

Walpole Parish Council

The Minute of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting of Walpole Parish Council held at the Community Centre, Summer Close, Walpole St Andrew on Thursday 11th April 2013 at 7.50pm following on from the Annual Assembly.

Present – Chairman Cllr Rosa Blunt, Cllrs Andy Bliss, Richard Blunt, Richard Broden, Richard Cousins, Maureen Patrick & Pat Wiseman.
County and Borough Councillor Tony Wright
Emma Bateman - Clerk
Janet Luck – Village Crier, Peter Luck – website, Tom Maynes, Mr and Mrs Miller

58/13 Apologies – to consider accepting apologies and reasons for absence
Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Richard Green and James Whitaker

59/13 Declarations of Interest
Cllr Patrick declared an interest in 65/13 Finance III a.

60/13 Planning
No planning applications were received for consultation.

61/13 Public Participation – to suspend the meeting to allow public participation
None of the Public in attendance wished to participate.

62/13 Village Crier & Parish Website – to suspend the meeting to receive information from the Editor

1. Mr Luck reported that one or two people had had difficulty in accessing the website. All Councillors will check access from their own computers/devices.
2. Mrs Luck advised the Council that a lot of requests for free adverts were being received and the Council will discuss the addition of a new standard article for Announcements. Council to discuss at the June meeting.

63/13 Minutes – to approve the minutes of the last meeting held on Thursday 14th March 2013.
The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 14th March 2013, having been previously circulated were accepted as a true record. Proposed by Cllr Bliss, seconded by Cllr Cousins. Agreed

64/13 Matters Arising – to record matters dealt with arising from the last meeting

1. Proposed BMX Track – Cllr Patrick advised that there will be a meeting with the WPFRT's Solicitors to further progress with the lease of land to Walpole Warriors.
2. Highway Engineer – The Clerk will arrange a meeting with Andy Wallace to come to Walpole and discuss the road problem.
3. Lighting Seminar – K&M Lighting are hosting a lighting seminar on 12th April, Cllr Patrick will attend.
4. Crime Figures – received from PCSO Lee – Councillors discussed and agreed for a letter to be sent to Henry Bellingham MP regarding the percentage of police time taken up in one particular establishment which is a private business.
5. Speed Awareness Monitor Interactive Signs – The Clerk has requested temporary use of the signs from NCC, and asked Walpole X Keys PC to support the request for the signs on Wisbech Road/Market Lane. The signs will be beneficial to both parishes.
6. School light – The Clerk has received a quote to replace the bulb in the light at the end of the School's unused entrance roadway of £60 plus VAT. It was proposed that the bulb be replaced and investigation into whether the lamp can be operational. Proposed by Cllr Patrick, seconded by Cllr Broden. Agreed.
7. Play Park Bushes - a letter has been sent to the Primary School regarding the overgrowing bushes.
8. Swingfield Tree Survey – has been sent to the Diocese but no response received yet.

65/13 Finance

- I. To consider any request for grants and donations if received
A request for consideration for a donation from The Samaritans, King's Lynn was received in March. Councillors discussed and agreed to donate £50, proposed by Cllr Richard Blunt, seconded by Cllr Broden. Agreed.
- II. To receive details of costs of maintenance of St Peter's Churchyard
The Parochial Church Council have submitted a request for financial help, as previously agreed, of £1390.83. Councillors agreed and asked for the PCC to be reminded that any large invoice can be paid directly by the Parish Council and that the grant is upto £1500 per annum.

III. To approve payments

Cheques

a. WPFRT	Hall Hire	12.00	12.00
b. K&M Lighting	Streetlight Maintenance March	48.31	57.97
c. Walpole St Peter PCC	Grounds maintenance donation	1390.83	1390.83
d. Minuteman Press	Printing of Village Crier March	310.00	310.00
e. KLIDB	Internal Drainage Rates Allotments	217.34	217.34
f. KLWNBC	Dog bin emptying 1/4/12 to 31/3/13	312.00	374.40
g. NRCC	Annual Subscription	20.00	20.00
h. NALC	Annual Subscription	260.46	260.46
i. NALC	Postage for new councillor info	2.69	2.69
j. Mrs E Bateman	Clerk's Salary and Expenses	241.54	241.54
k. King's Lynn Samaritans	Donation	50.00	50.00

Direct Debits

l. E.ON	Energy Charge March	68.53	71.96
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Cllr Richard Blunt proposed all payments be made, seconded by Cllr Bliss. Agreed.

