

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WELBOURN PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 10th MAY 2017 IN WELBOURN VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30 PM

PRESENT

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

Mr Malcolm McBeath

Parish Clerk

05.01.00	<u>ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN</u> Because Mr Lucas had resigned as a Councillor and in any case, since this was the annual meeting, it was necessary to elect a new chairman. Mr Cross was proposed and accepted unanimously.	<u>ACTION</u>
05.02.00 05.02.01	<u>PUBLIC FORUM</u> The police had no crimes to report.	Clerk
05.03.00 05.03.01	<u>ACCEPTANCE OF REASONS FOR ABSENCE</u> Mrs Mills and Mrs Overton had to attend another council meeting. Mr Gibson was on holiday. Mr Spedding had elected not to attend.	
05.04.00	<u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u> nil	
05.05.00	<u>MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING</u> The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 12th April, copies of which had been circulated earlier to members, were approved.	Clerk
05.06.00 05.06.01 05.06.02 05.06.03 05.06.04 05.06.05	<u>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES</u> <u>Complaint against the clerk</u> There had been an extraordinary closed meeting on 3 May to discuss a response to a complaint against the clerk. An agreed formal letter had been sent iaw the Complaints Policy and a panel agreed to investigate the facts. Councilors Stark, Huntsman and Cross would be members while Mrs Mills would be invited to join as an independent member. <u>Damage to a foot path by horses</u> See item 13. <u>Jubilee chestnut</u> LCC had been waiting for the overhead power cables to be made safe and now intended to work on the tree on 17 May. The clerk had sought details since he feared road closures and confusion but LCC had failed to respond. The delay in starting work meant the tree would be in full leaf during the work and more at risk. <u>Insurance</u> see item 16. <u>Litter bin</u> see item 18.	
05.07.00	<u>DISTRICT AND COUNTY MATTERS</u> ntr	

05.08.00	<u>CLERK'S REPORT</u>	
05.08.01	The mowing contractor had been tasked with clearing castle hill NE bank and had done it within a week. He had later been given the extra task of strimming the grass under the forge hedge but, due to a lack of complete communication, Mr. Goodhand had done it anyway.	
05.08.02	The clerk had passed on to Councillor Mrs. Overton the concerns of Manor Close residents about malpractices in the administration of the Close. Mrs. Overton had organised a meeting with appropriate managers at NKDC. The practices were being remedied. The clerk had exploited the opportunity to draw attention to the long neglected, decaying wall of the Close in Beck Street. A proper stonemason had since been called in to effect repairs. He was, however, doing the minimum necessary.	
05.08.03	The intended work on the jubilee chestnut tree seemed, on past experience, highly likely to cause disruption and confusion so the clerk had sought timely clarification from LCC on what they intended to do but they had not answered the question.	
05.08.04	The clerk had been working with the software developers at SERCO to try to improve the pothole reporting facility on the LCC website. Some elements had been improved but it remained difficult to use.	
05.08.05	The clerk had removed the remains of the damaged litter bin on Castle Hill near North End. The problem appeared to have been a poor repair.	
05.09.00	<u>FINANCIAL REPORT</u> The financial report showed spending of £1295 for the month with £44645 in reserves. Spending was well under budget this early in the year.	
05.10.00	<u>PORTFOLIO HOLDERS' REPORTS.</u>	
05.10.01	a. <u>Compliance.</u> Ntr	
05.10.02	b. <u>Environment and Highways.</u> 1. The archdeacon had offered to care for the rough ground immediately in front her fence behind the line of the former ditch between her front gate and the village hall entrance and asked whether it might be cleared for her. Council instructed the clerk to get a price for this work from our contractor. 2. The condition of and the need to maintain various wooden structures was mentioned. MC agreed to check the condition of the causeway bridge	Clerk
05.10.03	c. <u>Drains.</u> the excessive vegetation in the storm drain along the A607 between the ménage and the culvert was noted but it was decided it was not appropriate to make a fuss about it at this point in the year.	
05.10.04	d. <u>Planning.</u> Ntr	
05.10.05	e. <u>Cluster Group.</u> The cluster group had not met for some time but Mrs Overton's intention to re-form it had been noted.	
05.10.06	f. <u>Village Hall.</u> 1. Attempts to repair the on-going v hall roof leak were in process: two faults had been identified. They appeared to be due to faults in the original build but it was proving difficult to prove any responsibility or liability. The original prime contractors were seeking to evade responsibility so a formal letter from the parish	Clerk

05.10.07	council as owners was proposed. The clerk was to give our solicitors sight of it for comment and advice before submission. 2. The heating had failed again recently and had received attention but it was still unreliable. The cause was under investigation. Another servicing agent would be tried.	<u>ACTION</u>
05.10.08	g. <u>Communications</u> Council were uncomfortable with the clerk's habit of seeking to conduct online debates on issues and stated they wanted all matters discussed in council.	
05.10.09	h. <u>Allotments</u> . With Mr Cross' help the clerk had written to all allotment holders with a copy of the standard agreement to clarify where everybody stood. Only one had replied so far.	
05.10.10	i. <u>Castle Hill</u> . The mole catcher had been very successful but three colonies had started up again.	
	j. <u>Forge</u> . Ntr	
05.11.00	<u>TO CONSIDER THE INTERNAL AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE PREVIOUS FINANCIAL YEAR</u> The internal auditor had not found any faults in the 2016-17 accounts. She suggested that the method of reporting cheques due for approval before they had been cashed could be misleading. Council, however, confirmed that they approved and understood the existing reporting method and elected not to change it. The auditor recommended that more awareness of budgeting should be shown in the Minutes. Council felt they did regularly review the budget but noted the point.	All/clerk
05.12.00	<u>TO APPROVE THE ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT</u> Council reviewed the Annual Governance Statement in detail and approved it.	Clerk
05.13.00	<u>TO CONSIDER ACTION OVER HORSE RIDERS USING AND DAMAGING A STEPPING OUT PATH</u> Council noted the damage but decided that further action was not required. The clerk would so inform the local authority.	Clerk
05.14.00	<u>TO CONSIDER A RESPONSE TO PLANNING APPLICATION 17/0539/RESM</u> Council had no comments on the preliminary application for a bungalow behind 2 Little Lane. They assumed that the visibility issue was a matter for Highways.	
05.15.00	<u>TO AGREE TO SUBSCRIBE TO HERITAGE LINCOLNSHIRE</u> With particular reference to promoting the forge, the clerk had sought the most appropriate local organization to support our tourism objective. He recommended Heritage Lincolnshire because it offered publicity and training opportunities. The subscription was £25 which he could take up and use for the village benefit. Council approved the idea.	Clerk
05.16.00	<u>TO AGREE WITH WHICH BROKER TO RENEW OUR ANNUAL INSURANCE</u> The Council was currently insured through AON: the policy was due for renewal on 1 June. The clerk had sought comparative quotes and advice from other clerks. Came & Co had been recommended. AON's quote to renew to include the defibrillators, the forge and the kiosk (former telephone box) plus all other	

	liabilities was £255 but this had only been achieved after a series of mistakes and some confusion so he would not recommend them. Came & Co had quoted £295 for the same cover. Council agreed to switch to Came & Co.	<u>ACTION</u> clerk										
05.17.00	<u>TO REVIEW, UPDATE AND RE -ALLOCATE THE PORTFOLIOS</u> There was no time to complete this topic so it was agreed to leave it till the next meeting.											
05.18.00	<u>TO AGREE TO REPLACE THE LOST LITTER BIN ON CASTLE HILL</u> After debate it was decided not to replace the damaged bin.											
05.19.00	<u>TO AGREE TO RECALL THE MOLE CATCHER TO CASTLE HILL</u> The moles had come back and the grass contractor had requested further action to protect his mowers. Council agreed to recall the mole catcher.	clerk										
05.20.00	<u>CHEQUES</u> Payment of the following accounts was approved: <table style="margin-left: 40px; border: none;"> <tr> <td>Tarcreative(maintenance)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£200.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bdg Mowing (Grass cutting)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£475.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>G W King and sons (churchyard grass)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£230.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>M McBeath (February wage and expenses)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£311.81</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PO Ltd (McB PAYE)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£77.80</td> </tr> </table>	Tarcreative(maintenance)	£200.00	Bdg Mowing (Grass cutting)	£475.00	G W King and sons (churchyard grass)	£230.00	M McBeath (February wage and expenses)	£311.81	PO Ltd (McB PAYE)	£77.80	
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05.21.00	<u>ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING</u> Portfolios											
05.22.00	<u>DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING</u> It was agreed to hold the next meeting on 14th June 2017 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.