

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WELBOURN PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 9th MARCH 2016 IN WELBOURN VILLAGE HALL AT 7:30PM

PRESENT

Mr. John Lucas (JL)

Chairman

Councillors: Mrs Maureen Lunn (ML), Mr Robert Cross (MC), Mrs Katie Stark (KS), Miss Harriet Huntsman (HH), Mr Stephen Short (SS), Mr John Storer (RS), Mr Robert Gibson (BG)

District Councillors: Mrs Laura Conway (LC), Mrs Marianne Overton (MO)

Mr Malcolm McBeath

Parish Clerk

03.01.00	<u>PUBLIC FORUM</u>	<u>ACTION</u>
03.01.01	The police reported zero burglaries during the previous month	
03.02.00	<u>ACCEPTANCE OF REASONS FOR ABSENCE</u> Councillor Spedding was away on business.	
03.03.00	<u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u> nil	
03.04.00	<u>MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS</u> The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 10 th February, copies of which had been circulated earlier to members, were approved.	Clerk
03.05.00	<u>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES</u>	
03.05.01	<u>Emergency Plan</u> Due to pressure of other work, no further time had been possible on the emergency plan.	
03.05.02	<u>Allotments drain</u> . There were no further developments on the allotments drain.	
03.05.03	<u>Maintenance</u> SimpsonArboriculture had not responded to the reminder to discuss the misdirected work on Castle Hill.	
03.06.00	<u>DISTRICT AND COUNTY MATTERS</u>	
03.06.01	MO reported that her campaign to retain the Leadenham waste recycling facility was continuing in the form of motions and letters. The idea of charging had again been suggested but instead of being rejected had attracted some interest.	
03.06.02	She went on to remind that LCC had been £70M short in its projected budget but had made this up by drawing on reserves and making cuts in services but added that it seemed probable that there would not be enough money for next year so the uncertainty was disturbing. Devolution appeared a potential solution but there were major doubts how this arrangement might operate in practice.	
03.06.03	Mrs Conway reported that the Local Plan was in process and was on course for further consultation in April/May. She drew attention to the provision of new computers for public use in the Local Access point in the Venue. She added that a staffed library had been newly opened in	

	the same office. She reminded of the weekly youth activity facility provided at the Venue on Monday evenings which was open to all children from the cliff Villages.	<u>ACTION</u>
03.07.00	<u>CLERK'S REPORT</u>	
03.07.01	The clerk had been much involved in the work to retain the forge and the Leadenham recycling facility. He was working with ArtsNK on the Ridges & Furrows project. How the project might develop was unclear at this stage.	
03.07.02	He reported that he had been rudely accosted and abused in the street by a parishioner over a planning matter. He had found this very stressful and upsetting.	
03.07.03	He was continuing to liaise with Highways over potholes but had been advised they were very short of resources and that non-essential repairs were taking at least a month to accomplish. Use of 'Fix my Pothole' was suggested and would be trialed.	KS
03.07.04	Thanks to Mr Mark Crosby, who had found the contractor, the Playing Field Hedge had been flailed.	
03.08.00	<u>FINANCIAL REPORT</u>	
03.08.01	The financial report showed spending of £993 this month with £15,078 in reserves. The bill for tree works on Castle Hill was still to be paid pending resolution of the work outstanding. Spending was slightly over budget.	
03.09.00	<u>PORTFOLIO HOLDER'S REPORTS</u>	
03.09.01	<u>Compliance</u> RS pointed out that, although the new rules about auditing appeared fairly straightforward, if onerous, it was apparently still necessary to have a reliable local auditor as a back up in the event of a challenge.	
03.09.02	<u>Highways and maintenance.</u> There was still a significant dog fouling problem at the bottom of Dycote Lane. It was agreed to invite parishioners to assist the dog warden by reporting those walkers who were not bothering to pick up. The new ramp up the embankment was complete.	KS
03.09.03	<u>Drains</u> The recent heavy rains had proved the efficacy of the storm drains which had kept the village dry, despite heavy flooding of the local fields, although there was problem on Cow Lane where excessive field run off had come down the Lane and was entering the sewers at the cross roads.	
03.09.04	<u>Parish Plan and Planning.</u> The Council had no comments on an application for tree work at 3 Castle Hill and had noted that the legal battle to retain the beech tree at 33 High Street had been lost.	
03.09.05	<u>Cluster group.</u> Nil	
03.09.06	<u>Village Hall.</u> The roof was still leaking. The nature of the contract with the builders was under investigation with a view to redress.	
03.09.07	<u>Communications.</u> Nil	
03.09.08	<u>Allotments</u> All plots bar two were now let. Only one rent was outstanding. A new tenant from Navenby was now signed up.	
03.09.09	<u>Castle Hill</u> The mowing contractor had strimmed the north bank and had done a good job. He intended to complete clearing the area once the ground was hard enough to support vehicles and machinery.	

03.10.00	<u>TO REVIEW PROGRESS OF THE FORGE HANDOVER INITIATIVE</u> NKDC had identified the running costs for some previous years and would release them to the Friends and the Council in due course. The Friends meanwhile had stated that they had done some minor on going, ad hoc self help repairs at minimal cost. They had stated that donations were enough to cover routine running costs. It was noted that the Friends still had a balance left over from a previous grant. With a survey out in the village for comments, the handover/take over process was still on course according to NKDC's schedule which was aiming at completion by early June.	<u>ACTION</u>																		
03.11.00 03.11.01	<u>TO REVIEW THE COUNCIL'S OPERATIONS AND RISK ASSESSMENT.</u> It was agreed to confirm and update the existing Risk Assessment and to ensure at least two councilors could access the Clerk's computer at home and the parish office cabinets.																			
03.12.00 03.12.01	<u>TO REVIEW PROGRESS ON CASTLE HILL MAINTENANCE</u> Now that the contractor had restarted, the situation on Castle Hill was satisfactory.																			
03.13.00	<u>TO AGREE TO REPAIR THE LIGHT IN THE DEFIBRILLATOR BOX</u> It was agreed to repair or replace the strip light in the former BT Telephone Box.	clerk																		
03.14.00 03.14.01	<u>TO AGREE THE MAINTENANCE TASKS FOR MARCH/APRIL</u> The tasks to be done were set as: 1. Continue to maintain the outlet to the pond. 2. Continue to clear the beck.																			
03.15.00	<u>CHEQUES</u> Payment of the following accounts was approved: <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">R Thorpe (3 month's maintenance)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£128.75</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">E-on (lights maintenance)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£108.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">LALC (annual subs)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£239.14</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">BT (hall broadband)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£64.80</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">BT (telephone account)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£93.56</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">P A Orme (dog warden)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£96.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Robert Cross (materials for embankment access ramp)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£35.57</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">M McBeath (Feb wage and expenses)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£310.29</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">PO Ltd (McB PAYE)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£33.76</td> </tr> </table>	R Thorpe (3 month's maintenance)	£128.75	E-on (lights maintenance)	£108.00	LALC (annual subs)	£239.14	BT (hall broadband)	£64.80	BT (telephone account)	£93.56	P A Orme (dog warden)	£96.00	Robert Cross (materials for embankment access ramp)	£35.57	M McBeath (Feb wage and expenses)	£310.29	PO Ltd (McB PAYE)	£33.76	
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03.16.00	<u>ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING</u> Maintenance tasks. Any planning applications.																			
03.17.00	<u>DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING</u> It was agreed to hold the next meeting on 13th April at 7:30 pm in the Meeting Room.	All																		

There being no further matters to discuss, the Chairman duly closed the meeting at 9.00pm.

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