



# Wells Town Council

Wells Community Hospital, Mill Rd,  
Wells-next-the-Sea, NR23 1RF

## MINUTES

2022/15

### **Town Council Meeting held at the Clore Room, Wells Maltings on 5<sup>th</sup> September 2022 at 1905 hrs**

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

Greg Hewitt (Clerk), Michael Dalby, Peter Fisher, Police and 2 Members of the Public

#### 1) Public Forum

A member of the public spoke about the recent robbery at the Post Office and suggested that the Town Council should approach the Post Mistress to offer assistance with installing security screens at the counter. The Police informed the meeting that initial enquiries at the scene had quickly identified a suspect vehicle, resulting in the arrest of an individual travelling out of the area while still in possession of the stolen property. *(It was agreed that Mike Gates would speak to the Post Mistress)*. Pat Weston spoke to the meeting about Carnival and the invite for representatives of the Town to attend the Lord Mayor's procession in London on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2022.

#### 2) Reports

a) Police – Pc Blakeley and a colleague were in attendance. Pc Blakeley spoke about Wells Carnival, commending the organisation of the event, he said he had hoped for a bigger Police presence and would try to ensure there were more officers next year. Both officers spoke about recent incidents of Fraud committed against older members of the community and that now the season was over the seasonal beat officer, who had been assisting Pc Blakeley, would return to other duties. *(The clerk was asked to write in support of keeping a seasonal beat officer)*.

#### b) Norfolk County Council, Councillor Michael Dalby

A report was received which is on the website. Michael was asked about the lack of engagement from the Highways Authority with regard the promised parking review. He was also challenged about the lack of parking enforcement and was asked what was happening about the proposed improvements on Station Road he had offered to fund from his members allowance. Michael said he would report back with answers.

#### c) North Norfolk District Councillor Peter Fisher

A report was received which is available on the website. Peter spoke about the pizza van on the Glebe. He was questioned about street trading in Staithe Street, camper Vans on Northfield Crescent, street cleansing and second homes. He promised that he would bring Tim Adams, district council leader, to the next meeting to discuss the street trading issue and the other concerns that had been expressed.



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



## Minutes Continued

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- 3) Apologies – Karen Clarke
- 4) To receive Declarations of Interest and consider any requests for Dispensations  
JT & JC item 6
- 5) To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 4th July 2022  
Approved and signed.
- 6) To consider correspondence concerning the Carnival  
A letter had been received expressing concerns about public disorder and the lack of a police presence during carnival. Pat Weston and Pc Blakeley had both previously spoken during the meeting about this year's carnival, both had said there had been some isolated incidents of disorder but overall it was a well organised event. Pc Blakeley would try to ensure there were more officers present next year.  
Resolved – That the Clerk should respond to the letter, stating the police were satisfied with the organisation of carnival although it was hoped that there would be more officers present in future.
- 7) To consider the maintenance of the children's playground.  
A recent inspection had identified some issues that needed attention. RH said he was now able to give the playground his full attention and plans were in hand to rectify the problems and make further improvements during the autumn and winter months. Ray thanked JC for taking care of the portfolio while he had been unavailable.  
Resolved – The plan was endorsed.
- 8) To consider the purchase of some street closed signage to facilitate the road closure for the annual armistice day parade.  
Resolved – MC offered the use of signage belonging to the Wells Christmas Tide group and the help of the group's members to manage the road closure.
- 9) To consider the problem of street trading in Staithe Street.  
Concerns had been raised about street traders operating in Staithe Street. North Norfolk District Council can designate streets as prohibited streets or as streets where consent is needed. The Town Council could ask NNDC to give Staithe Street a designation.  
Resolved – to defer until the next meeting, when the problem can be discussed with Tim Adams.
- 10) To approve the installation of a new bench on the Buttlands.  
Resolved – Permission given for a bench in memory of John Butters.



## Minutes Continued

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### 11) Reports

#### d) Town Clerk

A report was submitted and is available on the website. In response to the report, it was resolved to renew the leases on the Paddocks as usual. It was also resolved to increase the cemetery budget to fund extra pest control. In addition to the report the Clerk asked the Council if they wished to opt out of the external audit regime as agreed with the SAAA; it was resolved to stay in the regime. The Clerk also reported that a letter had been received about access to the Buttlands and there had been a graffiti attack on the skatepark.

#### e) Portfolio Holders/Committees

RA (Tourism and Neighbourhood Plan) RA reported: a) that the Neighbourhood Plan consultation ends on 9<sup>th</sup> September b) there had been some errors in the latest Town Guides, this would be rectified when they are reprinted.

MC (Traffic/Parking and Buttlands) MC reported: a) that there was a broken bench and some broken wooden posts on the Buttlands, b) he was concerned about the number of dogs being allowed on the Buttlands off the lead, c) that some areas of the Buttlands may need reseeding.

PC (Health and Wellbeing) PC reported she would be attending the next SNAP meeting and another meeting concerning ambulance response times. She also reported about a scheme to supply inflatable cushions for people who had fallen and needed to wait where they were for an ambulance.

RH (Children's Playground) RH thanked those responsible for getting the Bounty Play Boat painted.

### 12) 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.

### 13) To confirm Date of Next Meeting - Confirmed as Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2022.

Meeting ends 2145hrs.

