



MINUTES

2012/25

Town Council Meeting held on 3 September 2012 at 1927 at The Methodist Rooms

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

Keith Leesmith (Clerk), Greg Hewitt (Asst. Clerk), Peter Terrington (NNDC), Press (The Quay) & 5 Members of the Public

1) Public Forum

The following questions were asked:

Concerns were raised about the state of the boarding and general appearance of the demolished buildings on the quay; could the council ask the developers to tidy the frontage up as it could be some time before building work begins. *The Chairman asked the Clerk to make enquiries.*

The council were asked about item 9 and why was it on the agenda. *The chairman advised that some traders were encroaching too far onto the highway.*

Representatives of traders on the Quayside asked about item 6 and explained they wished to suggest a solution to the problem and requested a meeting to take a plan forward. *The chairman agreed a meeting was an excellent idea and thanked them for their assistance. The Clerk was to arrange a meeting.*

2) Apologies

Allen Frary, Jonathan Savory (NNDC) and Police

3) Declarations of Interest

The following personal interests were declared:
MG item 5. GA, LD & CM item 6. PC item 9

4) To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 2 July 2012 - Approved and signed

5) To discuss the continuing problem of the untidy state of some front gardens at properties belonging to Victory Housing.
LD explained the concerns of many local residents about the state of some front gardens at properties belonging to Victory housing. LD suggested a letter should be sent asking Victory Housing to conduct a walk round and take action where necessary. The issue was discussed with most councillors in agreement; Victory housing needs to take action.
Resolved - write to Victory Housing requesting they conduct a walk round and where necessary take action

During item 5 Marie Strong and a member of the public arrived.

6) To discuss the problem of litter on the quay following the receipt of a letter from Wells Harbour Commissioners
Following the representation made during the public forum a meeting will be arranged with all the relevant parties to discuss a way forward.

7) To discuss illegal parking within the town and the situation with regard enforcement by the Borough of Kings Lynn and West Norfolk District Council parking operations team

CM explained that Kings Lynn and West Norfolk Parking Operations (contracted by Norfolk County Council) were not doing their job and the council should write asking for a full report on their enforcement activities. The Police had done little to deal with cars causing obstruction, particularly at the junction of Station Road and High Street. There was also a need to increase overflow parking during peak times.

Resolved – a) Write to Kings Lynn and West Norfolk Parking Operations b) arrange a meeting with Holkham Estate to discuss overflow parking.

- 8) To discuss the current situation with regard NNDC management of the Coach and Lorry Park on Polka Road
The problems regarding the recent introduction of parking fees on the coach park were discussed. The way charging had been implemented has resulted in vehicles not using the park. NNDC representatives had recently said it had been hoped that the Town Council would take over the park; alternatively it may be possible for NNDC to install a ticket machine. The chairman asked that the Clerk writes to NNDC asking for clarification and that the councillors would like to raise the problem with the district's Chief Executive when she visits in October.
- 9) To consider the problem of merchandise outside shops in Staithe Street obstructing the highway
The problem was discussed and it was thought that choke points were developing with traders straying too far into the road. The council did not want to see the practise stopped but there was a need for moderation. If as a result of an incident the highways authority intervened they would require the removal of everything from the highway. JE volunteered to speak to the traders
- 10) To consider a request for a grant from Wells United Charities
11) To consider a request for a grant by Wells Maltings Project
These items were considered as one. The council now has only a small amount left in this year's budget for donations. Both groups will receive a share of the recreation field car parking money (£865.70 each).
Resolved items 10 & 11 – Both requests were deferred to March
- 12) Reports:
- a) Police
A report from the Police was read out; it is appended and available on the council website
- b) Norfolk County Council (Dr Marie Strong)
Marie has also been working on the parking problems and has spoken with the Police. A decision on the faster Broadband bid should be made on 17th September. People have a chance to give an opinion on how concessionary fares should be managed on the Coasthopper; full details will be in the next edition of The Quay. There is an opportunity for people to comment on the proposed Restriction Areas on Blakeney marshes, full details in The Quay. Application forms for blue badges will still be available from the surgery. There is a new grant fund available from NCC, the "Community Construction Fund".
- c) North Norfolk District Council (Jonathan Savory)
A report from Jonathan was read out; it is appended and available on the council website
(Peter Terrington)
Peter had prepared a report which is appended and available on the council website. In addition MG asked when a decision was to be made on the Co-op planning application; it is taking far too long. MG also asked if there would be a public consultation on the localisation of council tax support. *PT believed there would.* LD stated that the Kier road sweeper had done an excellent job this year and the whole council agreed.
- d) Town Clerk/Asst. Clerk
The Clerk's report is appended and available on the website
In addition NNDC were also objecting to an application to remove trees at Northfield Lodge. "Green Build" event at Felbrigg Hall 8 – 9 Sept. The Installation of the new Rector on the 1st October. It had been a very successful year for the car parking on the recreation field and each charity group would receive £865.70
- e) Portfolio Holders
JE (Buttlands) It had been a good year with no damage. Could the Clerk write to request the work to be completed on the kerbs? A new bolt had been fitted to the removable post. The SW corner now requires a post and metalled access.
RH (Playing Field) The recent fun day was a huge success. The new basketball area should hopefully be completed this month. The old sew-saw has been broken but it is hoped it can be repaired.
RA (Tourism) A number of people have come forward for the tourism working party, a meeting is scheduled for the 4th October. A funding request will be made for the installation of a town information sign and town brochures. Poppyland Publishing is prepared to produce a Wells history booklet at no cost if they are supplied with about 10000 words. Following the recent Coasthopper meeting it is clear government intervention is required. RA will attend the next coastal forum.
- 13) To receive and consider a report from the Cemetery Working Group
A report is appended and available on the website. LD will liaise with the Clerk to prioritise the work and prepare a funding request.

