

# WELBOURN PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WELBOURN PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON  
WEDNESDAY 12th OCTOBER 2011 IN WELBOURN VILLAGE HALL AT 7:15PM

**PRESENT**

Mr. J.R. Storer, (RS)

Chairman

Councillors: Ms S Brown (SB), Mr M R Cross (MC) Mr Richard Coxe (RC), Mr Stephen Short (SS)

District Councillor: Mrs Laura Conway (LC)

Mr M McBeath

Parish Clerk

		<u>ACTION</u>
10.01.00	<b><u>PUBLIC FORUM</u></b>	
10.01.01	Mrs A Broadbent addressed the Council with a view to not missing a deadline to register the playing field with Fields In Trust. This action could protect the field from future development and would create opportunities to obtain for funds for improvements. It was in addition an excellent way of commemorating the Queen's Jubilee in perpetuity. She offered to do the necessary application papers. The Council warmly supported the idea.	
10.01.02	Mr&Mrs Riley, Mr&Mrs Owens and Mr Marchington approached the Council for support in getting action over the beech tree in the garden of No 33 High Street which they felt was hazardous to them and might be damaging walls on their properties. Council agreed to ask the NKDC tree officer to visit to inspect and advise.	RS
10.01.03	Mr V Brealey pointed out that the junction of The Green with Hall Lane had become hazardous because the road markings had worn away and drivers were cutting across the junction on the wrong side of the road. Council agreed to ask Highways to reinstate the markings.	Clerk
10.02.00	<b><u>CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS</u></b>	
10.02.01	The Chairman took advantage of Mrs Broadbent's presence to explain why the approach road to the Village Hall had not been repaired after the Hall rebuild. (Mrs Broadbent having been an active member of the Organising Committee.) Highways had been asked to consider making it good but the cost had been prohibitive. The contractor's remit did not include the approach path and he had used all his contingency funds in dealing with unforeseen difficulties during reconstruction. It now appeared that Highways were going to repair it anyway but to a different specification.	
10.02.02	He went on to explain the background to the recent major works on Castle Hill: After a long delay, liaison had been established with English Heritage and a way forward agreed and an SMC obtained for work. Stage One of the planned recovery of the site had been achieved by clearing all the undergrowth and rubbish off the perimeter. As the weather was closing in and the offer had been made, the Council had agreed at an extraordinary meeting to bring in plant, under supervision, to clear the timber debris out of the inner moat since it was obviously not a manual task. EH had visited the site while the work was in progress and had approved it. The Chairman thanked Mr Coxe for all his help in this activity especially for the free loan of a tractor and trailer to cart away all the debris which had much exceeded in volume all the debris removed at some cost from the Beck last year.  The Chairman hoped that now that we had room to manoeuvre and could see what we were doing we could get on with wildflower planting and other improvements.	
10.03.00	<b><u>APOLOGIES</u></b> Mr Copley and Mr Gibson were on holiday. Mrs Overton had just resigned due to conflicting commitments. The police were all committed elsewhere.	

