

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WELBOURN PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON  
WEDNESDAY 8<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2017 IN WELBOURN VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30 PM

PRESENT

Mr. Mr John Lucas (JL)

Chairman

Councillors: Mr John Storer (RS), Mrs Maureen Lunn, Mr Robert Gibson (BG), Mr Stephen Spedding (SSg) ,Mr Stephen Short (SSt) Mrs Katie Stark (KS)

District Councillors: Mrs Marianne Overton (MO). Mrs Catherine Mills(CM)

Mr Malcolm McBeath

Parish Clerk

03.01.00	<u>PUBLIC FORUM</u>	<u>ACTION</u>
03.01.01	The police had no crimes to report.	
03.01.02	Vandalism on the grass verge on Little Lane was discussed. The Parish Council felt it was not under their remit and understood it had been referred to the Police as recommended by L.C.C Highways.	
03.02.00	<u>ACCEPTANCE OF REASONS FOR ABSENCE</u>	
03.02.01	Miss Huntsman was still at work.	
03.03.00	<u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u> nil	
03.04.00	<u>MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING</u> The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 8th 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>Castle Hill</u> . Advice from Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust and Historic England (HE) was still awaited on the most appropriate way forward on the care and planting of Castle Hill.	
03.05.02	<u>Emergency Plan</u> Due to pressure of other work, no further time had been possible on the emergency plan.	
03.05.03	<u>Handyman</u> Further attempts to contact the suggested handyman had been unsuccessful.	
03.05.04	<u>Forge</u> The purchase of the forge was now complete. NKDC had agreed to include support for Ridges & Furrows in their support for the forge.	
03.05.05	<u>Duckling Protective grill on the Beck outlet</u> Mr Robinson had apparently fitted a grill and had been seen clearing it. Council warmly appreciated his contribution.	
03.06.00	<u>DISTRICT AND COUNTY MATTERS</u>	
03.06.01	MO reported that the work on Mrs Smith's Cottage at Navenby was well under way. They were looking for volunteers to help man it. It was planned to open during 2017. She confirmed that NKDC had budgeted £15,000 for the Ridges & Furrows project.  LCC had faced a £55M shortfall in its budget for 2017/18. It had drawn on reserves, sold off some assets and increased its	<u>ACTION</u>

<p>03.06.02</p> <p>03.06.03</p> <p>03.06.04</p>	<p>borrowings while lengthening the repayment term but was still short. New money had just been promised for the social care budget, however.</p> <p>She commented that pressure from residents did appear to have an impact on council decisions and noted that LCC had backtracked on lighting economy measures in the face of protests. She wondered whether to renew pressure over the closure of our local waste disposal facility since experience had shown that that the cost saving had been very small compared with the increased cost of dealing with fly tipping. She suggested there might there be some point in reconvening the Cliff Cluster Group again to lobby for better waste recycling, more benefit from the SID and better appreciation of the Local Plan. Council agreed Cliff Cluster Group should be reconvened in its original form.</p> <p>She also pointed out that the new Central Lincs Local Plan was already in use and that the new divisional boundaries were due to come into force on 4<sup>th</sup> May. We are part of 'Welbourn with Bassingham.' Parishioners should check the arrangement on line.</p> <p>CM reiterated the message about lack of funds at county level pointing out that Lincolnshire was the worst funded county in England. The situation over the allocation of business rates was unsatisfactory and under review. She drew attention to the potential benefits of hosting commercial company teambuilding and leadership development events as a source of 'free' manpower. She recognized the difficulties in obtaining project funding and urged full exploitation of NKDC's funding advisers. She advised that changes to waste collection arrangements were up for revision and that a further referendum on a unitary authority could be expected in the Autumn.</p>	<p>MO/BG</p>
<p>03.07.00</p> <p>03.07.01</p> <p>03.07.02</p> <p>03.07.03</p> <p>03.07.04</p> <p>03.07.05</p>	<p><u>CLERK'S REPORT</u></p> <p>The clerk drew attention to the ongoing objections to the industrial chimney in Hall Lane and the associated planning application. The matter could be a test of the Neighbourhood Development Plan in that it was claimed that the chimney was in clear breach of two policies in the Plan. NKDC had yet to rule on the matter.</p> <p>He mentioned that the March storm had brought down two trees in a corner of the playing field next to the tennis court, ostensibly because a tree on diocesan land had brought down one nearby on the field. After liaison between the diocesan estate manager and the clerk, the diocesan's agent had removed both trees. Mr Kevin Dales had sorted the tree fallen against the tennis court fence and had made good the limited damage to the fence. Highways had apparently rapidly removed a fallen tree on the main road that the clerk had reported.</p> <p>The clerk noted that LCC had not yet notified their decision on the chestnut tree. He would chase.</p> <p>He repeated his concerns about poorly maintained water courses and drew attention to the reed beds in the lower end of the Hall Orchard Lane stream. Residents should be made more aware of the position.</p> <p>As an employer, the Council was affected by the new pensions legislation. The clerk had completed the statutory Declaration of</p>	<p>clerk</p> <p><u>ACTION</u></p>

