



MINUTES

Town Council Meeting held on 8 April 2013 at 1920 at The Methodist Room

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

Greg Hewitt (Clerk), Peter Terrington (NNDC), Press (The Quay & EDP) Pc Jason Pegden & 4 Members of the Public,

1) Public Forum

Robert Smith (Harbour Master) addressed the council concerning the 'Wells-next-the-Sea' signs situated as you enter Wells. He suggested that the signs should have a short phrase appended to express the unique nature of the town; similar to other towns along the coast. He had already formed a small committee to take this idea forward and wanted the council's support. (Support was given and councillors Campbell MacCallum and Ray Hewitt agreed to join the committee.)

Patrick Weston, on behalf of the Harbour Commissioners, asked if the Town Council would like a harbour commissioner to attend council meetings to provide a regular report. (The council suggested a commissioner attends quarterly.)

Pauline Catton expressed concern that she had heard that the Wells Fire Engine had recently been unable to get a full crew to respond to a fire. (It was requested that the Clerk obtains more details so that the circumstances could be discussed at the next council meeting.)

2) Apologies Marie Strong

3) Declarations of Interest None

4) To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 4 March 2013 - Approved and signed

13a) Safer Neighbourhood Team

Pc Jason Pegden provided the following Police Report

It had been a busy month with beach huts and allotment sheds broken into. However, there were some suspects and enquiries were progressing. It was suggested that entrance gates to the allotments would be beneficial, together with crime prevention awareness. The police would continue to patrol the targeted areas.

In addition there had been 1 common assault, 1 possession of drugs, 2 damage and 2 domestic incidents. A counterfeit £20 note had also been passed in the Town. CM asked about the speed gun and assurance was given that it was in use locally. JE mentioned speeding cars on Northfield Lane and a significant problem with dog fouling. TF mentioned cars racing side by side on the Polka. Jason said he would investigate.

Jonathan Savory (NNDC) arrived

5) To consider the following requests from Graham Smith, 1) to be allowed an additional ride on the recreation field together with an increase in the allocated space, 2) to remain on site for the whole of carnival week.

Representation was made at the meeting by both Graham Smith and members of the Carnival Committee Resolved – Graham was to be limited to the same space as last year (Water Balls and Bungee). The carnival committee would have full control of the recreation field from the first Sunday of carnival through to the last Sunday of carnival inclusive.

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- 6) To consider the loan of the Town's Taxidermy Collection to Holkham Estate for display at the newly refurbished Victoria Inn (Holkham Victoria)
Resolved – to loan the collection until needed, subject to suitable terms and conditions
- 7) To consider a proposal from NNDC to provide a 1100 litre waste bin (wheelie bin) for the disposal of the waste from the playing and recreational fields at an annual cost of £200
Resolved – It was agreed to accept the offer.
- 8) To consider a request form Wells Community Hospital Trust, to erect a marquee on the Buttlands during the August Bank Holiday weekend, to host a charity ball for approximately 500 people Saturday 24th August 2013
 GH explained that the organisers had now decided not to hold the event on 24th August but wished to know if the council would agree to the event in principle on another occasion. Concerns were expressed about the suitability of such an event on a busy holiday weekend.
Resolved – In principle the council supported the idea of the event
- 9) To discuss the new 'Loading Bay' on the north side of Quay
 There were significant concerns that the bay was causing congestion on the quay with drivers treating it as a parking bay; was it what had been requested? GH explained he had spoken with highways and been informed that buses were allowed ten minutes to load and unload. All other vehicles 30 minutes but there must be loading or unloading. Any vehicles parking could be ticketed. Within the next three months Highways were going to mark the road within the bay with 'BUSES/LOADING ONLY'. The council would continue to monitor the situation and continue to apply pressure to ensure enforcement against offending drivers.
- 10) To discuss whether the town council wishes to try and take advantage of the 'Parish Partnership' fund provided by NCC to enable the installation of a low-energy lighting option on street lights belonging to the town council.
 To convert all the council's lighting stock would take in excess of £60,000. Even with shared funding the council is not in a position to take this forward at this time. The clerk will consider the feasibility of a long term strategy for upgrading the council's lighting.
- 11) To consider a request for a donation from Norfolk Accident Rescue Service
 The council required more information before considering this request. The clerk is to make enquiries for consideration at the next meeting.
- 12) To consider a request for a donation from Wells Maltings Trust towards supporting the costs of the Tourist Information Centred
 It would not be possible to provide help within this year's budget and the Maltings Trust would need to re-submit the request in September for consideration in the 2014 – 2015 financial year. RA would like this discussed by the TIC steering group on which he is the council's representative.
- 13) Reports:
- b) NCC (Dr Marie Strong)
 A report was submitted and is appended on the website.
- c) NNDC Jonathan Savory
 Jonathan expressed his disappointment that the NNDC development committee didn't act on the concerns voiced about the Market Lane development; he did his best.
- c) NNDC (Peter Terrington)
 A report was submitted and is appended on the website.

