

WELBOURN PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WELBOURN PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 14th MARCH 2012 IN WELBOURN VILLAGE HALL AT 7:30PM

PRESENT

Mr. J.R. Storer, (RS)	Chairman
Councillors: Mr M R Cross (MC), Dr Adam Paxton (AP), Mr Stephen Short (SSt), Mr A Copley (TC)	
Mr Richard Coxe (RC), Mr Stephen Spedding (SSg) and Ms Sarah Brown (SB)	
Mr M McBeath	Parish Clerk

		<u>ACTION</u>
03.01.00	<u>PUBLIC FORUM</u> 5 parishioners attended but did not wish to make submissions before the meeting, The police reported by email one case of damage to a motor vehicle and four cases of burglary.	
03.02.00	<u>APOLOGIES</u> Mr Gibson was ill. County Councillor Phillips had been invited but was unable to attend. District Councillors Conway and Overton had prior engagements.	
03.03.00 03.03.01 03.03.02	<u>CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS</u> RS remarked on the many topics that had occupied the recent month and observed that the confidence of the public in the Council appeared to have been eroded and that the internal rifts which had occurred were most regrettable. He hoped that all would continue into the coming year with a proper sense of teamwork and focus. To enable the meeting to run more smoothly he proposed to consider Agenda item 12 after item 19. This was agreed.	
03.04.00	<u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES (MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT) ORDER 2030 (SI2030/1059)</u> RC reminded the Council of his previously stated prejudicial interest in Yard Field. TC also stated a prejudicial interest in the same field in that his house backed onto the area previously proposed for affordable housing.	
03.05.00	<u>MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING</u> The minutes of the previous meeting held on Wednesday 18 February 2012, copies of which had been circulated earlier to members, were approved. Proposed SSt. Seconded SSg.	
03.06.00 03.06.01 03.06.02 03.06.03 03.06.04	<u>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES</u> <u>Mugs.</u> RS had received two samples of possible designs for the Jubilee mugs. One was agreed as better. <u>Safety Rail.</u> There was no progress to report on the safety rail. <u>Letters to Protestors</u> The clerk had replied to all those who had written to the Council about the Housing issue giving them the result of the public meeting. <u>Open Meeting</u> The resolution adopted by the Public meeting on Housing had been published on the Parish Notice Board and sent online to the Action Group.	Clerk RS
03.07.00 03.07.01 03.07.02	<u>CLERK'S REPORT</u> LCC had formally agreed to keep Leadenham HWRC open as before. The clerk noted that failure to communicate fully with the public had been part of the problems in the Housing debate. He advised that offers of help had been received from individual parishioners for creating the Parish Survey and that it was proper to include non-councillors in sub committees. He was grateful to Mr John Oakley for help given in dealing with a recent case of hacking into the Clerks' emails. The problem was now	

