



WELLS TOWN COUNCIL

THE SACKHOUSE, JICKLINGS YARD,
WELLS-NEXT-THE-SEA NR23 1AU

CLERKS' REPORT WRITTEN FOR THE MEETING TO BE HELD FEBRUARY 2013 & PREPARED 25.01.2013

- 1) This will be the last report with the apostrophe after the S in "Clerks" and with two names on the bottom. So I am highjacking item one to thank you all for your parting gift and for your help and co-operation over the past 7½ years. I believe that Peter Askem is a brilliant water-colourist and try not to hold the fact that he is a Shannock against him. Actually, Maggie is the only Councillor to have been there from my beginning, and her help in the early weeks and months was invaluable, my predecessor having walked out and leaving me with no hand-over period. But with a couple of exceptions most of you seem to have been around for a long time, and we have travelled together over the past few years. I have no doubt whatsoever that Greg will soon sort out any of my deficiencies and will be working you even harder in the future. I may turn up to heckle at future Council meetings, but in the meantime remember the Latin motto: *Nil Illegitimi Carborundum*.
KL
- 2) With Keith's retirement and my installation as clerk I will now be working 30 hours a week. I have considered many work patterns and have decided on the following. From the week commencing 4th February 2013, I will be working four days a week; Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. My normal working hours will be 0830 – 1330 Monday and Friday, 0830 – 1730 Tuesday and Thursday (the odd hours to cover council meetings and other eventualities). I will only advertise that the office is open to the public during the mornings (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 0830 – 1330, closed Wednesday) to give me an opportunity to get out of the office more during the afternoons to visit the cemeteries, allotments and other areas of responsibility.
- 3) Marie has informed us that the resurfacing on the Quay is to be postponed due to all the building work that should be taking place. The marking out of the new parking bay will be done in the next 2 to 3 months. Marie has asked them to expedite this before the start of the season.
- 4) During the recent spell of inclement weather the council's grit machine was used in anger for the first time. Ali Beale was contracted to do the work and did 8 hours the first week and 5 hours the second. Most of the town was done, concentrating on the centre, housing for the elderly and routes into the centre. One problem we encounter was the poor distribution of grit bins which resulted in Ali walking considerable distances back and forth to reach the towns extremes. I did help by transporting some grit to strategic locations in my car; however, someone stole some of the bags from the side of the road while Ali's back was turned. I will consider a solution to the grit bin problem for the council to consider at a later date. I have asked NCC to re-fill the grit bins as soon as possible.
- 5) Reminder that the East Bank sea defence will be closed from January 28th for up to five weeks for maintenance. The coastal footpath will be diverted alongside the bank and construction site.