p><u>ACTION</u></p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
7.07.00 07.07.01	<p><u>COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCIL MATTERS</u></p> <p>LC reported that she had apparently successfully generated further action over the suggested sites for Affordable Housing since NKDC had called a site meeting for 10th August.</p>	
07.07.02	<p>Enquires about solar PV panel installations had revealed that NKDC did not necessarily wish people to seek planning permission before installing them but they advised all to submit a Householder Enquiry Form and check the Planning Portal on the internet in the first instance.</p>	Clerk
07.07.03	<p>Mrs Overton had recently been elected as national leader of the Independents, which includes 2,300 councillors not aligned to the three national political parties. She was now also Vice Chairman of the Local Government Group, representing local government at ministerial level.</p>	
07.08.00 07.08.01	<p><u>CLERK'S REPORT</u></p> <p>Recent events had exposed a need for a budget heading to include miscellaneous irregular expense items such as training courses for councillors and relevant external visits.</p>	
07.08.02	<p>Discussions over parking in Cow Lane had revealed that, unlike elsewhere in the village, there was no specific provision for resident parking, despite the need. NKDC were now aware of this and intended action. The Council appreciated the support of the Residents' Representative in achieving this outcome.</p>	
07.08.03	<p>A resident had complained to NKDC about the unacceptable noise of a gas gun scarer which was again in use but it was noted that this nuisance had been dealt with at the previous meeting and it was hoped that the issue would be better resolved next year.</p>	
07/09/00	<p><u>FINANCIAL REPORT</u></p> <p>The Financial Report showed expenditure of £1798 for the preceding month with a balance of £22,920.</p>	
07.10.00 07.10.01	<p><u>REPORTS FROM PORTFOLIO HOLDERS</u></p> <p><u>Highways, Footways and Drains.</u> No change since the previous report.</p> <p><u>Allotments</u> Work as in hand to recover some abandoned plots. The rubbish dumped in some parts of the allotments had been noted. SB had assisted in tidying up.</p>	AW
07.10.02	<p><u>Village matters</u> See also item 12. The Parish tools needed servicing. The handyman was authorised to arrange this locally. The handyman also needed a long reach, heavy duty lopper to enable him to maintain more of the hard-to-reach growth in the Moat areas. The handyman was requested to investigate suitable tools. The Clerk had advised LCC Highways of the blocked drains at the bottom of Mill Lane and had cleared flood debris in Hall Lane.</p>	MC
07.10.03	<p><u>Castle Hill</u> A letter had been sent to English Heritage in mid June advising of the intention to proceed with repairs and further care-taking on Castle Hill and seeking agreement. The Chairman had drafted a further letter to English Heritage to follow up the first. SB advised that it seemed to her to be much more appropriate to submit a Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC) form in order to ensure we followed the rules to the letter in case others complained again. After debate, it was agreed that SB should</p>	SB

	submit an SMC asap to English Heritage and again seek a visit by their officer. <u>Police and NHW.</u> TC advised on methods of seeking assistance by Community Payback teams.	<u>ACTION</u>												
07.11.00	<u>TO REVIEW STANDING ORDERS</u> The chairman had reviewed our standing orders in the light of the LALC Model and suggested the addition of 3 clauses: 1) defining the nature and powers of site meetings: 2) authorising the clerk to use email to inform and update councillors on relevant Council matters and to operate a village contact group to inform parishioners about relevant parish matters which cross his desk and 3) to establish the principle of creating a budget item to support proper additional but unusual expenditure. These were agreed,	All. Clerk												
07/12/00	<u>TO DISCUSS THE USE OF A SECOND HANDYMAN</u> The handyman was being forced to balance his work load but could not get to everything in summer when he was otherwise busy. There was a man in the village who had proved his value as an odd job man but how he might be formally employed and tasked was unclear. MC was tasked with approaching him to see what he might be willing to do. It was not known what the Council's insurance might cover in this context.	MC. Clerk												
07.13.00	<u>PLANNING MATTERS</u> The council had no comments to make on the proposed solar panels at SWRH, a conservatory at no 11 Dycote Lane and a planned small house at No 6 Cow Lane.	Clerk												
07.14.00	<u>CHEQUES.</u> Payment of the following cheques was approved: <table style="margin-left: 40px; border: none;"> <tr> <td>Cliff Villages Property Maintenance (June)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£537.90</td> </tr> <tr> <td>EON (for quarterly electricity)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£174.96</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C Bleaden May and June</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£835.63</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Direct debit - BT for internet services VH</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£54.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>M McBeath for wages June</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£153.01</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PO - McBeath PAYE</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£38.40</td> </tr> </table> And authorise transfer of £1800 from savings account to current account.	Cliff Villages Property Maintenance (June)	£537.90	EON (for quarterly electricity)	£174.96	C Bleaden May and June	£835.63	Direct debit - BT for internet services VH	£54.00	M McBeath for wages June	£153.01	PO - McBeath PAYE	£38.40	
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07.14.00	<u>ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING</u> Site meetings at proposed Affordable Housing sites on 10 th August. Start at VH. Site meeting at Allotments on 14 Sept.													
07.15.00	<u>DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING</u> The date of the next Parish Council Meeting will be Wednesday 14th Sept 2011 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.	All												

There being no further matters to discuss, the Chairman duly closed the meeting at 9:30pm.

Copies to:

District Councillor Conway, All PC Members.
Parish Website