

NOTES OF THE MEETING OF WELBOURN PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 9th SEPTEMBER 2015 IN WELBOURN VILLAGE HALL AT 7:30PM

PRESENT

Mr. John Lucas (JL) Chairman
 Councillors: Mrs Maureen Lunn (ML), Mr Robert Cross (MC), Mr Robert Gibson (BG)
 Mr John Storer (JS), Mrs Katie Stark (KS), Mr Stephen Short (SS)
 District councillors Mrs Laura Conway (LC) and Mrs Marianne Overton (MO)
 Mr Malcolm McBeath Parish Clerk

09.01.00	<u>PUBLIC FORUM</u>	<u>ACTION</u>
09.01.01	No members of the public attended the meeting. The police reported by email that there were two recorded thefts for August:- tools from an unattended garage and a five bar gate to a remote garden	
09.02.00	<u>ACCEPTANCE OF REASONS FOR ABSENCE</u> Miss Huntsman was unable to attend due to work commitments.	
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 12 th August, copies of which had been circulated earlier to members, were approved.	Clerk
09.05.00	<u>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES</u>	
09.05.01	<u>Tree works</u> Two quotes for pollarding the willows on Castle Hill had been sought. One had been received very promptly but the other contractor had declined at the last minute.	
09.05.02	<u>Moat Lane hedge</u> The request to trim the overgrown hedge in Moat Lane had been passed to the landlord but it had not yet been actioned.	
09.05.03	<u>Solar PV panels</u> Legal advice from the Association of Local Councils had shown that the PC's plan to install solar PV panels on the Village Hall was legally unsound and impracticable so the Hall managing committee had been advised that the PC would not be proceeding with the idea.	
09.06.00	<u>DISTRICT MATTERS</u> LC reported the Local Plan 2012-2036 had been approved for public consultation. The latest version had reduced the total number of new homes expected over the period from c43,000 to c37,000. There was a new category of settlement hierarchies bringing the total up to 7. Welbourn was classed as category 5 which meant that development above 15% of the existing total number of homes would require specific community approval. Local Drop-In briefing events had been arranged and promulgated in addition to special briefing sessions for representatives of parish councils. Additional sessions had been arranged for the Cliff Cluster group. Mrs Conway confirmed that	

	<p>curtilages were to be abandoned.</p> <p>Mrs Overton stressed the need to respond to the Local Plan within the published time scale. She was very concerned at the lack of essential infrastructure and the lack of funds to develop and support it, especially in view of expected and announced cuts in central government funding. She pointed out that LCC intended to ensure that a high proportion of money arising from developers would be absorbed by the Eastern Bypass. The social care budget was also under considerable pressure and there were numerous cases of inadequate care. She stressed the need to report all such cases. She also reminded all of the need to respond to the Boundary Commission consultation to ensure that the Cliff Villages remained as a discrete entity</p>	<u>ACTION</u>
09.06.00	<u>CLERK'S REPORT</u>	
09.06.01	The clerk was concerned that the issues of access and maintenance implicit in the recent planning application in The Nookin had implications for future similar situations but they had not been addressed. Research indicated that it was up to the affected parties to defend their own interests. To date it seemed that they had not done so.	
09.06.02	The clerk drew the Council's attention to the new rules on transparency and pointed out the new information on the Parish Website in consequence.	
09.06.03	A contractor had agreed to quote for making and erecting a new parish notice board but had not yet done so despite reminders.	
09.06.04	Dog mess had been pushed through a letter box in Manor Close apparently in mistaken protest about fouling. The action had been referred to the police and the dog warden.	
09.06.05	Guests at the pub were obstructing the entrance to Manor Close by careless parking. Some were even parking in the reserved bays in the Close despite the 'private' signage. The issue had been referred to the police.	
09.06.06	The Dog Warden had recently issued a Fixed Penalty Notice to the owner of a dog left to run loose in the street which he had seen defecating.	
09.06.07	The clerk was concerned that the decisions of site meetings held during the month were not being reported. He suggested they be written into the appropriate monthly minutes.	
09.07.00	<u>FINANCIAL REPORT</u>	
09.07.01	The accounts were now correctly balanced. An income item between bank statement pages had been overlooked. Spending in the previous month had been £2,017, leaving £22,257 in reserves. Spending on maintenance was over budget.	Clerk
09.09.00	<u>REPORTS FROM PORTFOLIO HOLDERS</u>	
09.09.01	<u>Compliance</u> nil	
09.09.02	<u>Environment and Highways</u> The first choice of contractor to build the new path up the bank at Dycote Lane was not available. A second would be approached. Dog fouling was again a problem at the bottom of Dycote Lane under the bridge. Numerous hedges around the village were still obstructing the footpath.	
09.09.03	The apparent water leak at the bottom of Dycote Lane had had numerous contractors' visits but it was not clear what was going on.	

