

# MINUTES

### 2010/35

### Town Council Meeting held on I November 2010 at 1907 at The Methodist Room

NB: Just before the meeting, Allen Frary was summoned by RNLI pager – hence the meeting was chaired by RC

<u>Those Present:</u> Rodney Crafer(Chairman), Gary Anthony, Lindsay Dew, Joe Ellison, Andy Gates, Mike Gates, Ray Hewitt, Joyce Trett, and Maggie Ward,

Keith Leesmith (Clerk), PCSOs Andy Dixon & Becky Taylor, I member of the press (*The Quay*), and 6 members of the public.

Jonathan Savory (NNDC) arrived during the following item

I) <u>Public Forum</u>

With regard to the new parking scheme in Freeman Street, it is thought that the parking bay on the north side between Dogger Lane and Chapel Yard will cause problems. The lane(s) at the rear of Gales Road are full of pot holes and puddles. JT would attempt to see if NNDC were responsible for them. The drain near the east side of the zebra crossing on Standard Road still appears to be blocked. KL said that the Highway Rangers were currently working in the town, and clearing the drain should be on their list of work to do.

None

2) <u>Apologies</u>

Allen Frary, Steve Clark, Campbell MacCallum

- 3) Declarations of Interest
- 4) Minutes of the meeting held on 4 October 2010 Agreed and signed
- 5) <u>Reports</u>
  - <u>5a Wells Safer Neighbourhood Team</u>

There had been 16 recorded crimes during the past month, although 12 of these were by the same person. This was a juvenile committing fraud by false representation – asking for sponsorship money. There was also one theft of a motor vehicle (undetected), one criminal damage to a motor vehicle (under investigation), one theft (male arrested) and one criminal damage (undetected). During the same period there were three calls to police for rowdy behaviour. There had been no problems associated with Halloween this year. Police Sgt Andy Smith had now moved to Sheringham but his place was to be taken by Police Sgt Howard Olby, and not as previously reported.

10) <u>To discuss the reply from NNDC with regard to a Designated Public Place Order</u> NNDC were not happy with the suggested area, and thought that they should have received the request from police directly. It was resolved that the police would contact NNDC and would come back to us as and when needed.

Report from North Norfolk District Council 5c) Neither JS nor JT had anything to report but answered questions as follows: The public toilets are now considerably better, but should there not be baby-changing facilities? JT to enquire. The Beach Road toilets still smell; is this due to plumbing (outflow) leaks? When will the compulsory purchase take place on Grays? The final date for Grays to attempt sell the site October. Since they have was 31 not done proceedings to so, can 

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## MINUTES CONTINUED 2010/36

### 5d) <u>Town Clerk</u>

A surrender document has been signed for our lease on the Sackhouse. From I January the Maltings Trust will become our landlords. *Action for Blind People* will be holding a session at the hospital on 17 November, in conjunction with glaucoma testing taking place at the same time. Holkham Park will be closed to vehicles until Easter whilst repairs and alterations are undertaken. Norse have been asked to apply an autumn dressing to The Buttlands. The Harbour Commissioners would be holding their annual meeting at The Maltings on 2 November. There will be no Council insert in *The Quay* in November, as there was not enough material to publish. NCC are about to start a consultation into the spending review. Another stack of documents has arrived with regard to minerals and waste development. A letter has been received complaining of "unfriendly shops" in the town. Councillors have a copy of this and the reply. Work would start later in the week on surrounding The Buttlands with kerbstones.

#### <u>5e) Portfolio Holders</u>

Children's Playing Field: A JCB which was to clear the dyke, became bogged down in the north-east corner of the field. The Holkham agent will visit to see what can be done about the resultant mess. That corner of the field still appears to be wetter than it should be. RH will continue to investigate.

Allotments: MW asked for Council's approval to give notice to two allotment tenants and to get them to clear the rubbish that had accumulated on the plots. It was agreed that this would be done. If the rubbish was not cleared the Council would have it cleared and send the tenants the account.