14) Financial Report & Accounts for Settlement

The following had been paid during the month

Madasafish	Broadband subscription	14.99
E-on Energy	Butlands	75.87
E-on Energy	Street Lighting electricity	472.06
NNDC	Cemetery Rates	53.00
Greg Hewitt	Asst Clerk's Deposit	550.00
Keith Leesmith	Clerk's Salary Deposit	700.00
		1865.92

For Payment

Jimmy Tottle	Bollards	220.00
Greg Hewitt	Salary (net of deposit) & Expenses	11.31
Keith Leesmith	Salary (net of deposit) & Expenses	91.65
Norfolk Pension Fund	monthly contribution	443.02
K & M Lighting Services	Street Lighting Maintenance	306.70
Norse Commercial Services Ltd	Grounds maintenance £1275.00	-----
	Grounds maintenance £303.00	1578.00
Veolia	Cemetery waste	44.21
Anglian Water	Cemetery	32.19
Norfolk Central Printers	Car Park Tickets £67.20	-----
	Car Park Tickets £134.40	201.60
M L Walsingham & Son	Supplies	15.28
Edna Garrett	Sackhouse Cleaning	30.00
Mick Chestney	Litter Picking	1011.52
Terry Corbishley	Litter Picking	289.25
Wells Tennis Club	Charity Car Parking	865.70
Wells Primary School Parent/Friends Group	Charity Car Parking	865.70
North Norfolk Citizens Advice	Charity Car Parking	865.70
Wells Hospital & Hospice Trust	Charity Car Parking	865.70
Alderman Peel School	Charity Car Parking	865.70
Elsmith Bowls Club	Charity Car Parking	865.70
Wells Methodist Church	Charity Car Parking	865.70
Wells Twinning Association	Charity Car Parking	865.70
Wells Sailing Club	Charity Car Parking	865.70
Polka Day Care	Charity Car Parking	865.70
Friends of the Beach Road Playing Field	Charity Car Parking	865.70
Wells Coastwatch	Charity Car Parking	865.70
Wells RNLI Guild	Charity Car Parking	865.70
Wells & District Lions Club	Charity Car Parking	865.70
Wells United Charities	Charity Car Parking	865.70
Wells Maltings Trust	Charity Car Parking	865.70
Heritage House	Charity Car Parking	865.70
Wells Congregational Church	Charity Car Parking	865.70
Homes for Wells	Charity Car Parking	865.70
Wells in Bloom	Charity Car Parking	865.70
Wells Town Bowls Club	Charity Car Parking	865.70
Wells Street Party (Jubilee Committee)	Charity Car Parking	865.70
St Nicholas Church	Charity Car Parking	865.70
Holkham Enterprises	car park share	9999.75
Anglian Water	East End Allotments	17.93
		34203.51

Resolved – Accounts agreed and accepted

- 15) To confirm Date of Next Meeting
Confirmed as Monday 1 October 2012
- 16) 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 – agreed *everyone leaves apart from those councillors present and the Clerks*
- 17) To discuss the vacancy for a Town Councillor
Resolved – An invitation will be sent to Anthony Ford to join the council

The meeting closed at 2114