

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WELBOURN PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 14th SEPTEMBER 2016 IN WELBOURN VILLAGE HALL AT 7:30 PM

PRESENT

Mr. John Lucas (JL)

Chairman

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

Mr Malcolm McBeath

Parish Clerk

09.01.00	<u>PUBLIC FORUM</u>	<u>ACTION</u>
09.01.01	The police reported the theft of a trailer from an insecure barn at Lowfields farm and of diesel oil from the grounds of SWRA.	
09.01.02	In response to a complaint about improper parking by school parents Constable Hanson said that they could not cope with the volume of this very common practice due to lack of resources so had given up trying to deal with it and similarly for other parking incidents.	
09.01.03	He reminded of the existence of LCC parking enforcement officers and suggested they be invited to deal with complaints instead.	
09.01.04	He stated that they had not been called to recent accidents on the railway bridge where vehicles had left the road so it was assumed that the incidents had been dealt with between the parties.	
09.02.00	<u>ACCEPTANCE OF REASONS FOR ABSENCE</u> Councillor Overton and Mr Spedding were working away	
09.03.00	<u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u> nil	
09.04.00	<u>MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING</u> The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 13th July, copies of which had been circulated earlier to members, were approved.	Clerk
09.05.00	<u>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES</u>	
09.06.01	<u>Consultations on 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.	
09.06.02	<u>Emergency Plan</u> Due to pressure of other work, no further time had been possible on the emergency plan.	
09.09.00	<u>DISTRICT AND COUNTY MATTERS</u>	
09.09.01	Mrs Conway had resigned as district councillor. The clerk and the chairman had each expressed their appreciation of her support for the village but the Council particularly wanted to record theirs and directed the clerk to write on their behalf.	
09.09.02	In response, Councillor Overton had sought opinions on how she could better serve her constituents: she proposed larger forums for public debate on issues considered significant so she could reach	Clerk

	<p>larger audiences. She pointed out that, now that money was even more scarce, it was important to exploit a councillor's role in influencing policies.</p> <p>Council wanted to be kept informed on issues at district level that might impact on local concerns and to get support for their own issues.</p>	<p><u>ACTION</u></p> <p>clerk</p>
09.08.00	<u>CLERK'S REPORT</u>	
09.08.01	A lot of work had gone into investigating an alleged boundary encroachment at the Allotments access track but, although the gist had been proven, the detail had not.	
09.08.02	The forge takeover was nearing completion but was on hold pending NKDC's completion of repairs. It was pointed out that the forge has a hedge which would need attention as an ongoing maintenance task.	Clerk
09.08.03	ARTS NK were continuing with their project and intended an event on 22 October. The theme was Welbourn's agricultural heritage. It would include art work generated in both schools to be displayed in the church and the village hall. The forge would also feature.	
09.08.04	A new cautionary sign had been obtained and fitted at the Castle Hill main gate: the clerk suggested a second one would be appropriate on the opposite gate. Council agreed.	Clerk
09.08.05	The clerk queried whether hedge removal should be controlled in a conservation area, pointing out that although walls over 1m high were controlled, hedges were not. This because some hedges in the village had been removed. Council had no opinion.	
09.08.06	He drew attention to the apparent failure of the planning system to treat the Neighborhood Development Plan as a planning document in the context of formal searches. He had pointed this out to NKDC.	
09.08.07	The clerk mentioned that the clerk's contract had not been reviewed and replaced as intended.	JL/ clerk
09.08.00	<u>FINANCIAL REPORT</u> The financial report showed spending of £975 last month with £24,948 in reserves. The anomaly in the previous month's reconciliation had been identified and rectified. The accounts were correctly reconciled this month. Spending was slightly under budget but risked going over budget on staff costs and the projected increasing cost of street lighting. The clerk was directed to maintain copies of bank statements in the parish office. The external auditor's report was expected shortly.	
09.09.00	<u>PORTFOLIO HOLDER'S REPORTS</u>	
09.09.01	<u>Compliance</u> There was nothing new to report on compliance.	
09.09.02	<u>Environment and Highways.</u> The potholes in the High Street had been repaired and the white lines at the exit to Crosby Lane made good. The hedge beside the footpath between the farm and the railway cottages remained untrimmed and was fouling the footpath. MC agreed to speak with the farmer concerned. There had not been any progress with the idea of assessing water quality in the Beck where a new type of weed had appeared which was extremely difficult to identify: it was colonizing the waterways further downstream as well.	MC

