



MINUTES

Town Council Meeting held on 7 October 2013 at 1908 at The Methodist Room

Those Present: Allen Frary (Chairman), Roger Arguile, Pauline Catton, Rodney Crafer, Lindsey Dew, Joe Ellison, Tony Ford, Mike Gates & Ray Hewitt

Greg Hewitt (Clerk), Marie Strong, Peter Terrington, Press (Quay/Radio Norfolk) & 5 Members of the Public

A minutes silence was held in memory of Graham Walker

1) Public Forum

Stephen Bournes the new Owner of the Globe Inn introduced himself to the Council.

Christine Rayner brought to the councils attention a traffic calming idea that she thought would work in Wells (the Clerk was asked to write to NCC Highways to see if the idea could be implemented).

Ray Hewitt brought to the councils attention a need for the widening of the path near the Deli on the Quay as the current width was not suitable for wheelchair users (the clerk was asked to write to highways).

Pauline Catton informed the council that Victory Housing had held an event on the Northfield Estate where six skips, a hog roast and ice cream were provided to tenants as part of an initiative to clear rubbish from gardens.

Joyce Trett spoke about her concerns that Victory Housing is selling off family sizes homes in Wells on the open market.

2) Apologies Gary Anthony, Campbell MacCallum, Police & Jonathon Savory

3) To receive Declarations of Interest RC item 13, MG item 12.

4) To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 2 September 2013 Agreed and Signed

5) To consider a report from Councillor Arguile concerning tourism, the regional strategy and a reprint of the town brochure for next year.

RA circulated a report (available on the website) concerning the town brochure. He requested £2000 funding to produce the brochure again next year. He also outlined his concerns with NNDC, Visit Norfolk and Visit North Norfolk, their tourism strategy and the poor quality of information available for Wells. It was agreed to invite Cllr Russell Wright (NNDC Cabinet member for Customer services and Economic Development) to a meeting to discuss it further. The request would be sent via Cllr Peter Terrington so he could liaise with Cllr Wright and determine if anyone else should be asked to attend the meeting.



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- 6) To determine three new street names for the proposed development on Market Lane.
Resolved – the whole development should be known as ‘Home Piece’.
- 7) To discuss the lack of provision of lifeguards at Wells Beach.
 PC asked why there were no lifeguards on Wells Beach. David Horton-Fawkes, Holkham’s Estates Director, advised that Holkham was talking to NNDC about the possible future provision of lifeguards.
- 8) To consider the decision of NCC highways not to grit Staithe Street during inclement weather (despite promises made that there would be no reductions in service), installation of a grit box on Staithe Street and whether the Town Council is prepared to take on the responsibility for gritting Staithe Street.
Resolved – To take on the gritting as a Town Council.
 The offer of a grit bin would be accepted
- 9) To consider two separate proposals to hire a section of the shingle car park on the Recreation Field during the summer season.
 This item was postponed until a decision is made about how the car parking on the recreation field would operate next year.
- 10) To consider any items to be added to the Budget/Precept process to be discussed next month
 The following were put forward for consideration at next month’s meeting
- Additional standpipes at the West End Allotments - £2000
 - Wells Town brochure for next year - £2000
 - Possible expenditure for the installation of a bridge on the recreation field connecting the pitch and putt - £10000
 - Proper signage at all town council managed sites - £1000
 - Safety matting for the installation of a play tractor on the children’s playing field - £2000
 - Establish a contingency fund for services that are likely to be devolved by the District and County councils - £5000
 - An additional amount for the grounds maintenance budget for tree surgery, re-turfing the Buttlands bonfire site and other Buttlands improvements - £7000
 - An additional amount to the odd jobs budget for maintaining the new town map and notice board on Staithe Street - £400
- 11) To consider the need for an additional countersignature for the councils financial affairs following a recent resignation.
Resolved – Vice Chairman Rodney Crafer to be a countersignature
- 12) To discuss the sale by Victory housing of ex local authority three bedroom homes
 RH explained Victory Housing were selling off three bedroom council houses in Wells that were needed by young families wanting to move up to larger houses. These houses were also being sold on the open market without restrictions. He asked that the council make a stand.
Resolved – to totally oppose the selling of any more council houses in Wells
 The clerk would write to Victory Housing



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13) To consider the following grant applications:

- Wells United Charities
- Homes for Wells

Resolved – To grant Wells United Charities £500 & Homes for Wells £250

14) Reports

a) Safer Neighbourhood Team

A report is appended and is available on the website

b) County Councillor Dr Marie Strong

Marie brought to the council's attention the NCC budget consultation and explained how important it was for the council to respond, particularly with regard to the Coasthopper. She also encouraged individuals to respond by the 12 December deadline. In addition, County high speed broadband is on track and within budget. Mobile networks – there would only be improvements where there was no SOS signal.

