

# WALPOLE PARISH COUNCIL

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Walpole Parish Council held at the Community Centre, Summer Close, Walpole St Andrew on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2016 at 7.00pm.

Present – Chairman - Cllr Richard Broden  
Councillors – Andy Bliss, Richard Blunt, Richard Green, David Lawty, Janet Luck, Linda Matthews, Lynne Newman, James Whitaker and Pat Wiseman  
Clerk - Emma Bateman  
Brian Jones, Dong Energy Community Liaison Officer, Lasse Nieswitz, BayWa Re, Solar Farm, Project Manager  
Members of the Public – Mr John Stevens, Mrs G Henderson, Mrs Heather Smith, Mr Harry Lessman, Mr John Robinson, Mrs Sue Whitaker.

01/16 To accept Apologies for Absence  
There were no apologies.

*Cllr Broden advised the meeting that Villagers Concerns would be moved to the third item on the agenda*

02/16 Public Participation – to allow public participation.

Cllr Broden advised the meeting that Mr Jones and Mr Nieswitz had been invited to the parish council meeting at short notice to discuss traffic issues connected to the two construction sites in the parish.

1. (Solar Farm) Mrs Whitaker – queried why Folgate Lane is to be closed. Mr Nieswitz advised that the road closure is to facilitate the drilling of the centre of the road to accommodate the cable from the Solar Farm to link with the grid. UK Power Networks are responsible for this work. BayWa Re ensured that the road was drilled as this process would be quicker than excavation.
2. (Solar Farm) Cllr Whitaker – concerns regarding the lack of communication and PR regarding the road closure. Mr Nieswitz advised that UKPN and Freedom were managing this part of the project. The original start date for cable works was in February, Norfolk County Council then advised that UKPN and Freedom could commence work in January but must complete within 14 days. The cable will be a 33Kv and will be more than 1 metre deep. There will be holes drilled along the centre of Folgate Lane at intervals to facilitate the drilling to insert pipework and the cable. There will be small access holes for cable connection points.
3. (Race Bank & Solar Farm) Cllr Green raised concerns regarding the poor condition of the roads and how will the damage be remedied after the projects have finished. Mr Jones advised that he understands that there is a condition within the Planning Permission for Dong to re-instate the roads to the condition prior to the project commencing, an independent company has surveyed the routes prior to construction and will survey on completion, remedial works will be agreed and Norfolk County Council will carry out the works which Dong will be invoiced.
4. (Race Bank & Solar Farm) John Stevens – why can't Dong and BayWa carry out the road repairs themselves? Mr Jones advised that Norfolk County Council stipulates that they will re-instate as they are the authority responsible for road maintenance.
5. (Race Bank) Mr Jones advised that he had visited residents on King John Bank regarding traffic and road issues and advised that residents had mentioned that they are still waiting for NCC were to re-instate road conditions and repair verges from the original Sub Station Construction. Mr Jones also advised that King John Bank is an approved route, the route is also used by other HGVs accessing other local businesses and cause damage to verges etc. but Dong is to pay for re-instatement regardless. Cllr Whitaker – what if the re-instatement is not satisfactory? Mr Jones advised that this will be the responsibility of NCC.
6. (Solar Farm & Race Bank) Cllr Lawty – concerns that the Solar Farm deliveries and construction have commenced prior to all conditions of planning permission being met and that neither the Solar Farm nor Dong Energy have apologised for the inconvenience caused by the construction traffic.
7. (Solar Farm) Cllr Broden read out Richard Smith from NCC P&T's email to County Cllr Agnew regarding the approval of the connection to the highway of the access road at the Solar Farm and the traffic management plan. It was noted that the current route may change. It was noted that the Borough Council is the planning authority with the power to exercise any enforcement. Cllr Blunt advised that NCC had not approved paperwork in the timescale agreed and KLWNBC is monitoring the enforcement situation. Mr Nieswitz advised that BayWa Re had provided the traffic management plan and NCC are still deliberating the temporary access ramp. He also advised that the Traffic lights at Walpole Bank/Folgate Lane junction will be removed on 22<sup>nd</sup> January.
8. John Stevens queried who is responsible for the road mess, that some of the HGV drivers don't consider local residents (this was reported and dealt with immediately) and can some work be done to the potholes now before they become even worse. Mr Jones advised that road repairs can only be carried out by the authority responsible, anyone who attempts to repair part of the road then becomes responsible for that section until the local authority takes the responsibility back. NCC will re-instate at the conclusion of the work. Mr Jones advised that Dong Energy has a road sweeper and the road are periodically cleaned during the day. Cllrs Lawty and Newman requested that NCC

should be asked to consider and investigate interim repairs. Cllr Blunt proposed that NCC be asked to meet Parish Councillors and inspect the whole area, seconded by Cllr Lawty. Agreed

9. Cllr Newman asked for any reports of speeding etc. by HGVs to be reported as soon as it happens to the Police, Dong and/or Baywa Re with the time, date, reg. no of the vehicle and location.
10. Cllr Broden gave photos and information to Mr Jones regarding issues from the traffic from a resident from Mill Road, West Walton.
11. Mr Nieswitz advised the meeting that the parish council and residents are invited to a Site Visit at the Solar Farm on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> February at 3pm.