09.09.03	<u>Drains</u> Although there had not been much rain, the drains appeared to be working well. The blocked drains by Willow Beck Cottage had apparently received attention.	<u>ACTION</u>
09.09.04	<u>Planning.</u> The chairman had been approached by a company seeking an exploratory meeting with him about putting a communications mast on the playing field. Council noted the provisions of the Neighbourhood Development Plan on this topic and agreed that the chairman should find out what kind and size of mast, where they wanted to put it and how much of an inducement was on offer and then report back so that all involved could consider the matter. It was suggested that KS, as chairman of the VHPFC, should attend the initial meetings.	JL/KS
09.09.05	<u>Cluster group.</u> nil	
09.09.06	<u>Village Hall.</u> A recent caravan club meeting had gone well: further bookings were expected. The primary purpose of the planned sports day was to consult on potential new fitness equipment.	
09.09.07	<u>Communications</u> nil	
09.09.08	<u>Allotments</u> Most of the rubbish on one tenant's plot had been removed but some remained. He had previously undertaken to remove it, The outstanding allotment rent had been paid.	
09.09.09	<u>Castle Hill.</u> Three information board frames had been cleaned up and repainted. Permission for tree works to coppice the hazels and remove the embedded plantings had been sought from NKDC. A contractor had been invited to quote but had not replied. The clerk would chase. JL agreed to get the broken gate post replaced. The clerk had not instructed the mowing contractor to clear the NE bank but would do so. JL intended to clear the long grass in consultation with the Hill Committee. Councilor Spedding would be invited to convene the Hill Ctte to obtain their views. Mr McBeath intended to refurbish the Donoghue bench since the handyman had not done it and the season was nearly over.	JL Clerk SSg
09.09.10	<u>Forge</u> NKDC had agreed to pay the solicitor's fees involved in the takeover but some repairs were still outstanding. It was hoped to exploit the Ridges and Furrows event to mark the takeover.	
09.10.00	<u>TO NOTE RECENT APPLICATIONS FOR TREE WORKS</u> Council had no comment on works at 6 hall Lane, 28 The Green and Jasmine Cottage	Clerk
09.11.00	<u>TO ACCEPT A NEW SOUTHERN BOUNDARY TO THE ALLOTMENTS ACCESS TRACK</u> Having examined the evidence and after discussion with the owners of no5A, Castle Hill, following a site visit by members, a southern boundary line directly from the narrowest point in the track straight to the northern end of the stone wall fronting no5A was accepted as the new boundary line between the two areas.	Clerk
09.12.00	<u>TO DISCUSS A SUGGESTION OF ROAD SIGNS WARNING OF DUCKS IN THE ROAD IN THE VILLAGE</u> A resident had suggested that signs warning of ducks in the road were necessary. Council had taken advice from the appropriate officer at LCC Highways who had advised against them on the grounds of lack of	

	perceived need, practicality, adverse impact on the street scene and doubtful effectiveness. Council agreed so were not prepared to continue with the idea.	<u>ACTION</u> clerk																		
09.13.00	<u>TO APPROVE REVISED TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE FORGE PORTFOLIO HOLDER</u> Council approved new terms of reference for the forge portfolio holder which made/him her the prime point of contact between the Friends of the Forge and the Council. The new TORs would be added to the others on record.	clerk																		
09.14.00	<u>TO DISCUSS THE UNLAWFUL CHIMNEY ON HALL LANE</u> Council noted how NKDC had handled the unlawful erection of a biomass chimney off Hall Lane and was dissatisfied with the lack of progress towards a definitive conclusion. Mrs Overton was to be asked to encourage more robust action.	clerk																		
09.15.00	<u>TO DISCUSS MAINTENANCE MATTERS</u> The handyman had resigned but he would continue to clear the beck outlet. Odd job men advertising at the shop had declined the work. JL agreed to ask Mr Andrews of Green Farm whether he would undertake the task. Alternatively an advert could be placed in Two Villages. See also 09.08.02.	JL																		
09.16.00	<u>TO AGREE THE MAINTENANCE TASKS FOR SEPTEMBER /OCTOBER</u> Without a handyman, the necessary tasks would not get done so it seemed nugatory to discuss them: the topic was left open.																			
	<u>CHEQUES</u> Payment of the following accounts was approved: <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 80%;">Wilkin Chapman llp (purchase of forge)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£5476.30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>GW King and Sons (churchyard)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£220.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BT (Telephone service)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£97.92</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BT (broadband) DD</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£64.80</td> </tr> <tr> <td>E-on (streetlight maintenance)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£108.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BDG Mowing (fields, verges and orchard)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£345.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Thorpe Property Services (maintenance)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£288.75</td> </tr> <tr> <td>M McBeath (July wage and expenses)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£208.53</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PO Ltd (McB PAYE)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£42.40</td> </tr> </table>	Wilkin Chapman llp (purchase of forge)	£5476.30	GW King and Sons (churchyard)	£220.00	BT (Telephone service)	£97.92	BT (broadband) DD	£64.80	E-on (streetlight maintenance)	£108.00	BDG Mowing (fields, verges and orchard)	£345.00	Thorpe Property Services (maintenance)	£288.75	M McBeath (July wage and expenses)	£208.53	PO Ltd (McB PAYE)	£42.40	
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09.17.00	<u>ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING</u> Any planning applications. Communications mast.																			
09.18.00	<u>DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING</u> It was agreed to hold the next meeting on 12th October at 7:30 pm in the Meeting Room.	All																		

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

Copies to: District Councillor Mrs M Overton, All PC Members, Parish Website.