09.09.04	Some road signs were obscured by vegetation. The clerk was to request remedial action from Highways. <u>Drains</u> it was pointed out that it was seasonally time to remind and ask all farmers to clear their dykes in preparation for winter. The clerk was instructed to write to all concerned.	<u>ACTION</u> Clerk
09.09.05	<u>Welbourn Neighbourhood Development Plan.</u> The Plan was with the external examiner. it was not known when it would be released.	Clerk
09.09.06	<u>Cluster Group</u> Nil - next meeting in a few weeks.	
09.06.07	<u>Village Hall.</u> The PV panels idea had been abandoned due to the lack of time to implement it before the next tariff change. New swings had been delivered and fitted by a volunteer despite confusion over the number of chains. The provisional repair to the leak above the small kitchen had proved unsuccessful. It was intended to sort out the surface of the children's play area.	
09.09.08	<u>Allotments</u> The intended re-signing of a new allotment agreement had not happened. It was suggested that this action be postponed till January when rents could be collected at the same time.	MC
09.09.09	<u>Communications</u> The Welbourn Contacts list in Two Villages needed updating.	Clerk
09.09.10	<u>Castle Hill</u> See 09.16.	
09.10.00	<u>MONITORING OF OBJECTIVES</u> It was agreed to build the monitoring of objectives into an annual review in January.	Clerk
09.11.00	<u>POLLARDING OF THE WILLOWS</u> In view of Simpson Arboriculture's good track record it was agreed to accept their tender for pollarding the willows on Castle Hill.	Clerk
09.12.00	<u>RAT INFESTATION</u> It was agreed to invite Pest Express to set rat traps as they proposed but they should visit more frequently than offered until the population was apparently significantly reduced up to a maximum of 4 visits.	Clerk
09.13.00	<u>MOLES ON CASTLE HILL</u> It was decided that since the mowing contractor was prepared to mow through the molehills and the season was nearly over it was not worth the expense of employing a mole catcher.	
09.14.00	<u>FUTURE MAINTENANCE ARRANGEMENTS</u>	
09.14.01	Mr Thorpe had stated that, in response to the Council's concerns, he would be offering to work for the Council as handyman but at a commercial rate. In that scenario he would give parish tasks a higher priority than in the past. It was agreed that Mr Thorpe would continue to be offered tasks but, in order to maintain control of the budget, should have his price for each one approved before starting.	
09.14.02	It was further agreed that Mr Thorpe should take over those parish tools he already had so that in future he would be using his own tools on his own responsibility.	Clerk
09.15.00	<u>BUS SHELTER</u> The £2000 LCC Grant was noted. It was agreed to go ahead with the bus shelter to include, if necessary, the supplying company installing it	<u>ACTION</u> RS

	over our base.																	
09.16.00	<u>TO AGREE THE MAINTENANCE TASKS FOR SEPTEMBER /OCTOBER</u>																	
09.16.01	Next tasks to be done were set as: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Clear the ditch at top of Moat Lane. 2. Continue to maintain the outlet to the pond. 3. Continue to clear the beck. 4. Complete the repair to the bottom step of the causeway steps. <p>These would be at the prices stated at the meeting.</p>	Clerk																
09.17.00	<u>PLANNING APPLICATIONS</u>																	
09.17.01	<u>15/0593/FUL</u> Council had no objections to Mrs Hewitt's application but were concerned about access and the loss of a mature sycamore, drainage and the creation of proper boundary hedges.																	
09.17.02	<u>15/1013 /HOUS</u> Council had no comment on Mr Ellis's planning application.	Clerk																
09.17.03	<u>Tree works 2 Little lane</u> Council recommended the retention of a willow and a holly but accepted the removal of two sycamores.																	
09.17.04	<u>Tree works 9 Beck Street</u> Council accepted the felling of the poplar.																	
09.18.00	<u>CHARGING FOR COPIES OF DOCUMENTS</u> It was agreed that single page copies of parish documents should be supplied free in reasonable quantities.																	
09.19.00	<u>Mrs FIELDHOUSE'S SUGGESTIONS</u> There was no support for the idea of a trim trail around the playing field plus exercise machines. The path up onto the bank was already well supported. Provision of parking hard-standings in The Green was not considered.																	
09.20.00	<u>CHEQUES</u> Payment of the following accounts was approved: <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">BDG Mowing (grass cutting)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£405.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">G W King and sons (Churchyard)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£200.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Eon (Street lights maintenance)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£108.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">P A Orme (warden duties)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£96.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">NKDC (dog waste bin emptying)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£531.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">BT (telephone for VH)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£127.80</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">BT (direct debit for broadband)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£72.83</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">M McBeath (Aug wage)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£215.03</td> </tr> </table>	BDG Mowing (grass cutting)	£405.00	G W King and sons (Churchyard)	£200.00	Eon (Street lights maintenance)	£108.00	P A Orme (warden duties)	£96.00	NKDC (dog waste bin emptying)	£531.50	BT (telephone for VH)	£127.80	BT (direct debit for broadband)	£72.83	M McBeath (Aug wage)	£215.03	
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09.21.00	<u>ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING</u> Maintenance tasks. Any planning applications.																	

09.22.00	<u>DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING</u> The next meeting of the Parish Council is due on 14th October at 7:30 pm in the Meeting Room.	All
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There being no further matters to discuss, the Chairman duly closed the meeting at 9.30pm.

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