

# WALCOTT PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on Monday 8th December 2008 in the Village Hall, Walcott

Present: J Deakin, V R Gardner, P I Howard, P McCarthy, T Love (Chairman), K Porter, D Sanderson, R Teece; in attendance: Cllrs P Morse (NCC), L Walker (NNDC) and 8 parishioners.

1. The Chairman welcomed those present to the meeting and received apologies from K Reades.

2. Declarations of interest - none

3. The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on October 20<sup>th</sup> 2008 were approved, proposer RT, all in favour. The minutes were signed.

4. Matters arising

4.1 NCC, Highways matters – following the Clerk's meeting with the NCC engineer, he advised the Council that both the seafront footway resurfacing and surface dressing for the Walcott Gap to the 30/60 mph limit towards Happisburgh would be carried out in 2009-10, subject to funding. Seafront resurfacing would be scheduled after the footway work.

The Clerk would follow up on 'passing places' near the Coastline Village and VG's report that the rodding near Archibald Road was unsuccessful.

4.2 Flood wardens – the Clerk had been in touch with NNDC and was hopeful of an officer attending the January meeting; RT had attended a meeting and reported on their recent achievements.

*In an adjournment the Council heard of the risk to walkers on the beach by the former 'Ostend Gap'. The Clerk would liaise with RT and write to the coastal protection unit, mentioning nearby 'obstructive' posts.*

4.3 Leaflet to villagers – the Chairman expressed the Council's thanks to the members who had printed and delivered the leaflet.

4.4 Noticeboard realignment – this was in hand with RT and DS.

4.5 Village sign – JD reviewed a number of locations and favoured a move at the pond or to the church.

4.6 Council website – KP and the Clerk would liaise on future developments.

5. Planning

5.1 Dr M Goodliffe, new dwelling at Marigold, Poplar Drive (20081277) – permission refused

5.2 Mr S Kinsey, removal of condition, Whites Farm (20081662) – on circulation

6. Report of the working party on the appointment of a permanent part-time Clerk for Walcott Parish Council – the Chairman advised that the group had met and agreed the basis for the appointment. Following a proposal from JD, the Council agreed to appoint Mr M K Campbell as permanent part-time Clerk to Walcott Parish Council, with effect from 01.01.09 on the standard clerks' contract for 4½ hours per week. The contract would be brought to the January 2009 meeting for signature.

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## 7. Finance

7.1 Up-date on the funding for the Council – a payment of £4715.28 had been received from Happisburgh, representing the ‘reserves’ payment, which had been banked. The 08-09 precept element had not been received and the Clerk would write to NNDC with a proposal to end the uncertainty, copying in Happisburgh pc.

7.2 Other finance business – the Clerk had received a further request for an insurance premium; a proposal from the Chair, to pay this amount was approved by 5 votes to 3:

Allianz Insurance plc	£40.76	(cheque 0001)
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The following payments were approved ‘en bloc’, proposer RT, all in favour:

Information Commissioner, registration	£35.00	(0002)
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NPTP, training course (VG)	£35.00	(0003)
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The letter of instruction to the bank for the Clerk’s salary and allowances was signed.

## 8. Reports

8.1 Clerk’s report - he advised that the meeting summons, agenda and minutes would be issued by e-mail in future, also using e-mail for other communication where appropriate. He would place a dog bin review on the next agenda following a letter from a resident.

### 8.2 Members’ reports -

RT reported on his attendance at the coastal planning meeting when it was apparent that NNDC officers were not aware of the existence of Walcott Parish Council. Coastal defence was cost at £500m and officers would approach parishes with a briefing in due course.

RT had attended a meeting with other parishes and reported that NCC was keen to see the introduction of a coastal service next year possibly commencing with a Sunday trial.

RT advised that from a recent meeting with NCC officers a strong view about retaining the flood sirens emerged. He suggested that the flood wardens should qualify for a NNDC Civic Award.

TL reported on a meeting about Barton Broad where considerable expenditure was envisaged to keep it ‘fresh’. Its origins by the coast could be a strong indication as to the need for investment here.

PH had attended the first Bacton liaison meeting and advised that the new police station would be delivered by road through Walcott.

PMcC suggested flower boxes would improve the Walcott seafront.

KP was concerned that the increasing number of roadside mirrors may distract drivers at night.

VG advised that there were new signs on the bend by the Lighthouse PH, and asked that the police attend a future meeting.

In open session, Cllr PM gave the all-party support for the sirens from the County perspective and reported on the very tight ‘Unitary’ timetable. A member of the public asked about measures to reduce the flooding risk near The Cedars; the Clerk would ascertain if NNDC had information packs for residents.

The meeting closed at 21.25.

Signed: ..... Chairman

Date:.....