		<u>ACTION</u>
	apparently sorted.	
03.08.00	<u>FINANCIAL REPORT</u> The financial report showed expenditure of £539 for the month with reserves at £15,128. The Clerk remarked that the purchase of mugs would make a significant hole in the budgeted grant allowance for the coming year and that the proposed survey was likely to be a major cost which had not been budgeted for.	
03.09.00	<u>COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCIL MATTERS</u> Disappointment was expressed at the lack of attendance from District and County level given the significance of issues that had been before the Parish Council. Inputs from representatives from these levels would have been appreciated.	Clerk
03.10.00	<u>REPORTS FROM PORTFOLIO HOLDERS</u>	
03.10.01	<u>Constitution and Village Hall.</u> The new blind for the village hall was still delayed.	
03.10.02	<u>Highways, Footways and Drains.</u> LCC had not responded on the issue of who owned the fence round Castle Hill. The new drains had worked well in the recent rains but the link to Cow Lane had not been properly stopped. It was remarked that recent works on Pottergate had created a hazard in that loose stone had been added to fill potholes in the margins. A proposal had been received to make Cow Lane one way out bound. It was agreed that this was a good idea in principle and that Highways should be asked how to the Parish Council might address the issue.	Clerk Clerk
03.10.03	<u>Village Matters.</u> A survey of street lights had been conducted but input from EON was still awaited to harmonise the results.	
03.10.04	<u>Parish Plan and SAG</u> See item 11.	
03.10.05	<u>Police and NHW</u> NTR	
03.10.06	<u>Cluster Group.</u> NTR	
03.10.07	<u>Health Social and Welfare.</u> NTR	
03.10.08	<u>Allotments.</u> NTR.	
03.10.09	<u>Castle Hill.</u> Confirmation from English Heritage was still awaited on what could be done in detail. It was agreed to spray the nettles in order to keep the ground clear.	AP/RC
03.11.00	<u>SAG</u> The SAG had discussed possible options with the Joint Planning Unit (JPU) at LCC and the Community Partnerships Manager at NKDC. It would be very advantageous to start to engage with them asap. It was essential to define whether the intention was to create a Village Design Statement or a Neighbourhood Plan. After much discussion it was agreed that the SAG should continue to develop the Survey as soon as possible led by BG. To launch this work it was agreed to use the Annual Parish Meeting to help to define major topics to explore. It was pointed out that, by definition, any survey was only a one time snap-shot so it was important to consider the longer term. It was agreed that the SAG could co-opt those whom it wished to assist them.	BG
03.13.00	<u>CORRESPONDENCE.</u>	
03.13.01	<u>Letter from Stephen Phillips MP.</u> It was agreed to reply to Stephen Phillips using the draft response submitted by SSt.	Clerk
03.13.02	<u>Letter from S Priestley, Affordable Housing NKDC.</u> It was agreed to advise Mr Priestley that the Council would continue with its own survey to re-assess need and wanted NKDC to conduct another land search. The intention to conduct another search would be publicised via the Parish Magazine.	Clerk
03.13.03	<u>Tree Substitution Beck Street.</u> The Council agreed in principle with the suggestion that the ash tree by the bus stop might be felled if compensated for by 2 further trees within the Cow Lane development at cost by Taylor Lindsey debited from the intended S106	Clerk

	grant but wanted to know the cost of the substitutions before formally agreeing.	<u>ACTION</u>								
03.14.00	<u>AV Software for PC lap top.</u> The clerk wished to buy AV software to install on the Council's lap top to enable it to be used safely online. This was agreed up to a limit of £50.									
03.15.00	<u>New Standing Orders.</u> The council agreed to adopt new standing orders based on the LALC 2010 model but added the section from the existing Orders on Communication with the Public.	Clerk								
03.16.00	<u>Publication of Notes.</u> There was a discussion about the timeliness of minute publication and whether publication of notes of the meeting prior to the minutes being ratified would be appropriate. The clerk pointed out that Notes in Minute form would take up too much space on the existing small Parish Notice Board. It was agreed that he should prepare a brief summary of the Notes for publication on the notice board and on line with the notification that Notes were liable to alteration but otherwise continue with the usual practice with Minutes.	Clerk								
03.17.00	<u>Annual Parish Meeting.</u> Given the urgency of getting on with the survey it was agreed to use the Annual Parish Meeting to involve and inform the public about parish issues. It was agreed to invite officers from LCC and NKDC to address the meeting and take questions. It was hoped this process would inform the development of the Survey. To ensure sufficient time it was proposed to hold the meeting Wednesday 4 th April.	Clerk								
03.12.00	<u>POTENTIAL BUILDING SITES.</u> Given the decision at item 03.13.02, there was no need to discuss potential building sites.									
03.18.00	<u>PLANNING MATTERS</u> A notice of intent for tree works had been received in respect of Welbourn Place. The Council had no comment to make.	Clerk								
03.19.00	<u>CHEQUES.</u> Payment of the following cheques was approved: <table style="margin-left: 40px; border: none;"> <tr> <td>To LALC for annual subscription</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£194.30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>E-on for lighting maintenance</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£103.32</td> </tr> <tr> <td>M McBeath for salary</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£148.48</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PO - McBeath PAYE</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£36.50</td> </tr> </table> And authorise transfer of £500 from savings account to current account.	To LALC for annual subscription	£194.30	E-on for lighting maintenance	£103.32	M McBeath for salary	£148.48	PO - McBeath PAYE	£36.50	Clerk
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03.15.00	<u>ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING</u> Street lamps									
03.16.00	<u>DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING</u> The date of the next Parish Council Meeting will be Wednesday 11th April 2012 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall. This will be the Annual Meeting.	All								

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

Copies to:

County Councillor Phillips

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