

Walpole Parish Council

The Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting of Walpole Parish Council held at the Community Centre, Summer Close, Walpole St Andrew on Thursday 11th July 2013 at 7.30pm.

Present – Chairman - Cllr Richard Blunt
Councillors - Andy Bliss, Rosa Blunt, Richard Broden, Richard Cousins, Emma Hanslip, Anne Treen, James Whitaker & Pat Wiseman.
County Councillor Fred Agnew, Borough Councillor Tony Wright.
Emma Bateman – Clerk, Janet Luck – Website, Irene Hunter - Press
Mr and Mrs Miller, Mr and Mrs Cundy, Mrs Dobson & Mrs Scott

120/13 Apologies – to accept apologies and reasons for absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Richard Green and Maureen Patrick & Mr Peter Luck (Website)

121/13 Public Participation – to suspend the meeting to allow public participation

1. Mr and Mrs Cundy requested some help and advice in dealing with a property issue. Councillors advised that the Parish Council was not able to intervene in the situation.
2. Mrs Dobson and Mrs Scott who both live in Walpole Cross Keys Parish, on Market Lane and Wisbech Road asked the Parish Council for some help regarding the speed of traffic approaching Market Lane from both directions. Councillors advised that it is planned to have the temporary mobile interactive speed awareness signs in September on that stretch of road. Also, that they should speak to Walpole Cross Keys PC and advise them that Walpole PC will support their representations to the County Council regarding speed in that area.
3. Mr Miller raised the issue of poor public transport for the Walpoles and asked for an appeal to the County and Borough Councils for a better service. Councillors advised that there is a taxi bus service to replace the loss of the 55 bus route. Mr Miller distributed leaflets regarding a community bus service.

122/13 Village Crier and Website –

Mrs Luck reported that everything was fine with both the Crier and Website at present.

123/13 Minutes – to approve the minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 13th June 2013.

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 13th June 2013, having been previously circulated were accepted as a true record of the meeting. Proposed by Cllr Broden, seconded by Cllr Cousins. Agreed

124/13 Declarations of Interest – to record declarations of interest from members on any item to be discussed

Cllr Whitaker declared an interest in Finance 128/13 III vi.

125/13 Matters Arising – to record matters dealt with arising from the last meeting

1. Bus Routes – The Clerk has had a response from Norfolk Green regarding the empty bus service and they have advised that they will not pick up on the way through to Wisbech.
2. Fares for Taxi bus – Cllr Agnew has spoken to Karl Buffin at NCC regarding the fares and reported that they should be £2 each way for a full fare paying adult, £1.50 for concessions and 5-16 year olds, under 5's free. There has been a bit of confusion regarding the timing of the taxi bus as the times seem to differ slightly from the flyer. The Clerk will ask Fenland Taxis for a definitive guide to the timings etc.
3. Community Centre Bin – the Clerk is still trying to meet with Keith Lovejoy regarding the siting of the bin and will report back as soon as a site for the bin is agreed.
4. Swingfield – The Parochial Church Council are looking at the Tree Survey, the mole problem is being dealt with by Command Pest Control.

126/13 Planning - to consider Planning Applications as listed plus any others received after publication of the agenda.

13/00579/F – Variation of condition 2 attached to planning consent 09/00272/F at Missbe-Haven, The Marsh, Walpole St Andrew. Parish Council unable to make recommendation as permission appears to have run out and block/site plans do not show any variations.

127/13 The Chase Lighting Scheme

1. A letter has been received from NCC regarding the funding. The Parish Council has to submit its' portion of the cost of the project to NCC who will manage the scheme with Westcotec from now on. Councillors stated that the management of the scheme must consider the positioning of the lighting columns so that the residents are not disturbed.
2. Cllr Richard Blunt thanked Cllr Tony Wright for his letter in support of the application.
3. Cllr Richard Blunt signed the acceptance forms from NCC and Cllr Fred Agnew witnessed the signatures.