03/16 To receive Councillors reports of villagers' concerns

1. Parking at the Community Centre at school pick up times – cars are being parked on the surrounding road and blocking residents' access etc. A note to go in the Crier and a note to go to the Primary School to remind parents/carers about responsible parking.
2. Litter bin lids – when the wheelie bins are emptied, they are being put into the housing with the lid down and the litter is then collecting between the bin and the housing. There are also issues with the locking of the doors as there is little support for the locks to rest against. Clerk will ask Mr Stacey to remedy.

04/16 Declarations of Interest of any items on the agenda and to consider any requests for dispensations.

No declarations were made.

*Cllr Green left the room.*

05/16 Minutes – to approve the minutes of the ordinary parish council meeting and extra ordinary meeting held on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2015.

06/16 Matters Arising – to record matters dealt with arising from the last meeting

On agenda. This item to be removed from future agendas.

*Cllr Green returned to the room*

07/16 Planning

A. Applications for Consultation with Parish

- a) 15/02126/CM – Country Matters application – change of use of paddock area to form part of the transfer station and change of use of another part of the transfer station to private agricultural use along with covered bay for sorting waste and installation of a weighbridge at The Nursery, Marsh Road, Walpole St Andrew. No objections.
- b) 15/02059/RM – Reserved Matters application – construction of dwelling adjacent to Fairlawns, Kirk Road, Walpole St Andrew. No documents available on KLWNBC website, no comments can be returned.

B. Borough Council Planning Authority Decisions

- a) 15/01629/LDE - Hundred Acre Wood, Wisbech Road, Walpole St Andrew. Application for a lawful development certificate for the existing use of land as a residential garden associated with Hundred Acre Wood. Would be Lawful, 8<sup>th</sup> December 2015, Delegated Decision.
- b) 14/00283/NMAM - Rose and Crown Farm, Walpole Bank, Walpole St Andrew. Non-material amendment to planning permission 14/00283/FM: Erection of 30MW solar photovoltaic facility with associated landscaping and construction of temporary access. Application Permitted, 14<sup>th</sup> December 2015, Delegated Decision.
- c) 15/01698/F - Land to the West Side of West Drove North, Walpole St Peter. Proposed standing on static caravan as accommodation for applicant to look after livestock. Application Refused, 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2015, Delegated Decision.

C. Enforcement

Concerns were raised regarding planning application no 06/00759/F, breach of conditions 2, 3 & 4. Councillors agreed to report to planning enforcement.

D. Appeals

APP/V2635/W/15/3065789 – Garford.s Buildings (Storage), The Marsh, Walpole St Andrew. Demolition of derelict commercial building and construction of a 4-bedroom two-storey dwelling with detached double garage. Appeal is allowed.

08/16 Finance

- I. To consider any request for grants and donations if received  
None received
- II. To consider a policy for donations and grants  
Deferred to next agenda
- III. Community Centre telephone line rental  
Line rental has been taken over by the Parish Council.
- IV. To make considerations regarding Precept Requirement for 2016/17
  - a) Cllr Luck proposed the Council Tax Grant is accepted, seconded by Cllr Lawty. Agreed.
  - b) Two proposals were made for the Precept Requirement for 2016/17.

- i. Cllr Lawty proposed the Precept remain the same as last year at a total of £17,800 (including the Council Tax Grant), seconded by Cllr Whitaker. 7 votes for and 2 against – Carried.
- ii. Cllr Green proposed an increase of 1%, a total of £17,978 (including the Council Tax Grant), seconded by Cllr Bliss. 2 votes for and 7 against. Not carried.

V. to approve payments

			Ex VAT	VAT	Inc VAT
i.	WPFRT	Hall Hire	20.00		20.00
ii.	K&M Lighting	Streetlight Maintenance	53.73	10.75	64.48
iii.	MJ Stacey	Pigeon Street grit bin	40.00		40.00
iv.	Norfolk Age UK	Donation	75.00		75.00
v.	Mrs E Bateman	Salary and Expenses	327.45		327.45
vi.	HMRC	PAYE	5.20		5.20
vii.	Mrs E Bateman	Metal suggestions box	27.62		27.62
viii.	CGM Ltd	Outstanding grass cutting invoices	859.25		1031.10
ix.	Mrs E Bateman	Salary and Expenses	251.37	171.85	251.37
x.	E.ON	Energy cost street lighting	100.47	5.02	105.49

Cllr Blunt proposed all payments be made, seconded by Cllr Whitaker. Agreed

VI. to record receipts

i.	Village Crier	Advertising	173.00		173.00
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VII. Cllr Broden advised the Council that the Clerk had worked four extra hours in January with the issues regarding the Solar Farm, Councillors agreed for the extra hours to be paid in February. Proposed by Cllr Lawty, seconded by Cllr Whitaker. Agreed.