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. In addition the Clerk was given the authority to recruit a handy person. JE volunteered to lay the Remembrance Day wreath. North Walsham Town Council is organising a meeting between all the effected North Norfolk towns to discuss a joint approach to NNDC's decision to close the CCTV system; it was agreed Wells should attend any meeting.

e) Portfolio Holders

RH (Children's Playing Field and Recreation Field) The bonfire on the Buttlands would take place on 5 November. The new goal mouths would be the next job completed on the children's playing field. The football club had offered some fencing to be erected between the skatepark and the football pavilion; the friends of the playing field would install it with the council's permission (permission was given).

PC (Dementia Friendly Community) Pauline had been to several meetings recently. Laura Meadowcroft from the Alzheimer's Society wanted to come and speak to the council. It was agreed to invite Laura. Pauline suggested the council write and thank Maggie Ward for her years of service as a councillor; it was unanimously agreed a letter should be sent.

TF (Council Services) After problems during the early part of the season the street cleaning on the Quay had gone well. We would soon be completing the annual inspection of the council's street lighting stock.

15) Accounts for Settlement

Payments made during the month

E-on Energy	Street Lighting electricity	472.79
Madasafish	Broadband subscription	12.75
NNDC	Cemetery Rates	53.00
Greg Hewitt	Asst Clerk's Deposit	1000.00



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Jimmy Tottle	Bollards	220.00
Greg Hewitt	Salary (net of deposit) & Expenses	169.47
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	1578.00
Veolia Environmental Services	Cemetery rubbish collection	23.26
Wells Community Hospital Trust	Office rent August & September	500.00
Mazars	External Audit	480.00
HM Revenue & Customs	PAYE 2nd quarter	2099.64
Pear Technology Services Ltd	annual charge	240.00
Mike Claxton	Car Park Contract - repayment	2346.38
Holkham Estate	Children' Playing Field £50.00	-----
Holkham Estate	Recreation Field £155.47	-----
Holkham Estate	Westfield Playing Field £25.00	230.47
Mrs V.J. Emerson	Allotment rent - over payment	5.00
Mr G Anthony	Councillors travel expenses	19.80
SLCC Enterprises Ltd	Local Council Admin 9th edition	63.00
Peter Snell	East End Allotment Water System	6885.33
Wells Tennis Club	Charity Car Parking	1419.26
Wells Primary School PFA	Charity Car Parking	1419.26
Norfolk Citizens Advice Bureau	Charity Car Parking	1419.26
Wells Community Hospital Trust	Charity Car Parking	1419.26
Elsmith Bowls Club	Charity Car Parking	1419.26
Wells Methodist Church	Charity Car Parking	1419.26
Wells Twinning Association	Charity Car Parking	1419.26
Wells Sailing Club	Charity Car Parking	1419.26
Polka Day Care	Charity Car Parking	1419.26
Friends of the Beach Road Playing Field	Charity Car Parking	1419.26
Wells NCI (Coastwatch)	Charity Car Parking	1419.26
Wells RNLI Lifeboat Guild	Charity Car Parking	1419.26
Wells & District Lions Club	Charity Car Parking	1419.26
Wells United Charities	Charity Car Parking	1419.26
Wells Maltings Trust	Charity Car Parking	1419.26
Heritage House Day Care	Charity Car Parking	1419.26
Wells Congregational Church	Charity Car Parking	1419.26
Homes for Wells	Charity Car Parking	1419.26
Wells in Bloom	Charity Car Parking	1419.26
Wells Town Bowls Club	Charity Car Parking	1419.26
Wells Health Centre PPG	Charity Car Parking	1419.26
St Nicholas Church	Charity Car Parking	1419.26
Holkham Enterprises	car park share	9960.63
Terry Corbishley	Litter Picking	166.50
Mick Chestney	Litter Picking	386.92
Viking	Traffic cones for car parking	49.46

Resolved – Accounts agreed and accepted

- 14) To confirm Date of Next Meeting
Confirmed as Monday 4 November 2013

The meeting closed at 2150



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