



MINUTES

Town Council Meeting held by Zoom on 1 February 2021 at 1920 hrs

Those Present: Mike Gates (Chairman), Janet Angles, Roger Arguile, Mel Catton, Pauline Catton, Jessica Curtis, Lindsay Dew, Peter Rainsford & Guy Warren

Greg Hewitt (Clerk), Marie Strong, Peter Fisher, the press (The Quay) and 1 Members of the Public

1) Public Forum

Councillor Mel Catton spoke on behalf of Wells Harbour Commissioners, informing the meeting of their intention to open a lobster hatchery in the fisherman's hut on the Quay, which would provide young lobsters to be released into appropriate areas to help sustain the fishery, it would also include a visitor centre and educational offering for local school children. The Commissioners also wished to express concerns about the empty flats on Northfield Way, after unsuccessfully trying to negotiate with the housing association with a view to buying two of the flats for use by harbour employees. Councillor Mike Gates said that the flats were being purchased by Homes for Wells and that only today NNDC had agreed to loan the funds for Home for Wells to purchase four more, bringing the total to six.

2) Reports

a) Police – No report received.

b) Norfolk County Council, Councillor Dr Marie Strong

A report was sent and is available on the website. Marie also stated that she would now be asking the County to look at the suggested plan for the alleviating the parking problems on Market Lane and provide a proposal.

c) North Norfolk District Councillor Peter Fisher

A report was sent and is available on the website.

3) Apologies – Ray Hewitt & Joyce Trett

4) To receive Declarations of Interest and consider any requests for Dispensations – JC item 6/7

5) To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 4 January 2021 Approved to be signed.

6) To receive a briefing from Councillor Peter Rainsford about the Quay Magazine.

Councillor Rainsford explained that the existing Quay team were stepping down and that it was hoped a new team could be found to ensure the Quay Magazine continued. There will be a final spring issue of the Quay Magazine with details of how the process of finding a new team will be done. A copy of Councillor Rainsford's statement can be found on the council website.

7) To discuss any matters arising from item 6.

The Chairman and councillors thanked the current team for all the work the team has done over the years and acknowledged how important the Quay magazine was to the town and that they hope it would carry on.



MINUTES CONTINUED

- 8) To consider the problem of disposing of excess grave soil at the Market Lane Cemetery.
 The Clerk explained that there was always some extra soiled that needed disposing of when a grave was dug. Until recently the soil had been removed by skip but the placing and utilization of a skip was not working satisfactorily. The Clerk asked the Councillors to consider a proposal to use the soil to reclaim a section of roadway which is not currently in use and is overgrown with moss. Once reclaimed it would provide additional grave space. The Clerk asked that Councillors consider the proposal for a decision to be made at the next meeting, this was agreed.
- 9) To consider a proposal by NNDC to erect a bin compound alongside the Beach Road toilets.
 NNDC wish to erect a four-meter by four-meter bin compound alongside the Beach Road toilets to store wheelie bins, which will contain waste from the quayside litter bins for collection.
Resolved – To ask NNDC to reconsider the entire location and look at Stearmans Yard as an alternative site for such a facility. MC agreed to attend a site meeting with NNDC on Thursday 4th February 2021.
- 10) Reports
- a) Town Clerk
 The Clerk reported that the contract for producing the Neighbourhood Plan had been received from Rachel Leggett Associates, he asked if the Councillors were happy for it to be signed (the councillors confirmed they were happy for the contract to be signed). The Clerk said he had also written to the Police in support of a proposal for an extra beat office in Wells during the summer.
- e) Portfolio Holders/Committees
- MC (Traffic and Parking) Due to the pandemic the traffic management meetings have been postponed but when they recommence all the issues raised by the public will be dealt with. The Quay pavement work is progressing well, although there may be some delay due to the electricity cabling work falling behind. Holkham Estate has given agreement for two High School coaches to park on their Freeman Street car park during school term time. Reports have been received about pots holes on the Beach Road.
- GW (Polka Cemetery and Churchyard) GW is pleased that the way the tree surgeon has levelled the Polka Cemetery after the recent tree surgery, it has been noted the snow drops have survived and are now flowering.
- RA (Neighbourhood Plan) The grant towards the Neighbourhood Plan has been received from Locality, the first meeting with the consultants is set for the 9th February 2021. RA also wanted to express his gratitude for the excellent way the Health Centre organised and delivered the recent Coronavirus vaccines; the other councillors whole heartily agreed.
- 11) Financial Report & Accounts for Settlement
 The financial reports were circulated. These can be viewed at Appendix A and on the website
Resolved – Accounts agreed, accepted and signed.
- 12) To confirm Date of Next Meeting - Confirmed as Monday 1 March 2021.

Meeting ends 2021 hrs.



Greg Hewitt Town Clerk 01328 710564
 clerk@wellstowncouncil.org.uk



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