

#### WELLS TOWN COUNCIL

THE SACKHOUSE, JICKLINGS YARD, WELLS-NEXT-THE-SEA NR23 1AU

## MINUTES

2010/15

#### Annual Town Council Meeting held on 10 May 2010 at 1906 at The Methodist Rooms

<u>Those Present:</u> Allen Frary (Chairman), Gary Anthony, Steve Clark, Rodney Crafer, Lindsay Dew, Andy Gates, Mike Gates, Ray Hewitt, Campbell MacCallum, & Maggie Ward

Keith Leesmith (Clerk)

I) Election of Chairman

Resolved - Allen Frary. Declaration of acceptance of office signed

2) Election of Vice-Chairman

Resolved – Rodney Crafer

The following items (3 to 7) were taken on block – agreed no change from last year

3) Election of Chairman of Planning Committee

Resolved - Mike Gates

4) Election of Vice-Chairman of Planning Committee

Resolved - Ray Hewitt

5) Appointment of Members of Planning Committee

Resolved to continue existing system – all Members excluding any dual-hatted – currently only Joyce Trett.

6) Appointment of any other standing committees

Resolved - none required

7) Appointment of Portfolio Holders for the coming year

Resolved

- Andy Gates Housing
- Ray Hewitt Recreation Field & Children's Playground
- Gary Anthony Communications & Press Officer
- Lindsay Dew Cemetery
- Mike Gates Finance & Quality Council Status
- Campbell MacCallum Traffic Management
- Joyce Trett Tourism
- Maggie Ward Allotments
- 8) Confirmation of meetings to be held during the next twelve months

Resolved to meet as the circulated list:

07.06.10 05.07.10 06.09.10 04.10.10 01.11.10 06.12.10

10.01.11 07.02.11 07.03.11 04.04.11 Annual Meeting of the Town Council -09.05.11

Annual Town Meeting – 18.04.11

Normal monthly meeting follows

PCSO Andy Dixon arrived at this point

9) Public Form

No public present

10) Apologies

Mark Frary; Jonathan Savory (NNDC) & Marie Strong (NCC) attending another meeting first.

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#### II) <u>Declarations of Interest</u>

None

#### 12) Minutes of the meeting held 12 April 2010

Agreed and signed

#### 13) Reports

#### 13b) North Norfolk District Council

Jonathan Savory had sent a report which had been distributed at the beginning of the meeting and is appended. 13c) <u>Safer Neighbourhood Team</u>

There had been five crimes recorded since the last meeting:

I x Harassment (detected); 2 x Theft from motor vehicle (I detected, I undetected); I x Theft (undetected); I x Actual Bodily Harm – ongoing investigation. During the same period there had been 9 calls for rowdy or nuisance behaviour, and I9 fixed penalty parking tickets issued. [PCSO Andy Dixon left the meeting]

#### 13d) Town Clerk

Copies of the draft development brief for the burnt-out buildings on The Quay have been distributed to Councillors. There will be a long-distance running race on the Coastal Path on II September. The Norfolk Police Authority is advertising for independent custody visitors. On Monday 24 May there will be a public consultation meeting for the Field Study Centre at the Maltings at 7.00pm. On Tuesday 25 May there will be a public exhibition of the latest Shoreline Management Plan proposals at The Maltings between 4.00pm and 7.30pm. On Wednesday 26 May NALC are running a meeting at Banningham between 7.00pm and 9.00pm entitled *Standards in North Norfolk*. NALC are also running a "cafe cluster" meeting at Letheringsett on 19 May between 2.00pm and 4.00pm. Several Wells residents including MW and KL would be attending the Public Inquiry into the stopping up of Malthouse Yard at Blakeney the following day. Highways have indicated that the request to increase the "bollard time" in Staithe Street would be examined in 2011/2012.

#### 13e) Portfolio Holders

Communication: GA thanked contributors to the Annual Report, which would be distributed with *The Quay*. Cemetery: LD had requested one contractor to provide quotations for the construction of temporary grave rabbit fences and intended to ask at least one other to do so. It was agreed that this matter be added to the agenda for next month, so that the quotations could be considered.

Children's Playground: The Bounty Playboat had been officially "launched" on 25 April with about 200 people attending. The playboat is proving to be very popular with the children.

Allotments: With one exception, the allotment sheds had all been cleared of asbestos on the day of the last meeting. One shed had not been possible to dismantle, because it contained items of value and would have collapsed if the roof had been removed. The allotment holder had been advised that they were now responsible for clearance of the asbestos before vacating the plot.

# 14) <u>To receive a report of work being done by the committee discussing the future of the Maltings Complex</u> A comprehensive report of the current situation was to be published as part of the annual report in this month's copy of *The Quay*.

#### 15) To receive a report from the meeting of the Wells Partnership Board held 21 April

(NB The Maltings Steering Committee is a sub-committee of this board). SC, RC, CM & KL had attended. The board, set up after the publication of the *Bluefish Report* appears to only have three objectives, the development of The Maltings, the establishment of a new car park in Freeman Street, and the redevelopment of the burnt-out buildings on The Quay. With regard to the latter, it was announced that NNDC cabinet would be asked for the approval of a plan to compulsory purchase the site in the near future. A draft development brief was distributed. Cabinet would also be asked to approve a grant of £30,000 towards the employment of a "project manager" to raise funds and generally carry the Maltings Project forward. With regard to the proposed new Freeman Street car park, Holkham advised that they intended to be applying for planning permission very soon.

