

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

PRESENT

Mr. John Lucas (JL)

Chairman

Councillors: Mrs Maureen Lunn (ML), Mr Stephen Short (SS) Mr Robert Cross (MC), Mr John Storer (RS), Mr Robert Gibson (BG), Mr Stephen Spedding (SSg), Miss Harriet Huntsman (HH) (arrived 25 min late.)

Mr Malcolm McBeath

Parish Clerk

07.01.00	<u>PUBLIC FORUM</u>	<u>ACTION</u>
07.01.01	The police reported, by email, the theft of 4 metal garden urns from a house in Beck Street.	
07.01.02	Mr John Thorpe relayed complaints about clearance rubbish dumped on an allotment since it was most unsightly and apparently harboring rats. It was agreed that the clerk was to write to the householder responsible to request its removal. Mr Thorpe pointed out that the weed problem in the Beck was worse than usual because of the prolific growth of a new kind of weed. It was agreed to seek qualified advice on this weed.	Clerk  Clerk
07.02.00	<u>ACCEPTANCE OF REASONS FOR ABSENCE</u> Mrs Stark and Councillor Overton were at work. Mrs Conway was unwell. Miss Huntsman was delayed by work.	
07.03.00	<u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u> nil	
07.04.00	<u>MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING</u> The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 8th June, copies of which had been circulated earlier to members, were approved.	Clerk
07.05.00	<u>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES</u>	
07.06.01	<u>Consultations on Castle Hill.</u> Advice from Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust and Historic England (HE) was still awaited.	
07.06.02	<u>Emergency Plan</u> Due to pressure of other work, no further time had been possible on the emergency plan.	
07.06.03	NKDC had been reminded of the poor state of the wall of Manor Close in Beck Street.	
07.06.04	All councillors had been given the user name and password for the LALC members' website	
07.06.05	MC had tried to get the hedges along the A607 towards Leadenham tidied but the hedge between the farm and Bridge Cottages was still infringing the footpath.	
07.06.06	LCC had reduced the number of annual weed spraying visits from two to one.	
07.06.07	<u>Cheque signatories</u> After considerable difficulties, it appeared that the bank had accepted the instruction on new cheque signatories.	

07.07.00	<u>DISTRICT AND COUNTY MATTERS</u>	<u>ACTION</u>
07.07.01	There was no news on the expansion of Navenby.	
07.07.02	Councillor Overton had reported via her newsletter that: A consultation was in progress about the creation of Greater Lincolnshire. It would close on 8 August. A two-party "shadow" authority had started in May. The combined area hoped to receive £15m for 'growth' and 100,000 new dwellings had been proposed. Bearing in mind that the existing shortfall of funding for the next year was around £60m, this £15m for <i>extra</i> housing and growth would be of little help. It was hard to see how this action improved the additional pressure on roads, local school places, access to NHS and funding for local services. She argued that pressure on Gov't for funds was necessary, but that it should be for Lincolnshire. If money were received for other parts, based on large industrial areas in need, it would not help plug the hole in Lincolnshire's services. She considered that the new authority also needed to be politically representative to be fair. By law, local Government has to distribute committee seats fairly. She reminded all that parishioners could respond by using the County News printed form or online.	
07.08.00	<u>CLERK'S REPORT</u>	
07.08.01	<u>Self help Maintenance</u> The clerk highlighted Mr Vic Brealey's contribution to the village in mending potholes on Parish Council land at his own expense for the w/e of the fete and Open Gardens and that he also had maintained two benches and remarked that it could be appropriate to pay for the materials. It was agreed that Council should reimburse Mr Brealey against an appropriate claim.	Clerk
07.08.02	The clerk pointed out that the village had seven public benches but did not maintain them, unlike other villages. He suggested that bench maintenance was a legitimate expense. Council agreed.	
07.08.03	<u>A607 concerns</u> County Council Highways had refused to further consider a speed limit past the village on the A607 on the grounds of expediency and since it had already been refused. The clerk was seeking to mount a campaign via incident reports by residents. Council wanted more support from our district councillors. The clerk was to urge Mrs Overton to apply more pressure. In similar vein, the disquiet about the lack of a proper safe off-highway footpath between the village and SWRA was a continuing concern.	clerk
07.08.04	<u>Roads</u> A request to Highways to fill pot holes and make good white lines in the Nookin had been fulfilled but similar requests concerning potholes in the High Street near no 28 and the road markings at the exit of Crosby Lane were not yet actioned.	
07.08.05	A request to clear the drains in Beck Street opposite the Beck had been filed.	
07.08.00	<u>FINANCIAL REPORT</u> The financial report showed spending of £1294 last month with £27,024 in reserves although the clerk reported that he was unable to identify the reason for an inability to achieve a proper reconciliation, despite numerous checks. Council wanted the problem resolved asap.	clerk

