



# MINUTES

2012/22

## Town Council Meeting held on 2 July 2012 at 1909 at The Methodist Rooms

Those Present: Allen Frary (Chairman), Roger Arguile, Rodney Crafer, Pauline Catton, Lindsay Dew, Joe Ellison, Mike Gates, Ray Hewitt, Campbell MacCallum, & Maggie Ward

Keith Leesmith (Clerk), Greg Hewitt (Asst. Clerk), Pc Jason Pegden, Press (The Quay) & I Members of the Public

- 1) Public Forum  
No questions from the Public
- 2) Apologies Gary Anthony and Peter Terrington(NNDC)
- 3) Declarations of Interest None received
- 4) To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 11 June 2012 - Approved and signed
- 5) To approve a new Code of Conduct, as required under the Localism Act  
AF explained the requirements of new Localism Act 2011 and the need for a new code of conduct. There were two possible codes to consider, one prepared by NNDC and another prepared by the National Association Local Councils (NALC).  
Resolved - to adopt the code of conduct provided by NALC  
KL explained that as a result of the changes brought in by the Localism Act, and the adoption of the new code, all the councillors would need re-register their personal interests; new forms were circulated for completion.
- 9 (a) Safer Neighbourhood Team (*Pc Jason Pegden was allowed to deliver his report to enable him to resume his duties.*)  
**3 Crimes**  
1 x Theft of a Pedal cycle from Warrens Yard  
1 x Burglary in a Building other than Dwelling –Marine items from the Whelk sheds, East Quay  
1 x Theft from Stall/ shops -£75 worth of goods  
**39 Calls to Police during this time...**  
Ones of Note –  
1 x Road Accident on Dry Road, just outside of Wells a vehicle rolled, blocking the whole road, resulting in very minor injury to female driver  
2 x Missing children, one on Beach, one in Town –Both reunited with family.  
1 x Male arrested for Drunk and Disorderly  
2 x Calls to vehicle nuisance.  
JE asked if there had been any further developments on the recent outboard thefts but there hadn't; on-going vigilance is still required. RH asked if the pedal cycle had been stolen during the night or day; it had been stolen at night. Pc Pegden reported he would be away from the 23<sup>rd</sup> July to carry out security duties at the Olympics; Pc Nick Smith would be covering while Jason is away.

- 6) To discuss a suggestion that the length of Council meetings should be limited (MW)  
MW explained that for meetings to go on until 10.30 pm, as the meeting did last month, was too late. Could something be done to limit the length of meetings? The matter was discussed and various ideas suggested.  
Resolved – at 10 pm, meetings to continue only on agreement of the majority of the members.  
A suitable amendment would be made to standing orders
- 7) To discuss The East Quay slipway (CM)  
CM reported that Wells Harbour would be taking over the licence for the slipway and the matter was now resolved. Mention was also made concerning a request by Wells Harbour to acquire from NNDC the Beach Road toilet block to allow them to provide shower facilities for residential vessel owners. Although Wells Harbour had stated their commitment to continue with the provision of public toilets there was some concern by councillors. It was agreed that any transfer by NNDC would need to legally require any new owner to provide public toilets at the Beach Road location for the long term with no reduction in facilities. AF asked the clerk to write to NNDC.
- 8) To discuss a Tourism Strategy and form a working party to progress the idea (RA)  
RA outlined the work he had already done and introduced his ideas for a Tourism Strategy for Wells. He also reported on his recent attendance at the Norfolk Tourism Forum. The strategy was discussed and a way forward considered.  
Resolved – RA to progress the strategy  
During item 8 Dr Marie Strong, Jonathan Savory and a member of the public arrived.
- 9) Reports:
- b) Norfolk County Council (Dr Marie Strong)  
Faster Broadband was moving forward with BT and Fujitsu providing tenders. She was now sitting on a number of scrutiny panels including the purchase of RAF Coltishall and Blue Badge provision. She was also on the highway procurement board. The proposed restriction area on Blakeney marshes was now to go to consultation following a national petition organised by the Wildlife Trust in support of the restriction area. Were the council aware that a parking/traffic warden was not functioning at the weekend?
- c) North Norfolk District Council (Jonathan Savory)  
A report is appended and available on the website. In addition Jonathan mentioned in response to item 8 that he thought the NNDC accommodation brochure would continue. Mundesley had taken over their TIC and were running it with volunteers. Further restructuring had taken place at NNDC reducing the number of senior managers from 14 to 8. LD asked if Jonathan could ask for the potholes in the Stearmans Yard car park to be repaired.
- d) Town Clerk/Asst. Clerk  
The Clerk's report is appended and available on the internet
- e) Portfolio Holders  
JE (Buttlands) mentioned the need for a new bolt for the bollard on the Buttlands. He would liaise with the Clerk.  
RA (Tourism) had attended the Coastal Issues Forum. A number of issues had been discussed including Happisburgh, Fisheries and the Marine Plan. RA hopes to raise the profile of Wells at future meetings and to ask for important Wells issues to go on the agenda.  
LD (Cemetery) hope the newly formed cemetery working party would meet this month.  
RH (Playing Field) the recent meeting with the skatepark group had gone well and he is awaiting a response. Regarding the water leak, AWA now think that this is ground water, but RH will continue to monitor the situation. The annual Fun Day will be on 1<sup>st</sup> August. The basketball area remains unfinished pending a break in the weather to allow completion. He would not be happy for the bins to be removed from the playing field if an agreement cannot be reached with NNDC.
- JS leaves the meeting

