



MINUTES

Town Council Meeting held on 4 November 2013 at 1930 at The Methodist Room

Those Present: Rodney Crafer (Chairman), Gary Anthony, Roger Arguile, Pauline Catton, Lindsey Dew, Joe Ellison, Mike Gates, Ray Hewitt & Campbell MacCallum

Greg Hewitt (Clerk), Peter Terrington, Pc Pegden, Press (Quay/EDP) & 6 Members of the Public

1) Public Forum

Pauline Catton mentioned that the bottle banks have gone from the coach park but bottles are still being left. *The clerk said this had been reported to NNDC who had promised to erect notices.*

Ray Hewitt asked what could be done about the old grain store on Maryland which was in a very poor state. *It was decided to make it an agenda item for discussion next month.*

Guy Warren asked about the town crest and the state of the town sign.

Residents from Northfield Estate expressed their concerns about Victory Housing's plans to demolish the garages at Northfield Crescent for development.

2) Apologies Allen Frary, Tony Ford, Marie Strong & Jonathon Savory

3) To receive Declarations of Interest MG item 8, 9 & 14d.

4) To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 7 October 2013 Agreed and Signed

12a) Reports: Safer Neighbourhood Team

Pc Pegden reported that the speed gun has always been kept at Wells Police Station and in regular use. It had been used 362 times in and around the Wells area. He agreed he would put forward a problem solving plan to deal with the issue of speeders on Mill Road, Northfield Lane and Polka Road, reporting back to the council in two months.

During the last month there had been 3 criminal damage, 4 burglary other than dwelling, 4 theft and 50 calls to the police. The allotments were regularly being patrolled and he encouraged individual allotment holders to consider crime prevention options.

5) To discuss matters relating to car parking, including the operation of the overflow car park, the charity volunteer groups and on street parking enforcement

CM explained that it was hoped the bridge from the recreation field to the pitch and putt would become a permanent feature providing adequate summer car parking. The car parking next year would be operated the same way including involving the charity groups. Holkham Estate still hoped to develop the car park on Freeman Street but more as a grassed field to be used as an overflow for town parking. There are details to be finalised and more to say in the future.

6) To determine an additional new street name for the proposed development on Market Lane.
Resolved – Ashburton Close.

7) To consider renewal of the three yearly grounds maintenance contract.
Resolved – To renew the contract with Norse.



MINUTES CONTINUED

- 8) To consider an approach from Blakeney Parish Council to jointly request Victory Housing to hold a public meeting to answer questions regarding their sale of ex-council houses on the open market.
Resolved – To negotiate with Blakeney to invite Victory to attend a public meeting to discuss the sale of ex-council houses and garages.
- 9) To consider a consultation document sent by Victory Housing concerning the proposed demolition and redevelopment of garage blocks on Northfield Way, Neilson Close and Northfield Crescent.
 Concerns were voiced about what the impact of any proposed development would be.
Resolved – To ask for further and better particulars and outlined plans.
- 10) To consider a response to NNDC regarding the proposed termination and removal of the CCTV system
Resolved – To await the outcome of the meeting at Fakenham on 13 November 2013, attended by all the town councils involved.
- 11) To discuss Norfolk County Council’s budget proposals and determine if the Town Council will formally respond to the *Putting People First* public consultation
Resolved – To make no response to the consultation.
- 12) Consider planned highway improvements at the junction of Station Road, Staithe Street and High Street.
 The proposal put forward by highways as part of infrastructure improvements resulting from the Co-op development is for a coloured road surface and town centre signage.
Resolved – To ask for the surface to be the reddish colour normally use within 30 mph restrictions, or failing that’ the buff colour suggested by highways. The signs are to say ‘Wells Town Centre’ and be blue.
- 13) As a result of a recent vacancy agree on the co-option of a new member and the procedure to be followed
Resolved – To advertise the vacancy for a new town councillor in the Quay Magazine and on local noticeboards. The deadline for applications is the 20 December 2013, to allow a decision to be made at the January meeting.
- 14) Reports
- b) County Councillor Dr Marie Strong
 A report is appended and is available on the website.
- c) NNDC Peter Terrington
 A report is appended and is available on the website.
- d) Town Clerk
 A report is appended and available on the website. As a result of the information in the Clerk’s report councillors declined a parishioners request for an additional dog bin, agreed to the repair of a lamp post on Knitting Needle Lane by way of having a metal sleeve fitted, agreed to the replacement of three broken grit bins and decided not to apply a top dressing on an allotment track way.
 A request had been received asking for the Buttlands to be used as a wedding venue which councillors resolved to decline. Following a tree survey on the Polka Road Cemetery and St Nicholas Church Yard it was resolved to accept the quote by Special Branch Tree Surgery to complete the work identify. Councillors resolved to grant a request made by Lindsey Benton for a memorial bench to be placed on the Buttlands.



MINUTES CONTINUED

e) Portfolio Holders

JE (Buttlands) all the signs regarding the use of fireworks on the Buttlands had been placed.

CM (Traffic & Parking) There had been an increase in the number of on street parking tickets issued during the year. There is a need to consider the parking restrictions on the west side of the Beach Road as an agenda item next month. On behalf of the council CM thanked Robert Smith and the Harbour Commissioners for helping to fund the new 'Wells-next-the-Sea' entry point signs. CM also thanked Steve White the highways engineer for his help and for suggesting the strapline 'A Safe Haven'.

RA (Tourism) Together with Robert Smith RA had been successful in getting some inaccuracies about Wells changed on the Visit Norfolk website. He had also written some new material he hoped the Visit North Norfolk website would use.

15) Accounts for Settlement

Payments made during the month

British Telecom	Telephone Service	101.26
E-on Energy	Street Lighting electricity	457.54
Madasafish	Broadband Service	12.75
NNDC	Cemetery Rates	54.00
Greg Hewitt	Clerk's Salary Deposit	1000.00
		1625.55

Payments to be made

Jimmy Tottle	Bollards	220.00
Greg Hewitt	Salary (net of deposit) & Expenses	207.27
Norfolk Pension Fund	monthly contribution	461.60
K & M Lighting Services	Street Lighting Maintenance	306.70
Norse Commercial Services Ltd	Grounds maintenance £1275.00	-----
	Grounds maintenance £303.00	-----
	Additional Wk Buttlands £408	1986.00
Veolia Environmental Services	Cemetery rubbish collection	23.26
Wells Community Hospital	Office Rent October	250.00
Royal British Legion	Poppy Wreath	18.00
Wells United Charities	Grant	500.00
Homes for Wells	Grant	250.00
Mick Chestney	Litter Picking	300.30
Terry Corbishley	Litter Picking	178.70
Mark Briggs	Erection of Town Map/Sign Board	87.00
Mike Briggs	Installation of allotment gates	1630.00
		6418.83

Resolved – Accounts agreed and accepted

16) To confirm Date of Next Meeting

Confirmed as Monday 2 December 2013

17) 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. - Agreed18) To consider some staff and contractor contract arrangements.

Resolved – some individuals would be required to provide their own public liability insurance

The meeting closed at 2152



Greg Hewitt

Town Clerk

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