128/13 Finance

- I. To consider any request for grants and donations if received
No request for donations were received.
- II. To consider a subscription to the Planning Journal
Councillors discussed and agreed to subscribe, having the June edition as the first instalment. Proposed by Cllr Rosa Blunt, seconded by Cllr Cousins. Agreed
- III. to approve payments as listed overleaf
Cheques

i.	WPFRT	Hall Hire	12.00	12.00
ii.	MHB Services	Streetlight Maintenance	48.31	57.97
iii.	NTPT	Councillor Training	70.00	70.00
iv.	CGM Landscapes	Playing Field Grass Cutting	51.25	61.50
v.	NCC	Contribution to The Chase Lighting	3355.15	3355.15
vi.	Fenland Hygiene (Sue Whitaker)	Contribution to T shirts Village Sports	150.00	150.00
vii.	Towlers Coaches	Transport for Village Sports	145.00	145.00
viii.	Mrs E Bateman	Clerks Salary & Expenses	269.06	269.06
ix.	Navigus Planning	Planning Journal Subscription	50.00	50.00
x.	WPFRT	Broadband Installation and annual fee	515.73	515.73
xi.	Direct Debits			
xii.	E.ON	Energy Charge	66.32	69.64
- IV. to record receipts

i.	WPFRT	Mug Sales	6.50	6.50
ii.	Village Crier	Advertising	403.00	403.00
- V. To view the books of Account
Cllr Broden looked at the Books of Account.

129/13 Correspondence

1. Clerks & Councils Direct Newsletter
2. Norfolk RCC Invitation to AGM
3. KLWNBC New Dispensations Guide for Parish Councils
4. Iain Miller – forwarded information on Funding from Jackie Squires, Neighbourhood Officer KLWNBC
5. Mrs H Dobson Horse and Rider signs, speeding on Wisbech Rd/Market Lane
6. Norfolk Link Newsletter and associated leaflets
7. Clerks & Councils Direct newsletter
8. NCC – Highway and Community Ranger Visit
9. Sue Whitaker – Village Sport Club/committee – invite to Aug mtg
10. PCSO Lee – Crime figure for 13th June to 10th July – 1 x criminal damage to dwelling, 2 x criminal damage to vehicle.

130/13 Risk Assessments

The Chairman and the Clerk will review the Risk Assessment and update it as necessary for approval and adoption at the next Parish Council meeting in August. The Play Park has its own Risk Assessment carried out annually and Walpole St Andrew Churchyard will have a stand-alone Risk Assessment also.

131/13 Footpaths – to discuss

Cllr Rosa Blunt attended a Funding Fair and received information that the Heritage Lottery Fund and advised that a small community group who wanted to take on a project could get funding for it. Footpaths would be an ideal project, to include such items as leaflets, signposts etc. There is upto £10K available for a well-planned project. Cllr Whitaker volunteered to look at this project and will ask members of the community, such as Mr Miller, to contribute with help.

132/13 Play Park – to receive an update on the project

1. Cllr Rosa Blunt has asked Justin Mottas from Sovereign to re-configure the quote in to two separate quotes. Cllr Rosa Blunt will apply to Awards for All, who give grants upto £10K with the total cost of the project not exceeding £25K and Norfolk Community Foundation, who will give grants upto £5K but will expect to see a contribution from the Parish Council.
2. Cllr Broden mentioned that the Power Station will give grants upto £3K.
3. There has been no formal agreement yet from the WPFRT with regard to the lease of the land but they have agreed informally that a lease can be granted.

133/13 WPFRT Sports Field

1. To receive an update on the BMX track project – there are no further updates at present.
2. To discuss the proposed access to the field – Cllr Bliss requested that this project is moved on. The Clerk will ask the Highway Engineer again for the specification for a road surface, a list of approved contractors and whether planning permission is required from the Borough Council.

134/13 To receive councillors' reports of Villagers' Concerns

1. Walpole St Andrew Cemetery – poor state of maintenance, visual appearance extremely bad and the fencing is buckled and in need of a coat of paint.
2. Open Spaces – Mr Wiseman received a verbal complaint, the Council will wait to hear from the complainant directly.
3. Play park bin – can the Parish Council provide some waste sacks for the rubbish to ease emptying of the bin and will be safer.
4. Allotments – complaints have been received about disturbances caused by youths on uncultivated land by the allotments, Councillors discussed and agreed for a letter to be sent to the tenant to request that the land is ploughed up to prevent access.

135/13 Highways - To receive reports of road and footpath faults

1. Chalk Road/Church Road – dropped drain
2. West Drove North – middle of the road between the bus stop and No1 WDN, there is a pothole.
3. Mill Road – between Manor Farm and Cranny Chase, potholes and poor surface.
4. Cranny Chase – poor road surface, really needs resurfacing.
5. School Lane – potholes everywhere
6. Eastlands Bank/Wisbech Road/Gooses Lane – pothole that is increasing in size

136/13 Streetlighting – to receive reports of faulty lighting columns

No faults reported.

137/13 To receive items for the next agenda

Village Screen

138/13 Date and Time of Next Meeting – Thursday 8th August 2013 at 7.30pm in the Community Centre.