



## Wells town council

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

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# MINUTES

2021/14

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### Town Council Meeting held at the Kiln Room, Wells Maltings on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2021 at 1918 hrs.

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

Greg Hewitt (Clerk), Peter Fisher, Press (The Quay) and 2 Members of the Public

1) Public Forum

A member of the public asked if the council had received the final report from the Boundary Commission. A member of the flood warden team explained that the flood warden's radio equipment needed testing and was trying to find a volunteer to help. MC on behalf of the Harbour Commissioners expressed concerns about waste bins not being emptied and rubbish accumulating on the street. JC offered condolences to Peter Mitchell on the recent sudden death of Alan Miller, a key member of Holkham's management team. MC also stated he had attended a consultation meeting with Equinor regarding proposed extensions to the Sheringham Shoal and Dudgeon windfarms, the proposal does not immediately impact on Wells.

2) Reports

a) Police – No report received.

b) Norfolk County Council, Councillor Michael Dalby  
No report received.

c) North Norfolk District Councillor Peter Fisher

Peter stated NNDC have been using a facility at Gresham School for their main meetings to enable social distancing. The new chairman is Jeremy Punchard. During the pandemic NNDC have administered 120 million pounds of business grant money and 26 million pounds of business rate relief. Peter has spoken to the relevant cabinet members regarding planning for the overflow car park and the industrial units at Maryland. Repairs have been arranged for the wall at Tugboat Yard for the autumn.

3) Apologies – Ray Hewitt & Guy Warren

4) To receive Declarations of Interest and consider any requests for Dispensations  
MG item 16

5) To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2021.  
Approved and signed.



Greg Hewitt                      Town Clerk                      01328 710564  
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## Minutes Continued

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- 6) To discuss correspondence received from Wells Town Football Club requesting financial help in erecting a fence along the northern side of the Skatepark.  
Resolved – To contribute fifty percent of the cost.
- 7) To consider and agree the annual Governance Statement 2020/2021.  
Resolved – Agreed, completed and signed.
- 8) To consider and agree the annual accounts for 2020/2021.  
Resolved – Agreed and accepted
- 9) To consider and agree the annual Accounting Statement for 2020/2021.  
Resolved – Agreed, completed and signed.
- 10) To agree to send a letter of support for Holkham Estate's proposed planning application, to use the overflow car park (old pitch and putt site) for sixty-five days a year on a permanent basis.  
MC addressed the councillors concerning the importance of the overflow car park and the significant problems suffered in the town over the Whitsun weekend because the overflow could not open. MC said it was about time that decision makers came to Wells and saw first hand the problems. Peter Mitchell from Holkham Estate clarified the overflow had not been open due to waterlogging of the access track, however, planning permission is needed for permanent use and the planners appear to be against it.  
Resolved – to fully support the use of the overflow and the proposed planning application. To send a letter of support for the attention of the planning department at North Norfolk District Council.
- 11) To discuss concerns regarding the sale on the open market of much needed social housing in Wells by Victory Housing.  
PC addressed the council about empty housing association houses and concerns that they will be sold on the open market without suitable restrictions for local people when so many local people need homes. Local people desperately need houses and the Town Council needs to make some representation to Victory Housing.  
Resolved – to invite a senior office from Victory Housing to talk to members of Wells Town Council.
- 12) To agree to renew the Streetlighting maintenance contract with the existing contractor, without going to tender, to safeguard the warranty on the recently installed LED streetlights.  
Resolved – to renew the contract with the existing contractor.
- 13) To receive a report from the neighbourhood plan working party.  
A report was circulated and is available on the website.
- 14) Reports  
d) Town Clerk  
The Clerk reported as follows: a) The Alderman Peel High School has agreed to help decorate the skatepark with suitable graffiti and will be running a competition to get the best design and artist.



## Minutes Continued

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b) A request had been received for advertising space on the children's playground (*councillors declined the request*) c) the Clerk asked for clarification on the bollards to be installed at the entrance to the Buttlands (*councillors resolved to have traditional black bollards matching the fingerposts*) d) NCC has money to provide cycle racks if locations can be found (*suggested locations were Staithe Street, Beach Road Toilets and the cobbled area near the Post Office*) e) a request has been received from Blakeney PC asking if the Town Council was interested in sharing the cost of additional parking enforcement (*councillors agreed they would be interested in having a discussion*) f) The clerk advised that he wished to change his working pattern from four half days to three full days a week (*councillors had no objections*)

### e) Portfolio Holders/Committees

MC (Traffic and Parking) MC reminded everyone about traffic management meeting on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2021, 10am at the Community Hospital. MC asked if Duncan Baker could be invited.

PC reported she had attended the Police SNAP meeting and had asked for parking offences to be a priority. She had also attended a meeting with the Ambulance Trust and Wells still suffered from poor emergency response times. There would be a paramedic stationed in the town during the summer months using a pedal cycle.

PR (Climate Change and Environment) PR has now opened a channel of communication with NNDC's Environment Officer and has discussed areas where there can be engagement.

### 15) Financial Report & Accounts for Settlement

The financial reports were circulated and agreed. These can be viewed at Appendix A and on the website

Resolved – Accounts agreed, accepted and signed.

### 16) To confirm Date of Next Meeting - Confirmed as Monday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2021.

Meeting ends 2125hrs.

