

# WALCOTT PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on Monday 21st July 2008 in the Village Hall, Walcott

Present: V R Gardner, P I Howard, P McCarthy, T Love (Chairman), K Porter, D Sanderson, R Teece; in attendance Cllr P Morse (NCC) and 5 members of the public.

1. The Chairman welcomed those present, and received apologies for absence from J Deakin, K Reades, Cllr L Walker (NNDC) and PCSO E Dack.

2. Declarations of interest – TL and VG ref item 6.1 as members of Happisburgh pc; TL ref item 8 as owner of the pond.

3. The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on June 2nd 2008 were approved, proposer RT, all in favour. The minutes were signed.

#### 4. Matters arising

4.1 Council training evening – this was confirmed for 7.00 pm on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> August.

4.2 Highways matters (road surfacing/speed limits/Walcott gap) – the Clerk read the reply from NCC about resurfacing within Walcott – members would relay any specific sites to the Clerk who would advise NCC; the speed limit issue was discussed and the Clerk would give the Council's general support for the speed reduction view in response to NCC, with reservations about the location of the flashing warning sign; on overnight parking NCC had advised that the Walcott gap parking area was not the responsibility of 'Highways' and VG advised that the hatching was to be repainted; the Clerk would contact NNDC as owners.

4.3 NNDC matters (dog restriction sign) – a reply was awaited from NNDC on the absence of the notice. Members advised that it had disappeared during the NNDC clear-up work and the sign at the steps was missing as well.

4.4 Happing Partnership representation – the Clerk was asked to advise the partnership that VG and KR would attend from time to time on behalf of the Council.

5. Planning – there were no applications for consideration.

#### 6. Finance

6.1 To consider the Council's position on funding for 2008-2009 – the Council heard from the Chairman and Clerk on the current position; it was anticipated that NNDC would host a meeting with Happisburgh pc on the 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> August at which the Chairman, Clerk, RT and JD (sub PH) would attend. The Clerk would keep other members informed.

*In a brief adjournment of the meeting a resident asked for a 'slow-down' flashing sign (as used on the A140) at the Happisburgh turn.*

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6.2 To consider Financial Regulations for the Council– these had been circulated to members in advance in draft and the Council agreed to adopt them, proposer PH, all in favour.

6.3 Payments – the Clerk had submitted two payments due to NNDC requesting cheques be drawn to enable their payment (insurance premium [Allianz] and dog bin collection fee [NNDC]).

7. To consider Standing Orders for the Council – the Clerk had revised these in line with the previous meeting and after minor alterations would present them to the next meeting for adoption by the Council.

8. To consider a pond clearing project – the Chairman gave the Council the background to the pond in its present condition following an inflow of sea water and in JD's absence the item was deferred.

## 9. Reports

9.1 Clerk's report – the Clerk read the brief report from PCSO E Dack; he advised that DS had a new 'phone no;

9.2 Members' reports –

TL reported on the meeting of 'at risk' villages with a government minister and Nat. England, to whom he was able to give a historical perspective on local flooding.

KP asked about a 'drainage' map for the parish, about which the Clerk would enquire; also the Clerk would request a definitive map (copy) from NCC; he raised the issue of the employment of a clerk in the longer term and asked about a parish council website.

PH reported on the 'Jet ski launching' presentation at which almost all parishes were unhappy about proposed launch sites. Even the designation of launch sites would not prevent users going elsewhere along the coast. Enforcement is a problem.

In open session, Cllr PM introduced himself and talked about NCC issues including highways and the NDR, sirens, and the unitary authority proposals.

RT asked about the sirens which PM advised were 'safe' for three years.

RT advised that a 'Friends of the Walcott Village Hall' group is being formed to raise funds.

The status of the principal authorities under 'unitary' proposals was clarified and the sirens subject was revisited including the role of Silver Command.

10. To confirm meeting dates for the remainder of 2008 – the Clerk explained that he would be on holiday in September so the Council agreed to meet next on September 1<sup>st</sup> 2008, followed by October 20<sup>th</sup> and December 15<sup>th</sup>. The meeting closed at 21.30.

Signed: ..... Date: .....

Chairman