VIII. To view the books of Account

Cllrs Whitaker and Newman looked at the Books.

09/16 Correspondence – to receive items for information

- a) East Anglian Air Ambulance – Thank you for donation
- b) Norfolk Hospice Tapping House- Thank you for donation
- c) Resident (name and address supplied) - Concerns regarding high hedges, resident referred to KLWNBC for neighbouring issue and roadside issue will be reported to NCC
- d) KLWNBC - West Norfolk Directory of sport entry
- e) Mrs M Patrick - Resignation from Parish Council, Council accepted and will advise Electoral Officer at KLWNBC
- f) Brian Jones, Dong Energy - Gooses Lane, response to complaint regarding HGV Cabling deliveries.
- g) KLWNBC - Parish Planning Training, Cllrs Broden and Matthews will attend.
- h) WPFRT - Review of hire fees
- i) Ms S Lyons - Speedwatch update
- j) A Nunn - Football Field clearance, more information will be available for February meeting.
- k) T Blandford - Traffic Issues Mill Road into Walpole Bank WSA, details were passed to Brian Jones from Dong.
- l) Mrs H Smith – issues with flooding from The Chase onto the Anthony Curton Playground, referred to WPFRT and NCC.

10/16 To discuss a Social Media site for the Parish Council  
Deferred

11/06 To discuss provision of a monthly Councillor Surgery  
Deferred

12/16 To discuss grass verge cutting in the parish.  
Deferred

13/16 To discuss maintenance and opening up of green lanes and footpaths  
Deferred

14/16 Playpark – To receive any updates on the project for the provision of play equipment  
Cllr Whitaker advised that he had received two quotes and third price is due to arrive.

15/16 To receive a report from the Community Centre Committee  
The Community Centre Committee had a meeting last week, there will be a subcommittee to review hire charges. There will be a monthly meeting and roles are being delegated. Consideration needs to be given to the condition of the car park.

16/16 County and Borough Councillors reports

A. Borough Councillor Report

a) Townsend Estate Allotments

- i. Cllr Blunt advised that he will negotiate for the handover of the allotment land subject to the Parish Council's agreement. The Borough Council will transfer the ownership of the allotment land to the Parish Council with clauses preventing development of the land. Cllr Luck proposed that the Council proceeds with the negotiations and Cllr Blunt act on behalf of the parish council, seconded by Cllr Lawty. Agreed.
  - ii. Cllr Blunt advised that there is some remaining land and suggested that there should be negotiations to acquire this as well, proposed by Cllr Newman, seconded by Cllr Lawty. Agreed.
  - iii. Cllr Blunt advised the Council that there would be costs involved in turning the land into garden allotments.
- b) Council Tax – The Borough Council is deciding the council tax charges and is trying to keep this to a minimum.
- c) Walpole St Andrew Cemetery – there will be a meeting in the Spring regarding the fencing.
- d) Planning and development – The Borough Council is to oppose the proposed development in Heacham. The Borough Council will advise on the 5 year land supply in due course and is working on a legal document to support the land supply. More information will be given at the Planning Seminar.

B. County Councillor Report

Cllr Agnew emailed a report which was circulated to all councillors.

17/16 To receive information on the provision of the access to the sports field.

1. Cllr Bliss advised that the three quotes had been received. Allflat £7½ K to £10K plus VAT, McGinn £10,817.34 plus VAT and Wardens £7½K plus VAT. Councillors discussed and Cllr Blunt proposed that Wardens are chosen to carry out the works, seconded by Cllr Wiseman. Agreed.
2. Cllr Green proposed that Wardens are instructed to carry out the works as soon as possible, seconded by Cllr Luck. Vote taken, 8 votes for and 1 against. Carried.

18/16 Highways - To receive reports of road and footpath faults

- a) West Drove North, Walpole St Peter – the whole length needs major work, contact Henry Bellingham and Highway Engineer.
- b) Junction of West Drove North and Lynn Road, Walton Highway – large divot in the grass triangle.
- c) Chalk Road, Walpole St Peter – flooding o/s Torestin, Sunnyside and Washdyke House.

19/16 Streetlighting – to receive reports of faulty lighting columns

Chalk Road, streetlight faulty, Cllr Lawty will advise the location and number.

20/16 To receive items for the next agenda

To include the deferred items from this month

Date and Time of Next Meeting – Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2016 at 7.00pm in the Community Centre, Summer Close, Walpole St Andrew, PE14 7JW.