



MINUTES

2013/01

Town Council Meeting held on 7th January 2013 at 1910 at The Methodist Rooms

Those Present: Allen Frary (Chairman), Gary Anthony, Roger Arguile, Pauline Catton, Rodney Crafer, Lindsay Dew, Tony Ford, Mike Gates, Campbell MacCallum & Maggie Ward

Keith Leesmith (Clerk), Greg Hewitt (Asst. Clerk), Press (The Quay) & 5 Members of the Public

Marie Strong (NCC), Peter Terrington (NNDC), Jonathan Savory (NNDC) all arrived during the meeting

1) Public Forum

Andrew Gates advised the councillors that construction had started on the new Skate Park and completion was expected by mid-February but that would be subject to the weather.

2) Apologies Joe Ellison & Ray Hewitt
Police

3) Declarations of Interest None

4) To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 3 December 2012 - Approved and signed

5) To receive a presentation by Barry Dennis of Wells Community Hospital and Sarah Read, Dementia Communications Specialist, with regard to a possible drive to promote the town as a "dementia friendly community"

Barry Dennis together with Sarah Reed explained that he hoped to make the Wells Community Hospital a 'Dementia Hub' providing specialist services and training for dementia sufferers, carers and the wider community. It was intended that the project would be a partnership with other local services and organisations. As part of this he asked if Wells Town Council would take a lead in helping to make Wells a Dementia Friendly Community. Further information is appended and is available on the website.

Marie Strong arrives

6) To discuss whether to take any action following the previous item

Resolved – It was decided to allow councillors time to think about the proposal and reconsider any action at next month's meeting.

Jonathan Savory arrives

7) To discuss various problems of car parking – including illegal on-street parking, poor enforcement and potential shortages of off-street parking during the coming year. To seek measures to alleviate congestion caused by the above and various known large building projects.

It was now known that parking would be allowed on the recreation field as usual during the year, this would hopefully help accommodate many of the visiting vehicles. A letter had been written to the Highways Authority asking them to take account of the large amount of scheduled building work. It was agreed that the council should be proactive in reporting illegal parking problems to the West Norfolk parking enforcement team when and where necessary.

8) To consider any action that may be necessary with regard to the 2013/2014 budget and precept

Due to changes brought about by the government which resulted in a change in the Tax Base it was necessary to consider a change to the precept. As a result of changes to the payment of council tax benefit the tax base for Wells changed from 1107.13 to 995.12. Consequently, this would have resulted in an approximate 10% increase to the local precept element of each contributing household in Wells. To alleviate this NNDC would provide a grant of £8393 to enable the precept to be reduced.

Resolved – To accept the grant and reduce the precept to £59607

Peter Terrington arrived during item 8

- 9) To consider a consultation paper for the proposed Local Development Order at the former North Creake Airfield, Egmere and this Council's response if any.

No consultation documents had yet been received but we had been informed that Steve Blatch from NNDC wanted to come and give a presentation to the council concerning the proposed LDO. The item was therefore postponed until next month.

- 10) To consider the feasibility of locating a waste compactor on the recreation field
Resolved – it was not considered acceptable to locate a compactor on the recreation field

- 11) To consider whether this Council can assist in any way in expediting work at the former Gray's Arcade.

A letter had recently been sent to NNDC stating the council's concerns and asking to be kept informed of any developments.

Resolved – to save any delay in acting in this matter, the clerk, in consultation with the chair, can take any action that may be necessary to help advance or assist the proposed development on the former Gray's site.

- 12) Reports:

a) Safer Neighbourhood Team

A report was submitted and is appended and available on the website.

b) Norfolk County Council (Dr Marie Strong)

The contract with BT for high speed broadband has been signed off and BT Networks will soon be commencing surveying. Although the Blakeney MCZ is not going ahead written confirmation is yet to be received. It had transpired there was no scientific evidence to support the proposed MCZ. Community Construction Fund; the Maltings Trust had received £79,700 and Wells Community Hospital £100,000. There should be another round for this fund between 9th January to 14th February. Partnerships Working Fund; this fund will provide 50% for certain types of parish project. Resurfacing is scheduled for the Quay in March. Work is about to start on the East Bank sea defence

c) North Norfolk District Council

Jonathan Savory

There have been changes to the NNDC structure. Peter Moore is now Chairman, Lindsay Brettle Vice-Chairman and Tom Fitzpatrick is the Council Leader.

Peter Terrington

A report was submitted and is appended and available on the website.

(Questions) GA asked if NNDC were going to re-consider compulsory purchase of the former yellow shop site on the Quay. RA outlined some concerns he had concerning the proposed transfer of the Tourist Information Centre to a community organisation and asked if the Town Council could be part of an accountability/monitoring structure for Wells TIC.

d) Town Clerk/Asst. Clerk

A report was submitted and is appended and available on the website

In addition, there is a Norfolk Community Resilience day at Sea Palling on 28th January.

The East Bank sea defence repair commences on 28th January and the footpath will be diverted for about five weeks.

The Holkham Victoria may be interested in a long term loan of the Towns stuffed bird collection which is currently in storage.

e) Portfolio Holders

MW (Allotments) A second small success in getting another problem shed removed.

RA (Tourism) A short history of Wells will now be published in April and should be available in the Tourist Information Centre.

13) Financial Report & Accounts for Settlement

The following had been paid during the month

Brightview Internet	Broadband Service	14.99
E-on	Street Lighting	456.83
E-on	Sackhouse	84.35
Keith Leesmith	Clerk's Salary Deposit	700.00
Greg Hewitt	Assistant Clerk's Salary Deposit	530.00
NNDC	Planning Fee (skate park)	12.50
		1798.67

Payments December 2012

Jimmy Tottle	Bollards	220.00
Greg Hewitt	Salary (net of deposit) & Expenses	37.03
Keith Leesmith	Salary (net of deposit) & Expenses	114.67
Norfolk Pension Fund	monthly contribution	449.64
K & M Lighting Services	Street Lighting Maintenance	306.70
Norse Commercial Services Ltd	Additional work buttlands £360	-----
	Additional work buttlands £408	-----
	Clearance bonfire £1428	2196.00
Veolia	Cemetery waste disposal	44.21
Citizens Advice North Norfolk	Donation (last month)	750.00
Poetry next-the-Sea	Donation (last month)	150.00
Wells Lighting Fund	Donation (last month)	300.00
HM Custom and Revenue	PAYE 3rd Quarter	1085.64
Terry Corbishley	Litter Picking	207.90
Wells Community Hospital	rent	250.00
A Beale	Van hire/assistance with office move	67.50
A Beale	Bush/Tree Clearance Polka Cemetery	172.50
		6351.79

Resolved – Accounts agreed and accepted

14) To confirm Date of Next Meeting

Confirmed as Monday 4 February 2012

Allen then presented Keith Leesmith with a small retirement gift on behalf of the Council. Keith retires on 31st January when Greg Hewitt becomes the clerk.

The meeting closed at 2115