Tourism: The TIC, which had had another busy year, was now closed until the spring.

6) <u>To discuss any matters that appear after the publishing of this agenda with regard to any reduction in local</u> <u>services, closure of facilities, or similar matters.</u>

KL had added this item to the agenda because last month it had been announced that the Field Study Centre would close after the publication of the agenda. By having an item such as this it enabled a discussion to take place, which otherwise would not be allowed. Although these are volatile times, with announcements being made almost daily, there was nothing particularly local to discuss this month.

Marie Strong (NCC) arrived during the following item

8) <u>To discuss the annual budget for 2011/2012 and to fix the precept</u>

KL had prepared a budget which was circulated and is appended. It was agreed to precept for £68,000 (no increase again). Since the figures are required so early, it was agreed that we reserve the right to amend this before the statutory date for precepting (15 February) if the District or County Council decides to cancel or reduce any discretionary services which Wells Town Council regards as necessary for the welfare of the town and wishes to provide itself.

5b) Norfolk County Council

The Field Study Centre is likely to go on to the open market. Attempts to improve Broadband and Mobile Phone coverage continue. The work on the new zebra crossing outside the primary school is proceeding, and various problems to do with the Sure Start building have been resolved. With regard to cuts in services, residents can make representations and take part in a consultation at the "Big Conversation" section of the Norfolk Website

7) To discuss the future of the stuffed birds currently housed at The Field Study Centre, and any other matters pertaining to the Field Study Centre

It was agreed that we ask the schools whether they would be interested in looking after these until other options became available (it might be possible for them to be relocated to the Maltings eventually).

## MINUTES CONTINUED 2010/37

II)	To consider passing a vote of confidence in favour of Homes for Wells in respect of their providing homes for			
Í	local people.			
	This item, and the one after had been placed on the agenda because KL had been asked for confirmation that			
	Wells Town Council supported these organisations, and had to reply that since the matter had not been			
	discussed, he could not give a definitive answer. Resolved to pass a vote of confidence in HfW.			
12)	To consider passing a vote of confidence in favour of Scira Offshore Energy in respect of their providing			
	employment for local people.			
	Resolved to do so.			
13)	Financial Report and Accounts for S	Financial Report and Accounts for Settlement		
	A report had been circulated at the beginning of the meeting. The following had been paid during the month			
	NNDC	Sackhouse Rates	57.00	
	NNDC	Cemetery Rates	56.00	
	Brightview Internet	Broadband	9.99	
	Keith Leesmith	Clerk's Salary Deposit	1000.00	
	The following were agreed for payment:			
	Viking Direct	Stationery	74.54	
	Zurich Insurance	Additional PL premium	120.75	
	Keith Leesmith	Salary (net of deposit) and expenses	444.75	
	Norfolk Pension Fund	Monthly contribution	483.97	
	MHB Services Ltd	Street Lighting Maintenance	285.97	
	E-on Energy	Street Lighting electricity	451.72	
	Norse Commercial Services	Grounds Maintenance	1248.44	
	Jimmy Tottle	Bollards	220.00	
	The RBL Poppy Appeal	Remembrance Wreath	17.50	
	North Norfolk District Council	Lease of dog bins £141.00		
	North Norfolk District Council	Sackhouse rent to 31.12.10 £1000	1141.00	
	Veolia	Cemetery Waste Collection	70.66	
	Mick Chestney	Litter Picking	277.20	
	Terry Corbishley	Litter Picking	231.00	
	E-on Energy	Buttlands supply	127.88	
14)	To confirm the date of the next meet			
	Agreed as Monday 6 December 2010	)		
15)	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			
Resolved				

16) To receive a report from AF and RC following their meeting with members of the Wells Town Football Club and to decide on any future action required RC advised Members of the discussions undertaken. It was resolved to form a working party to meet with members of the football club to discuss any problems and seek solutions. With regard to a letter written by the club secretary a reply would be drafted and signed by the Council Chairman.

The meeting closed at 2145