



MINUTES

Town Council Meeting held on 7 September 2015 at 1905 at The Methodist Room

Those Present: Allen Frary (Chairman), Gary Anthony, Pauline Catton, Rodney Crafer, Lindsay Dew, Tony Ford, Mike Gates, Ray Hewitt, Campbell MacCallum & Guy Warren

Greg Hewitt (Clerk), Marie Strong, Vincent Fitzpatrick, press (The Quay) & 12 members of the Public.

1) Public Forum

Peter Rainsford spoke about the recent traffic congestion during the summer, stating a solution must be found. He suggested that when the town was full to capacity traffic needed to be directed elsewhere.

Maureen Dye spoke about the problems caused to residents on Freeman Street by the building of the new car park and their concerns for the future when the car park is operational.

Pat Western thanked the Town Council for the use of the Buttlands and Recreation Field for carnival. Carnival had raised £5000 for charity this year. Pat also mentioned his concerns that proposed changes to the recreational field entrance might obstruct access for HGV's and trailers needed during carnival.

2) Apologies Roger Arguile, Joe Ellison, Police & Simon Hester

3) To receive Declarations of Interest PC item 9

4) To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 6 July 2015 Agreed and Signed

5) To receive a presentation from Steve Hayman, Senior Coastal Advisor for the Environment Agency, and discuss with him the Flood Defences relating to Wells.

Steve Hayman explained how the sea defences for Wells were monitored and maintained as part of the current Shoreline Management Plan. He reassured councillors that all the defences included in the plan were in good order and fit for purpose. Some concerns were raised about the Holkham dunes and the Overy Bank but he categorically stated they were in good order and inspected every six months. He also explained that the old defences behind the line that forms part of the current defence are the responsibility of the landowner. He did however encourage people to report anything of concern to the Environment Agency and it would be investigated.

6) To receive a presentation from David Horton-Fawkes concerning Holkham Estates proposals for operating the car parking next year.

David explained the rationale and history that has resulted in Holkham Estate building the new car park. However, the new car park is unlikely to be large enough and planning permission is now to be requested to link the new car park to the pitch and putt by a new roadway over the old sea defence to provide overflow parking; there would be no use made of vehicular access onto the pitch and putt from Beach Road, all access to the new car park and the pitch and putt would be from Freeman Street.



MINUTES CONTINUED

6) cont....

It is intended that all the traffic coming into Wells will be directed around the town to access the new car park along Freeman Street from the west. The Beach car park would be designated 'short stay' and the new car park 'long stay' to encourage people to use the new car park. A traffic management strategy and signage will be agreed with the highway authority as part of the planning process. David also explained that none of the charities in the town would need to lose out due to the loss of the charity car parking initiative. Holkham Estate annually has a fund of 40 to 50 thousand pounds that is donated to local charities and bids from those charities involved with the car parking scheme would be looked at favourably. Reimbursement of the £13500 provided by Wells Town Council to fund half the cost of the bridge into the pitch and putt was also discussed; when the money was given it was not anticipated the bridge would only be utilised for one year. David said he would see but Holkham are financing the provision of the new car park. David finished by saying that support from the town council would be needed for the new planning application to allow the link road onto the pitch and putt.

7) To consider a proposal from County Councillor Dr Marie Strong for the Town Council to support and part fund a new section of footpath at the western end of Mill Road.

Marie explained that it is proposed to build a new section of footpath at the western end of Mill Road, on the southern side, from the Community Hospital to the bend by the entrance into Holkham Park. The cost would be about £ 15500 and could be part funded under the Parish Partnership scheme if the town council would consider paying half the cost. The footpath would provide a safe pedestrian route into Holkham Park.

Resolved – In principle to go ahead and pay half in partnership with the County Council.

8) To decide who will represent Wells Town Council on the Wells Coastal Communities Team.

Resolved – Pauline Catton together with Guy Warren.