10) To receive any available information regarding the Field Study Centre  
 AF explained that the working party had failed to secure funding from the Coastal Communities fund and were unable to progress the proposed Coastal Futures Centre. With the NCC deadline so close it was unlikely any other funding options could be considered and the working group's recommendation was that the council would not be able to find a viable option.

11) To resolve whether this Council should attempt to buy (or lease) the Field Study Centre  
Resolved – Write to NCC with regret to inform them that Wells Town Council would not be proceeding and would be pulling out of negotiations

12) Financial Report & Accounts for Settlement

The following had been paid during the month

Madasafish	Broadband subscription	14.99
NNDC	Cemetery Rates	53.00
Greg Hewitt	Asst. Clerk's Deposit	550.00
Keith Leesmith	Clerk's Salary Deposit	700.00

The following were agreed for payment

Jimmy Tottle	Bollards	220.00
Greg Hewitt	Salary (net of deposit) & Expenses	60.11
Keith Leesmith	Salary (net of deposit) & Expenses	73.50
Norfolk Pension Fund	monthly contribution	251.86
Norse Commercial Services Ltd	Grounds maintenance   £1275.00	-----
	Grounds maintenance   £303.00	-----
	Additional Work Buttlands £247.20	1825.20
Friends of Beach Road Playing Field	Rabbit/Mole Control   £307.50	-----
	Playing Field Repairs   £155.50	463.00
Veolia Environmental Services	Cemetery rubbish collection	66.31
Viking	Office Supplies/refuse sacks	462.33
Roger Muncey	internal audit	80.00
Killgerm	Poison	99.96
Wells Maltings Trust	Sackhouse Office Rent	1000.00
Civic Pride	Watering Machine (Wells in bloom)	1236.00
NALC	Summer Conference	90.00
HM Revenue & Customs	PAYE 1st Quarter	1144.61
Edna Garrett	Sackhouse cleaning	30.00
Mick Chestney	Litter Picking	352.27
Terry Corbishley	Litter Picking	215.60
Peter Snell	Tap Repair Allotments	25.00
		<b>7695.75</b>

Resolved – Accounts agreed and accepted

13) To confirm Date of Next Meeting  
 Confirmed as Monday 3 September 2012

14) **To consider a resolution under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings Act) 1960, as amended by Section 100 of the Local Government Act 1972 to exclude members of the public and press during consideration of an item of a confidential nature.**

Resolved – agreed everyone leaves apart from those councillors present and the Clerks

15) To discuss a confidential matter with regard to a vacancy for a Town Councillor  
Resolution – It was resolved to disqualify an individual councillor and begin the process to recruit a new member.

*If a member fails throughout a period of six consecutive months from the date of their last attendance to attend any meeting of the council, the member ceases to be a member of the council, unless failure was due to some reason approved by the council before the expiry of the period. Local Government Act 1972 s. 85*

**The meeting closed at 2058**