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d) Town Clerk

In addition to the monthly report which is appended. Kiss Works had provided an acceptable quote for repair of the damaged bus shelter. The new wall by the Health Centre has been commissioned and paid for by the Health Centre and not Mr Keville as previously reported. The Skatepark official opening is at 2 pm on Friday 12 April. The Town Meeting is at 7 pm on Monday 22 April. The highways engineer has looked at the possibility of repairing the Bollards in Staithe Street. The town council had still not been paid by NCC for placing the bollards last year and the clerk would continue to pursue the money. It was hoped that NCC would finally make good the kerbing and verges around the Buttlands. The highway rangers next visit is 29 April.

e) Portfolio Holders

JE – Buttlands) The trees had now been surveyed and trimmed where necessary. There were concerns about dog fouling on the Buttlands and elsewhere in the town.

CM – There have been significant parking problems on Plummers Hill.

PC – The Community Hospital is about to receive a substantial grant towards its dementia work and there will be dementia awareness training on 17th May.

RA – submitted a report which is appended. The new town brochure will be published by 1st June.

Marie Strong arrives

14) Financial Report & Accounts for Settlement**Payments during the month**

E-on Energy	Street Lighting Electricity	426.37
Brightview Internet	Broadband Service	14.99
Greg Hewitt	Clerk's salary deposit	1000.00
		1441.36

Payments April 2013

Greg Hewitt	Salary (net of deposit) & Expenses	168.03
Jimmy Tottle	bollards	220.00
Norfolk Pension Fund	monthly contribution	452.72
K & M Lighting Services	Street Lighting Maintenance	306.70
Veolia	Bins - Cemetery	46.51
Viking Direct	Refuse sacks	71.72
Norfolk Landscaping	Turfing around Skatepark	1700.00
DMH Solutions	LCRS Risk Assessment software	35.33
Norfolk RCC	Annual Subscription	20.00
Fenland Leisure Products Ltd	Playing Field Seesaw	2760.00
Wicksteed Playscapes	Playing Field Safety Tiles	1840.80
B & S Chains	Playing Field Swing Seats	322.69
Society of Local Council Clerks	Attendance of AGM	10.00
HM Revenue & Customs	PAYE 4th quarter	1686.80
Platten & Anthony	Hex Keys for Buttlands Bollard	19.80
Media 8	Work to date for Wells Town Guide	1500.00
Norfolk Assoc of local Councils	Subscriptions	314.36
Special Branch Tree Surgery	Buttlands Trees	2550.00
Wells Community Hospital	rent	250.00
Terry Corbishley	Litter Picking	223.30
NALC	LCR Subscription	16.00
		14514.76

Resolved – Accounts agreed and accepted

- 15) To confirm Date of Next Meeting
Confirmed as Monday 13 May 2013

The meeting closed at 2120