10.04.00	<u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES (MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT) ORDER 2010 (SI2010/1059)</u> There were no declarations of interest.	<u>ACTION</u>
10.05.00	<u>MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING</u> The minutes of the previous meeting held on Wednesday 14 September 2011, copies of which had been circulated earlier to members, were approved. Proposed RC. Seconded RS.	
10.06.00	<u>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES</u> (Covered in Portfolio reports)	
10.07.00 10.07.01	<u>COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCIL MATTERS</u> Navenby's new post office would be opening on 28 October with much longer opening hours than the previous one. Work had started on Navenby's new Community Centre: it was intended to have a police office in there. There had been a preliminary enquiry about building 150 new homes in Navenby. LC remarked that the initiative to provide a Youth Worker for the Cluster Group seemed to have lost momentum; she intended to try to revive it.  There was concern that the police were wasting money on facilities they did not use and were generally ineffective. LC agreed to monitor this contention.	LC
10.07.02	LC observed that she had been unable to field queries from the public on village matters because she was not included in internal emails and notes. She expressed concern that the Council might be deciding matters by email. The clerk responded what he was well aware that Councillors had to be present to vote and that it was not legal to decide matters otherwise than in Council. The purpose of emailing was to ensure that Councillors arrived at meetings fully briefed on the matters in hand and were not obliged to make hasty decisions which might later be rethought. The Chairman concurred, remarking that it helped get meetings over more quickly. The Clerk agreed to include LC in future internal correspondence.	Clerk
10.08.00 10.08.01	<u>CLERK'S REPORT</u> <u>Casual Vacancy</u> The Council vacancy had been advertised with an invitation to the parish to request an election but no-one had done so. Only one parishioner had responded to an invitation to volunteer. It was therefore proposed that Dr Adam Paxton be co-opted onto the Council. This was agreed unanimously.	Clerk
10.08.02	<u>Cow Lane Salt Bin</u> In anticipation of winter, the Clerk had asked LCC to fill our ad hoc salt bin at the foot of Cow Lane but they had advised that as there had never been a salt bin there they could not help but the request would be logged for next year as the bids for this year had been closed.	
10.08.03	<u>Emergency Access to High Street</u> It had been pointed out that the way some residents park in the High Street on mutually alternate sides means that emergency vehicles eg, ambulances en route from Lincoln to the Manor and the Close, fire engines, delivery trucks and gritting lorries, could not get through. A letter asking all applicable residents to park off road or on one side (the west) only had been sent to Two Villages.	
10/10/00	<u>FINANCIAL REPORT</u> The Financial Report showed expenditure of £1670 for the preceding month with a current balance of £18,537.  The clerk intended to produce a nominal budget for consideration in November in anticipation of the need to fix the precept in January.	
10.10.00 10.10.01	<u>REPORTS FROM PORTFOLIO HOLDERS</u> a. <u>Constitution and VH</u> Councillor Short queried whether the Clerk had paper copies of all the Council's correspondence or how he kept the Council's records. The Clerk preferred a paperless office but recognised that some paper records were unavoidable although cumbersome, liable to deterioration and a nuisance to store. All electronic	

	documents were stored on his computer and copied to the PC's own laptop and computer. The Council accepted this.	<u>ACTION</u>
10.10.02	b. The Village Hall committee hoped to add a blind to their bid for a new curtain. <u>Highways, Footways and Drains.</u> The new ditch was well in hand; 3 of the 5 gateway culverts involved had been re-laid and action was in hand to deal with extra run off into Moat Lane, Cow Lane and Hall Lane.	
10.10.03	<u>Village matters</u> The bench on Castle Hill was rotten and not repairable. An offer had been received to replace it for £250. This was agreed.	MC
	b. A slab under this bench was a trip hazard. Mr Thorpe undertook to fix it	MC
	c. There were a number of crab apple trees in Dycote Lane whose fruit, in season, was a nuisance in that the fruit was trip hazard and the mashed fruit made the road and the foot path slippery. It was desirable to replace the trees with something more suitable. Council agreed that it would be useful to ask the Tree officer for advice when he came to see the beech tree in the High Street. It was noted that this area is outside the conservation area.	
10.10.04	d. MC had repaired the broken handle on the dog waste bin under the rail bridge on Dycote Lane. <u>Parish Plan.</u> TC had borrowed some records from the old Parish Plan work with a view to creating his new survey concerning the creation of the Village Development Plan.	
10.10.05	<u>Police and NHW</u> TC had agreed to administer the repair of the SID on behalf of the Cluster. As the meeting was the following week it remained to be seen whether the repair would be agreed,	
10.10.06	<u>Allotments.</u> A number of allotment holders wanted to have water laid on at the site and wanted permission from the PC to start collecting facts and options. Council agreed.	
10.11.00	<u>PLANNING MATTERS</u> Nil	
10.12.00	<u>ANNUAL DONATIONS</u> As in previous years, it was agreed to make donations of £20 to each of the following charities: Age Concern – Kesteven Fields in Trust Cliff Villages Voluntary Car Scheme Sleaford and District Citizens Advice Bureau The Royal British Legion South Lincolnshire Blind Society St Barnabas' Hospice Lincolnshire Integrated Voluntary Emergency Service [LIVES] Kids Strut Ltd Samaritans – Grantham Relate Lincolnshire Lincolnshire & Nottinghamshire Air Ambulance	Clerk
10.13.00	<u>Castle Hill</u> It was agreed to leave discussion of the new draft operating guidelines until the next meeting. It was agreed to hold a site meeting on Castle Hill on the following Saturday at 9.30 AM. The bill for the agreed clearance of the moat would be £750 plus VAT. It was proposed that this be paid when it came in. It was pointed out how little this had cost compared with clearing the Beck. This bill was agreed unanimously.	ALL  Clerk