9) To consider the following grant applications

- Wells Flood Action Team
- Burnham Market Area Community Car Scheme
- Wells Christmas Tide Festival Committee
- Arts La'olam

Resolved -

- Wells Flood Action Team - £400
- Burnham Market Area Community Car Scheme - £500
- Wells Christmas Tide Festival Committee - £400
- Arts La'olam – £0

10) a) Safer Neighbourhood Team

A report was submitted and is available on the website



MINUTES CONTINUED

10) b) Norfolk County Council

County Councillor Dr Marie Strong explained that provision of the Coasthopper bus service is currently out to tender. If anyone has been incorrectly refused the use of their bus pass Marie would like to know. The recycling centre is closing for 5 weeks on the 28th September 2015, allowing for repairs to the concrete pad. Be aware of a current scam where telephone calls are received from persons pretending to be calling from your broadband supplier. A government funded mast is to be erected in Blakeney to improve mobile phone reception in 'not spots'.

c) North Norfolk District Council

District Councillor Vincent Fitzpatrick advised that he has called a recent planning application for Quayside Court into the Development Committee. Noise nuisance complaints have been received about the Captains Table and a noise abatement notice has been served by NNDC. Complaints have been received about the cleanliness of the Beach Road toilets and the contractors have been warned that steps need to be taken to improve the situation. On Friday 4th September 2015, the Chairman's reception was held in Wells at the Maltings. The recent Green Build Exhibition at Felbrigg was a success with 7000 visitors. NNDC's Big Society Fund is still available for grant applications. Councillors advised Vincent that complaints have been received about loud live music from the balcony of the Golden Fleece. RH also brought to Vincent's attention the state of repair of the Beach Road toilets and the amount of rubbish being stored behind the toilet block for several days.

d) Town Clerk

Two reports are appended and available on the website. As a result it was resolved not to clean graffiti from the skate park at this time. There will be a special meeting for councillors to discuss a response to NNDC's new local plan at 3pm Monday 28th September 2015, at the Community Hospital. A request to place an additional bench on the Buttlands was granted. A lamppost that recently fell over in Mill Road will not be replaced. Permission was given to purchase 10 new LED lights and the council's broadband provision can be upgraded. The council will replace a donated bench on the Buttlands that was recently damaged.

e) Portfolio Holders/Committees

LD (Cemetery) There are still some Rabbits on the cemetery

RH (Playing Field) The fun day was a fantastic success and thank you to the council for the grant. There has been no response following the closure of the unauthorised gateway onto the Playing Field.

TF (Council Services) There has been unprecedented amounts of litter in black bags left on the quay at night resulting in increased rat activity.



MINUTES CONTINUED

11) Accounts for Settlement

Payments during the month

E-on Energy	Street Lights	564.92
E-on Energy	Buttlands	112.94
Madasafish	Broadband Service	14.99
NNDC	Rates - Cemetery	50.00
Greg Hewitt	Clerk's Salary Deposit	1000.00

Payments 7 September 2015

Jimmy Tottle	Bollards	220.00
Greg Hewitt	Salary (net of deposit) & Expenses	258.49
Norfolk Pension Fund	monthly contribution	498.20
TT Jones Electrical Ltd	Lighting Maintenance July/Aug	554.03
Norse Eastern Ltd	Grounds maintenance £1306.87	-----
	Grounds maintenance £310.57	1617.44
Veolia Environmental Services	Cemetery rubbish collection	27.16
Wells Community Hospital	Office rent	250.00
Viking	Office supplies/stamps/bin bags	266.84
Norfolk Central Printers	Car Park Tickets	58.80
Anglo Scottish Equipment Ltd	Container Hire recreation field	127.54
Mazars	External Audit	480.00
P J Canham	Pest Control Cemetery - June	66.00
NNDC - Emptying of dog bins	Hedge Cutting - E Allotments	842.40
Mike Strong	Misc Flood Wardens - Misc	43.11
R Hewitt (Friends of beach Rd playground)	Closure of gate on playing field	480.00
R Hewitt (Friends of beach Rd playground)	Grass rolling and painting	806.29
S T Sutton	Skip removal cemetery	55.00
Mick Chestney	Litter Picking	931.50
Eddy Cast	Litter Picking	426.13
Broxap	Fingerpost arms	3248.40
Anglo Scottish Equipment Ltd	Container Hire recreation field	127.54

Resolved – Accounts agreed, accepted and signed

12) To confirm Date of Next Meeting - Confirmed as Monday 5 October 2015

Meeting ends 2200

