



WELLS TOWN COUNCIL

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

CLERK'S REPORT WRITTEN FOR THE MEETING TO BE HELD JANUARY 2012 & PREPARED 30.12.11

- 1) Norfolk ALC has produced a "Christmas Link Extra" which is copied elsewhere. You will see that I have raised a couple of queries with them following the annual receipt of the new electoral register, which shows that we have "lost" another 31 residents during the past 12 months.
- 2) As you know, Greg Hewitt will be taking up the position of Assistant Clerk/Clerk Designate with effect from 1 February. During the past 6½ years I have advertised that the office "is normally open" from 0800 to 1700 on Mondays and Fridays, although I have actually been there for another day and a half a week. After a couple of weeks working together, we are intending that in future the office will be open every (weekday) morning from 0830 until 1300. We will each work three days, working alternatively on Monday to Thursday, and together on Fridays. We should also be able to cover each other's holidays so that the office is still manned every morning.
- 3) I have received Christmas Cards variously addressed to The Clerk/The Chairman/The Council from: Norman Lamb MP, Scira Offshore Energy, Norfolk Property Maintenance, Direct Telecom Services Gt. Yarmouth (hoping to sell radios to the flood wardens) and the Mayor of Wisbech.
- 4) The usual winter "Gritting Routes" leaflet has been issued – as far as I can see there are no changes locally.
- 5) Having got frustrated with Highways at Aylsham, I asked Marie to intervene with three outstanding matters: a) I had got the salt/grit containers in position and asked Highways to fill them on the 1st of October (but they hadn't) b) Back in June I had started negotiating to get some payment for the NCC grass areas that we had been cutting since April. They sent me a draft contract by e-mail, which I approved and sent straight back. They said they would put a proper copy in the post (but they didn't). c) Despite promising to "finish the job" on The Buttlands (re-turfing and filling in gaps in the kerbing), and despite my reminding them in September – when they replied that they intended to start work "before the cold weather set in" you will be aware that nothing has been done. Thanks to Marie's help items a) and b) have now been undertaken. Item c) is promised for "the spring". (Watch this space).
- 6) The Police are holding their usual January meeting (19th) at Wymondham. These are usually to explain why their portion of the Council Tax is going up. Presumably this year it will be to explain the cuts they will be making since they cannot impose any increase. You are invited – details in The Sackhouse.
- 7) The *Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE)* has issued a 70-page booklet called "Planning Explained". I haven't found time to read it – any volunteers? -----

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