IV. To record receipts

a. Village Crier	Adverts	303.00	303.00
b. A Melton	Allotment Rent	258.85	258.85
c. B Powers	Allotment Rent	108.54	108.54
d. Thistleton A&D	Allotment Rent	1162.04	1162.04
e. Powers R	Allotment Rent	647.64	647.64
f. Stevenson P	Allotment Rent	503.00	503.00
g. KLWNBC	Precept	17,170.00	17,170.00

V. To view the books of Account

Cllr Wiseman looked at the books of account.

VI. To agree the Internal Auditor for financial year end 31st March 2013

Councillors agreed to appoint Mrs Gill Barnes to carry out the Internal Audit for year-end 31st March 2013. Proposed by Cllr Wiseman, seconded by Cllr Broden. Agreed.

66/13 Correspondence

- Michael Reid – complaint regarding bridle path No2, River Bank obstructions
- NCC Planning and Transportation – letter regarding obstruction on Public Right of Way Walpole St Peter FP9
- KLIDB – Information letter regarding Drainage grips dug into Board's Water Courses, copy to all Allotment tenants
- St John's Patient Group – request for representatives
- Norfolk Green – changes to bus route 55 at shopping times, no link from Walpoles to Wisbech. NCC is currently considering how it should be replaced. Councillors discussed and proposed a letter to be sent to NCC complaining about the loss of service to Wisbech. An article to go into the Crier asking resident to do the same.
- Norfolk Village Games information – check with Mrs S Whitaker that information has been received.
- NRCC – Signpost newsletter and information on services provided to member councils
- TCHC – Enterprise induction course – put on website
- Clerks and Councils Direct - newsletter

67/13 Walpole St Andrew Village Sign

Councillors discussed and it was proposed that a letter be requested with more detail regarding the proposals for the Walpole St Andrew Village Sign and what role they envisage the Parish Council will have with the Sign in the future. The letter to be sent to the Dole Charity and a copy to the Community Chest Fund.

68/13 Councillor Vacancies – to note the dates for applications for the two co-opted councillor vacancies

The closing date will be 8th May 2013 and applications will be acknowledged at the May meeting, and a date for informal interviews to be arranged at the meeting.

69/13 The Chase Lighting Scheme

Cllr Patrick is attending a Lighting Seminar on 12th April and will report back.

K&M Lighting are to meet with the Clerk and Councillors on Thursday 18th April and a meeting with Westcotec to be arranged.

70/13 WPFRT Sports Field

- Access – Clerk to speak to Highway engineer for a list of approved contractors and a specification.
- Walpole Warriors – an email was received from Matthew Hunter on the progress. Councillors discussed and ask Cllr Tony Wright to enquire with KLWNBC why Charities and Community Groups have to pay so much for pre-planning consultations.

71/13 Play Park – to discuss proposals for improvements

Three quotes have been received from Fenland Leisure Products, Wicksteed and Sovereign for new equipment. Councillors would also like the existing equipment to be rejuvenated and new fencing to be considered and included in the funding bid. The trampoline suggested by Sovereign to be swapped for another piece of equipment suitable for smaller children. Councillors to continue discussion at the May meeting.

72/13 Walpole St Andrew Churchyard –

A copy of the Tree Survey has been sent to the Diocese but no response received yet.

73/13 To receive Villagers' Concerns

- a. HGV's in the Villages – vehicles over 7.5 tonnes are accessing the villages. Councillors advised that such vehicles are allowed entry for business purposes, if they are using the village roads as a cut through, number plates need to be noted and police informed.
- b. Blocked Footpaths – residents to be encouraged to use NCC Countryside Access website to report problems.
- c. Mr Iain Miller – invitation to all to join him for Village Walks on first Monday of each month.
- d. The Chase – bushes and hedges encroaching, Cllr Wiseman to let Clerk know which residence to write to.

74/13 Highways - To receive reports of road and footpath faults

- a. Drain covers – several drain covers have been reported missing and since been replaced. Query why NCC uses the same covers which are regularly stolen. Cllr Wright to ask NCC.
- b. Wisbech Road – by Park House, the road surfacing has been grazed off.

75/13 Streetlighting – to receive reports of faults of any parish council owned streetlights
Streetlight No32 on The Marsh is not working.

76/13 To receive items for the next agenda

Dog Fouling

77/13 Date and Time of Next Meeting

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday 9th May 2013 at 7.30pm in the Community Centre.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm.