

WELBOURN PARISH COUNCIL

NOTES OF THE MEETING OF WELBOURN PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2013 IN WELBOURN VILLAGE HALL AT 7:30PM

PRESENT

Mr. J.R. Storer, (RS)

Chairman

Councillors: Ms Sarah Brown (SB), Mr Robert Cross (MC), Mr John Lucas (JL), Dr Adam Paxton (AP), Mr Stephen Spedding (SSg).

Mr Malcolm McBeath

Parish Clerk

		<u>ACTION</u>
11.01.00	<u>PUBLIC FORUM</u> The police reported by email that there was one crime of vehicle damage on record for the previous month. The public did not attend.	
11.02.00	<u>ABSENCES</u> Councillors Short and Gibson were on holiday. Mrs Conway had a prior engagement.	
11.03.00	<u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u> SSg reminded Council of his interest in the planning application for No 9 Beck street.	
11.04.00	<u>CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS</u> Nil	
11.05.00	<u>MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING</u> The minutes of the previous meeting held on 9 October, copies of which had been circulated earlier to members, were approved.	clerk
11.06.00	<u>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES</u>	
11.06.00	<u>War Memorial</u> A contractor had been found to give a quote to repair and refurbish the war memorial. It was agreed that the memorial was a parish responsibility as it had been placed in the church yard at the time as a more convenient and safer place than any roadside spot. Grants were being explored to pay for this refurbishment.	Clerk
11.06.01	<u>BeeHive Well Repairs</u> The beehive well had been repaired.	
11.06.02	<u>Broadband facility.</u> The broadband facility had been found to work but the wi-fi signal in the Meeting room was too weak. All the broadband wall sockets had now been properly connected and action was in hand to move the wi-fi transmitter into the meeting room.	
11.06.03	<u>Information Boards</u> Two of the Castle Hill information boards had been replicated and placed in position. A third, more damaged one, was still in work.	
11.07.00	<u>COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCIL MATTERS</u>	
11.07.01	Mrs Conway reported by email that the District Council had delayed its closure date on the survey on how to fund the shortfall in the Council Tax Support Scheme funding arising from the Government's withdrawal of the Transitional Grant.	
11.07.02	She drew attention to the decision to reduce funding for Local Access Points which she had called in in order to achieve proper internal consultation. Council accepted the need to save money but thought that, although no-one	

	on the Parish Council personally used the access points, they recognised some parishioners, particularly the elderly or less well off might well need to be able to seek the help locally. Council felt a compromise should be sought and suggested more positive solutions, eg, shorter opening hours or use of more local facilities like village halls or the visiting libraries.	<u>ACTION</u>
11.08.00	<p><u>CLERK'S REPORT</u> NKDC had advised that there had not been enough requests for an election so it was appropriate for the Council to co-opt a new member. There had been two volunteers.</p> <p>The dog waste bin on Castle Hill had gone missing. There was £100 excess on an insurance claim and NKDC were not prepared to replace it. A new one would cost £99 to buy. It was agreed to buy a new dog bin.</p> <p>The clerk had established a working agreement with the Handyman. Time would tell how it was all going to work out</p> <p>It had been noted that parked cars tended to block the High Street and Beck Street to large vehicles, with obvious serious implications for emergency vehicles. The clerk would action the High Street problem.</p>	Clerk
11.09.00 11.09.01 11.09.02	<p><u>FINANCIAL REPORT</u> The financial report showed expenditure of £1,374 for the previous month with reserves at £15,997. The annual grass cutting subsidy from LCC had been received.</p> <p>New co-signatories for bank cheques were required in addition to Mr Short. Ms Brown and Mr Cross were nominated.</p>	
11.10.00	<p><u>REPORTS FROM PORTFOLIO HOLDERS</u> <u>Village Matters.</u> It was noted that the new owner of the Grange had recently cleared his ditch on the A607.</p> <p><u>Parish Plan.</u> Councillor Gibson had stepped down as leader of the Parish Plan Group.</p> <p><u>Cluster Group.</u> The Group had not yet met.</p> <p><u>Allotments.</u> SB sought permission to obtain bark chippings for the entrance track. This was agreed within her budget. Mrs Walker's Apple Day had been very successful. Council agreed to send her a letter of thanks and appreciation for her initiative and all the work involved.</p> <p><u>Castle Hill.</u> Scheduled monument consent for the necessary tree works was still awaited.</p>	SB Clerk
11.11.00	<p><u>CO-OPTION OF NEW MEMBER</u> After due debate it was agreed by a majority vote to co-opt Mrs Maureen Lunn as the new member. The Chairman was to express the Council's appreciation to Mrs Thorne for her candidacy. The Clerk would complete the necessary induction process for Mrs Lunn.</p>	RS Clerk
11.12.00 11.12.01	<p><u>NW CORNER OF PLAYING FIELD</u> Extra funds were needed to ensure that the grant secured to resurface the tennis court was not wasted. It had since been ascertained that the Parish Council was eligible to fund the shortfall. It was agreed that this should be done up to a limit of £ 1500. The time scale of this process was not yet clear. How the fence was to be made good was unresolved.</p>	

11.12.02	Before the court be upgraded it was sensible to remove the overhanging trees and all the underbrush that had been allowed to establish itself in that corner. A quote to do so had been obtained but a second was needed. The Clerk was seeking one.	<u>ACTION</u>												
11.12.03	It was agreed to hold a site meeting once all the relevant facts had been established.	RS/Clerk												
11.13.00	<u>CLERK'S PAY SCALE</u> The Clerk pointed out that he had been on the same salary scale point for three years whereas it was common practice for clerks to move up a scale point for each year of service to reflect their increasing skill and experience. It was agreed that the clerk should move up two points on the appropriate NALC pay scale.	Clerk												
11.14.00 11.14.01 11.14.02 11.14.03	<u>PLANNING</u> NKDC had refused the application for a dementia unit at the Hall for the reasons given on the NKDC website (lack of a proper assessment of the impact on trees and the general unsuitability of the design), The Council's views on the proposals for no 9 Beck Street (unsuitable) and Mulberry Cottage (Off street parking essential) had been submitted. NKDC's decision on each was awaited. The Council had no comments on the proposed alterations at Jasmine Cottage													
11.15.00	<u>CHEQUES</u> Payment of the following accounts was approved: <table style="margin-left: 40px; border: none;"> <tr> <td>Thorpe Property Services for September</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£81.25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mark Francis - well repair</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£200.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P A Orme - services</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£120.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>G W King and Sons - churchyard cutting</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£275.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>M McBeath - salary and costs (new information boards)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£211.31</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PO Ltd - PAYE McB</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£26.80</td> </tr> </table> And Transfer £800 from deposit account to current account.	Thorpe Property Services for September	£81.25	Mark Francis - well repair	£200.00	P A Orme - services	£120.00	G W King and Sons - churchyard cutting	£275.00	M McBeath - salary and costs (new information boards)	£211.31	PO Ltd - PAYE McB	£26.80	Clerk
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11.16.00	<u>ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING</u> 2014 Budget													
11.17.00	<u>DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING</u> The date of the next Parish Council Meeting will be Wednesday 8 th January 2013 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.	All												

There being no further matters to discuss, the Chairman duly closed the meeting at 9.15pm.

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