	<p>Spending was slightly under budget but risked going over budget on staff costs and the projected increasing cost of street lighting.</p> <p>A new version of the regulatory guidance on Governance and Accountability had been received and copies sent to the internal auditor and the Compliance and the Finance portfolio holders.</p>	<u><b>ACTION</b></u>
07.09.00	<u><b>PORTFOLIO HOLDER'S REPORTS</b></u>	
07.09.01	<u>Compliance</u> RS advised that the Council was complying with the rules as they were understood.	
07.09.02	<u>Environment and Highways.</u> There were repeated instances of bad parking on Dycote Lane. MC hoped to have words with the principle offender.	MC
07.09.03	<u>Drains</u> There was a flooding problem at the Bridge Cottages caused by a blocked drain. LCC were aware	
07.09.04	<u>Planning.</u> ML reminded Council that the Neighbourhood Development Plan had created 23 projects for the Council to address: the bus shelter and the speed limit tasks had been actioned while facilities for children on the Playing Field were being tackled via a subcommittee of the Village Hall and Playing Field committee (VHPFC). A bid for dropped kerbs had been with LCC Highways for some time, roads maintenance was under continuous review whilst the clerk had submitted a bid for funding for an extension to the village hall car park. Thus 17 topics remained to be addressed.	
07.09.05	<u>Cluster group.</u> nil	
07.09.06	<u>Village Hall.</u> In furtherance of a bid for funding for more play equipment, the VHPFC was planning a sports day in September.	
09.09.07	<u>Communications</u> The village was apparently coping without the second large notice board although display space was still being fought over.	
07.09.08	<u>Allotments</u> Councillors had visited the allotments and were concerned at how badly some were being maintained and that clearance rubbish was being kept on one set. After debate it was agreed that all holders should be invited to ensure that their plots were being well kept lest the Council declined to renew their leases next year. SSt agreed to speak with a persistent non-payer with a view to obtaining his rent. See also 07.01.02.	Clerk SSt
07.09.09	<u>Castle Hill.</u> The management committee had agreed to coppice one of the several hazel clumps near the gate in turn over the following years and had agreed that Mr McBeath might refurbish the four information board stands. It was hoped the coppicing would start with the clump nearest the gate. The council agreed to engage a contractor but noted that such cutting is prohibited until after 31 August. It was agreed the grass cutting contractor should be instructed to tidy the bank facing Welbourn Place at regular intervals to ensure it remained tidy.	clerk
07.09.10	<u>Forge</u> The sale of the forge was well in progress with completion expected by the end of July. The Clerk was seeking to have NKDC complete all the identified repairs before the sale.	
07.10.00	<u><b>TO CONSIDER AN APPLICATION TO PROVIDE A MEMORIAL BENCH</b></u> Mrs Musson of Manor Close had asked the council to approve her intention to supply a memorial bench for the village. Council approved	

	the idea in principle but was concerned about long term maintenance and hoped an appropriate material would be chosen. It was suggested it be placed on the mound on the playing field for the benefit of parents and sports spectators.	Clerk
07.11.00	<u>TO AGREE TO PAY FOR THE MATERIALS REQUIRED TO REPAINT THE INFORMATION BOARD FRAMES ON CASTLE HILL</u> Mr McBeath had offered to treat and repaint the dilapidated information board frames on Castle Hill but asked to be reimbursed for the cost of materials. Council agreed up to a limit of £25.	Clerk
07.12.00	<u>TO AGREE OBTAIN A NEW NOTICE BOARD AT THE CASTLE HILL GATE TO REPLACE THE EXISTING ONE</u> The clerk had obtained a quote for £29 plus VAT for new notice board at the Castle Hill entrance gate repeating the intentions of the old one but in a more modern material. Council agreed to the purchase.	clerk
07.13.00	<u>PLANNING APPLICATION 16/0458/FUL.</u> Council had no comments on Mrs Overton's application.	clerk
07.14.00	<u>TO AGREE MAINTENANCE TASKS FOR JULY /AUGUST</u> The handyman was required to complete clearing the weeds on the main footpath in Beck Street and similarly along Moat Lane plus clean up and revarnish the Donoghue bench on Castle Hill. He should also continue the standard tasks of: 1. maintaining the outlet to the pond. 2. clearing the beck.	clerk
07.15.00	<u>CHEQUES</u> Payment of the following accounts was approved: G W King & Sons (Church yard mowing) £220.00 E-on (street lighting) £186.31 BDG Mowing (orchard and grass cutting) £540.00 P A Orme (dog warden) £96.00 M McBeath (June wage and expenses) £203.06 PO Ltd (McB PAYE) £49.00	
07.17.00	<u>ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING</u> Any planning applications.	
07.18.00	<u>DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING</u> It was agreed to hold the next meeting on <b>14th September at 7:30 pm</b> in the Meeting Room.	All

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

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