03.07.06	<p>Compliance to report the council's current situation.</p> <p>The clerk mentioned that he frequently received requests from external agencies to print off and display posters. This practice had been particularly onerous of late and was a drain on Parish funds. Council agreed that it was not appropriate to fund other agencies' costs and directed the clerk to refuse such requests and ask for printed copies.</p>	clerk
03.07.07	<p>He pointed out that council did not have specific insurance for the telephone box and the defibrillators. He was directed to check the position and find out what costs could arise to obtain such cover.</p>	clerk
03.07.08	<p>The Ridges &amp; Furrows ctte, which Mrs Lunn had volunteered to join, had had a productive meeting the previous evening. See item 14 below.</p>	
03.08.00	<p><u>FINANCIAL REPORT</u></p> <p>The financial report showed spending of £680 last month with £26,188 in reserves. Overall spending was within budget although Castle Hill was significantly overspent. The annual grass-cutting subsidy had not yet been received.</p>	clerk
03.09.00	<p><u>PORTFOLIO HOLDERS' REPORTS.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <u>Compliance.</u> ntr</li> <li>b. <u>Environment and Highways.</u> Residents were parking in the foot path on Dycote Lane. Examples should be reported on 101 to encourage police attendance and action. The bulk waste bins outside Welbourn Hall had been overfull and leaking rubbish into the street when put out.</li> <li>c. <u>Drains.</u> - Topic covered in clerk's report.</li> <li>d. <u>Planning.</u> ntr</li> <li>e. <u>Cluster Group.</u> The cluster group had not met for some time but see 03.06.02 above</li> <li>f. <u>Village Hall.</u> Arrangements to repair the v hall roof leak were in process. The ctte had just completed its annual risk assessment. The heating had failed recently and had received attention but It was still unreliable.</li> <li>g. <u>Communications.</u> It was important to publicize and fully explain the story of the horse chestnut tree. The takeover of the Forge should be publicized. Both topics would be covered by the February minutes which would shortly be published. The clerk would repeat the news in the next Two Villages.</li> <li>h. <u>Allotments.</u> The portfolio holder would write to all plot holders to invite them to renew their tenancies</li> <li>i. <u>Castle Hill.</u> The clerk had obtained two quotes for clearing the moles: both seemed expensive. Council were not sure whether it was necessary. It was agreed the clerk should check with the mowing contractor whether he was prepared to mow through the molehills. If not, then the clerk was to engage the cheaper quote forthwith.</li> <li>j. <u>Forge.</u> The chairman would contribute to NKDC's press release about the take over of the forge. - a text which the clerk would draft</li> </ul>	<p>MO/BG</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>MC</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p><u>ACTION</u></p>

	in consultation with KS.	Clerk/KS										
03.10.00	<p><b>TO RESOLVE WHICH STREET LAMPS TO REPAIR</b>  The contractor had recommended the replacement of three rusted streetlamp arms and associated fittings. It was agreed to replace all three</p>	Clerk										
03.11.00	<p><b><u>TO AGREE TO SWITCH THE TELEPHONE PROVIDER FOR THE V. HALL.</u></b>  BT charges 3 times as much as competitors for broadband only. The clerk recommended switching on the BT contract anniversary date to a cheaper provider. Council agreed</p>	Clerk										
03.12.00	<p><b><u>TO DISCUSS WHAT TO DO ABOUT THE MOLES ON CASTLE HILL.</u></b>  See 03.09.00. i</p>											
03.13.00	<p><b><u>VANDALISM</u></b>  The vandalism topic is reported under the public forum.</p>											
03.14.00	<p><b><u>TO REVIEW THE RIDGES &amp; FURROWS PROJECT</u></b>  At the recent meeting, the Ridges and Furrows leader had successfully persuaded Mr Goodhand to write up his village trail. The intention was to see what he produced, then take it forward from there by whatever means seemed most appropriate. The R&amp;F chairman wanted to ensure all aspects of the project were of a consistently high quality. While she would not seek to control what the Council might decide to do, she wanted overall veto on quality. Another group event associated with the harvest festival was hoped for this year but the appropriate members had not attended the meeting so the idea had not been progressed.</p>	Clerk										
03.15.00	<p><b><u>TO BE BRIEFED ON THE LEISURE AND PLAY AREA PROJECT</u></b>  ML explained the background to the leisure and play area project; how she had formed a group of volunteers to help her and how a leafleted survey had determined what people thought was required. The committee had invited three specialist firms to offer costed ideas, given the site and the requirement: all had complied. None were cheap but one in particular, HAGS, was chosen as most preferred. ML showed HAGS' drawings of the proposal. She then explained how funds had been raised. So far they had built a fund of some £5600 but there was still a lot to do.</p>											
03.16.00	<p><b><u>CHEQUES</u></b>  Payment of the following accounts was approved:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">BT (telephone bill)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£101.04</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">BT (broadband facility) DD</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£72.00</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;">M McBeath (February wage and expenses)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£336.39</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">PO Ltd (McB PAYE)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£62.80</td> </tr> </table>	BT (telephone bill)	£101.04	BT (broadband facility) DD	£72.00	E-ON (lights maintenance)	£108.00	M McBeath (February wage and expenses)	£336.39	PO Ltd (McB PAYE)	£62.80	
BT (telephone bill)	£101.04											
BT (broadband facility) DD	£72.00											
E-ON (lights maintenance)	£108.00											
M McBeath (February wage and expenses)	£336.39											
PO Ltd (McB PAYE)	£62.80											
03.17.00	<p><b><u>ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING</u></b>  Any planning applications.</p>											

03.18.00	<u>DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING</u> It was agreed to hold the next meeting on 12th April 2037 at 7:30 pm in the Meeting Room.	All
----------	--	-----

There being no further matters to discuss, the Chairman duly closed the meeting at 9.30pm.

Copies to: District Councillors Mrs C Mills, Mrs M Overton: All PC Members: Parish Website.