2010/17

#### 16) To discuss outstanding highways issues

The parking and traffic working party had produced a list of items that they considered to be "outstanding". Some of these are due for consideration within the current or the next financial year. Some items are under current investigation. With regard to the requested mini-roundabout at the junction of Beach Road and The Quay, we would ask Marie Strong to appeal on our behalf, following the refusal to consider it. With regard to weeds growing from Church Marsh, we would seek alternative quotations to spray them or strim them, for consideration as an agenda item next month.

To discuss representation at, and any agenda items required for the Joint Parishes meeting on 8 June
There would be a presentation at the meeting by the new "Highway Rangers". No other items were suggested for the agenda. RC, AF, CM and KL would attend.

#### 18) To discuss the quotation for work to the northeast corner of The Buttlands.

Paul Bishop had supplied two quotations to finish the work at the pathway built last autumn. It was resolved to go ahead with the more-comprehensive job at a cost of £550. It was unclear whether this included one or two coats of tar. If it did not, KL was authorised to agree negotiate a further sum for an additional coat at a maximum of 10% extra.

#### 19) <u>To discuss bonfire damage to The Buttlands</u>

After the last November 5<sup>th</sup> bonfire on The Buttlands, the grass had not recovered properly and a mark was visible where the fire had been. (When KL had recently become aware of this he had instructed NORSE to reseed the area, which they had done). The question was whether reseeding (in November) was adequate, or whether we should revert to the former practice of removing and subsequently replacing turves. RH said that the manual job of lifting and replacing turf would be very expensive. Reseeding had proved adequate for many years; it had only proved inadequate this year because of the exceptionally cold winter. It was resolved to reseed in 2010 and to monitor the situation.

#### 20) <u>To discuss letter from Julie Souter regarding Area Forum 2010</u>

This letter (dated II April) had been received by KL on I3 April and required an answer by 26 April. KL had contacted the writer and said that there would not be a Council meeting in the period, and was told that individual copies had gone to Councillors; in fact, although some had received a copy, most had not. It was resolved to take no action on the issue.

Marie Strong & Jonathan Savory arrived during the following item

### 21) To discuss the Norfolk RCC Good Neighbour Project as described at the Annual Town Meeting

Several thought that the presentation had been very worthwhile, although maybe Wells did not require such a scheme, as it was thought that most people would be willing to help their neighbours without needing a formal arrangement. No Councillor was personally interested in taking the idea forward, and it was resolved to ask *The Quay* to publish a short piece on the scheme, and offer to assist anyone who was interested in operating it.

#### 13a) Norfolk County Council report

The Tour of Britain Cycle Race would pass through Wells on 16 September. MS would still like examples of bad broadband and mobile phone coverage for the scrutiny committee. People have not yet got used to the new opening hours of the recycling centre and are visiting on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, when they are not now open. With regard to the Second Homes Tax/Infrastructure Fund issue, MS has been arguing (so far without success) that there should be a "pot" available for the use of Parishes that contribute to the fund. Following the failure to "get a place" under the Sustainable Communities legislation, it is likely that flood sirens will be discussed in the near future.

## MINUTES CONTINUED 2010/18

#### 13b) North Norfolk District Council

JS did not have anything to add to his circulated report, but would report the problem of potholes in the Stearman's Yard car park.

#### 22) To discuss consultation for the Wells Field Study Centre

It was agreed that the Council would not try to put forward a (corporate) response to the consultation, but would leave it to individual Councillors to make their own comments. Since several Councillors had been to school there, but had not been inside the building since, KL would try to arrange a visit.

#### 23) To discuss consultation on the Polka Zebra Crossing.

It was intended to provide a zebra crossing close to the entrance to the primary school. Work would start towards the end of the school holiday period, and take approximately three weeks. Ideally, the work would have been completed by the time of the new school year, but this would not be possible as the school field had been hired out to a caravan rally for most of the holiday period. Councillors were happy with these arrangements.

#### 24) 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	56.39
NNDC	Cemetery Rates	57.30
Brightview Internet	Broadband	17.61
Keith Leesmith	Clerk's Salary Deposit	1000.00
The following were agreed for payment:		
Citizens Advice Bureau	Donation agreed April	750.00
Norfolk Central Printers	Car park tickets	505.26
Keith Leesmith	Salary (net of deposit) and expenses	432.37
Norfolk Pension Fund	Monthly contribution	483.97
MHB Services Ltd	Street Lighting Maintenance	285.97
E-on Energy	Street Lighting electricity	451.72
E-on Energy	Buttlands £136.79	
E-on Energy	Sackhouse £161.01	297.80
Jimmy Tottle	Bollards	220.00
S Marshall	New parking charges signs	60.00
NALC	Local Council Review Magazine	13.50
Veolia	Cemetery Waste Collection	30.01
Norse Commercial Services Ltd	Grounds Maintenance	1248.44
Antec Contracting Services	Asbestos removal from allotments	2185.50
Robert Acton Product Developments	Litter Pickers	96.35
Terry Corbishley	Litter Picking	246.40
Michael Chestney	Litter Picking & repainting benches	475.47
Roger Muncey	Internal Audit	70.00
Platten & Anthony	Materials to refurbish benches	76.77
Viking Direct	Ink cartridges & rubbish bags	283.08

#### 25) To confirm the date of the next Council Meeting

Agreed as Monday 7 June

The meeting closed at 2108