



Wells town council

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

MINUTES

2021/11

Town Council Meeting held by Zoom on 4th May 2021 at 1950 hrs

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

Greg Hewitt (Clerk), Marie Strong, Peter Fisher and 16 Members of the Public

The meeting started with a minutes silence in memory of Gary Anthony.

- 1) Election of Chairman (Declaration of Office to be signed)
Resolved – Mike Gates (Declaration signed)
- 2) Election of Vice Chairman. Resolved – Lindsay Dew
- 3) Election of Chairman of Planning Committee. Resolved – Pauline Catton
- 4) Election of Vice Chairman of Planning Committee. Resolved – Roger Arguile
- 5) Appointment of Members of Planning Committee. Resolved – To include all members.
- 6) Appointment of any other Standing Committees/Working parties
Resolved – Traffic Management and Parking Working Party, to include all members. Neighbourhood Plan Working Party – RA, LD & PR plus those existing members who are not councillors.
- 7) Appointment of Portfolio Holders for the coming year.
Resolved – No change to existing portfolios and an additional portfolio of Climate Change and Environment which will be help by PR.
- 8) Confirmation of meetings to be held during the next twelve months (see separate list). Resolved – Confirmed.
- 9) Public Forum
Peter Mitchell from Holkham Estate spoke about overflow parking and planning problems with using the old pitch and putt field which Holkham hope to resolve. Peter also mentioned the beach railway, stating Holkham were trying to find a solution to keeping the railway running but that in the next five to ten years the railway is going to have to be improved.
- 10) Reports
 - a) Police – No report received.



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Minutes Continued

- b) Norfolk County Council, Councillor Dr Marie Strong
A report was sent and is available on the website. Marie stated that NCC was investigating a plan for the parking situation on Market Lane.
- c) North Norfolk District Councillor Peter Fisher
Peter asked if the Town Council would be interested in a presentation by NNDC's housing allocations department (*councillors agreed to this*). LD asked about someone sleeping rough on Northfield Crescent and a caravan on the road at the same location. PC asked if NNDC were now in a position to look again at the Maryland Industrial Units.
- 11) Apologies – Ray Hewitt & Guy Warren
- 12) To receive Declarations of Interest and consider any requests for Dispensations
MC item 16
- 13) To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 12th April 2021
Approved to be signed.
- 14) To consider the Neighbourhood Plan call for sites and putting forward land owned by the Town Council for affordable housing.
RA delivered a presentation on behalf of the Neighbourhood Plan working party, outlining the need for affordable homes for rent for local people, which could be provided by Homes for Wells if suitable land could be found. As the Town Council own the land at the West End allotments (*the triangle*), a portion of the land could be made available to Homes for Wells at an affordable cost to enable up to 60 homes to be built. The land RA was asking the council to consider putting forward to the call for sites is the land used as horse paddocks. If put forward, the land would be considered and assessed as part of the Neighbourhood Plan process which includes a public referendum before the plan is adopted.
Resolved – To offer the triangle as described as a site for housing or some part of it.
NB: this would be subject to an assessment of the site, the identification of a suitable part of the site and the subsequent inclusion in the neighbourhood plan following public consultation and local approval by way of a public referendum.
- 15) To consider what action to take following recent incidents of damage (graffiti) and anti-social behaviour at the Skatepark.
Resolved – To write to the High School and ask if they would consider if the students could decorate the skatepark with suitable street art as an arts project.
- 16) To consider a request for the Wells Christmas Tide Festival Committee to erect a Christmas Tree on the Buttlands during the Christmas festive season.
Resolved – Authorisation given.
- 17) To receive a report from the neighbourhood plan working party (RA).
RA reported that the call for sites was proceeding, Place Check had been successful with over a 180 contributors, members of the working party have been consulting with stakeholders, the character assessment of the town has been started and the design guide commissioned with AECOM.



Minutes Continued

18) Reports

d) Town Clerk

The Clerk reported as follows: a) the overgrown pavement on Two Furlong Hill had been reported to the Highways Authority, who responded stating it does not meet their intervention criteria at this time, b) the council were now able to start co-option procedures to fill the vacant seat (*it was agreed to proceed*).

e) Portfolio Holders/Committees

MC (Traffic and Parking) stated that NCC's Martin Stringfellow is supportive of finding a solution for Market lane and is hoping to move things forward with some urgency. There will be a meeting of the Traffic Management Working Party on the 22nd June 2021. MC also thanked Marie for all she had done to resolve traffic management issues in the town over the years. It was agreed by all that the Clerk should write to thank Marie formally on behalf of the Town Council.

19) 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.

20) To confirm Date of Next Meeting - Confirmed as Monday 7th June 2021.

Meeting ends 2112hrs.



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