

WALCOTT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Inaugural Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 13th May 2008 in the Village Hall, Walcott

Present: V R Gardner, P I Howard, T Love (Chairman), K Reades, R Teece
In attendance: Cllr L Walker (NNDC) and 23 members of the public

1. Cllr Mrs Lee Walker (NNDC), in the Chair, welcomed those present, made a brief introduction and received apologies for absence from P Morse (NCC).

2. Procedures

2.1 Election of Chairman - following a proposal by PH, seconded by RT, Thomas Love was elected Chairman, nemcon. He made and signed his 'Declaration of Acceptance by the Chairman'.

2.2 V R Gardner, P I Howard, K Reades, R Teece all made and signed their Declaration of Acceptance of office.

2.3 Election of vice-Chairman - following a proposal by VG, R Teece was elected vice-Chairman, nemcon.

2.4 Representatives – this item was deferred.

3. Declarations of interest - none

4. Council vacancies - dispensation to co-opt four members had been received from NNDC, so with the Council's agreement the Chairman adjourned the meeting to allow those present to offer themselves for co-option. There were five such offers from the public. The meeting resumed.

4.1 Co-options – each Council member chose four candidates from the list of five and following a count by the Clerk the Chairman announced that J Deakin, P McCarthy, K Porter, and D Sanderson were co-opted to serve on the Council.

4.2 The four co-optees made and signed their Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

5. Administration

5.1 Ordinary Meetings of the Council – the Council agreed to meet on June 2nd and July 21st 2008 with a view to scheduled meeting on the third Monday of the month; the Clerk would make the necessary Village Hall bookings.

5.2 Planning Authority response – RT withdrew for this item -

R Teece, extension, Ships View, Archibald Road (20080657) – the Council had no objection.

5.3 Council's insurance policy – the Clerk had obtained insurance for the Council w.e.f 01.05.08, which the Council confirmed, proposer VG, all in favour.

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5.4 Members "Interests" forms – the Clerk issued each councillor with forms to be submitted to the Monitoring Officer within 28 days.

5.5 Council responsibilities – the Council assets would inherit a notice board and three dog waste bins.

6. Finance

6.1 Bank account - the Council asked the Clerk to open accounts at HSBC and agreed that JD, PH and PMcC would be signatories.

6.2 Funding process for the year 2008-2009 and thereafter - the Clerk explained that this year initial funding would be from a repayable 'float' provided by NNDC. The Council would need to negotiate with Happisburgh pc any hand-over of funds; the Chairman would raise the matter at the next Happisburgh pc meeting. The Clerk and NNDC would provide advice.

7. Reports

7.1 Clerk's report - the Clerk confirmed that he was available to ensure the smooth establishment of the Parish Council; this would initially include informing the usual outside bodies, writing standing orders, creating council records and establishing a budget, followed by 'financial regulations' and arranging training for members.

7.2 Members' reports – JD asked to be kept advised of the audit process.

The formal meeting was adjourned and the Council heard a concern over the absence of precept monies; Cllr LW referred to the jet-ski problem, that the pond needed cleaning and the ongoing 'sirens' consultation.

Access in/out of Helena and St Helens Road was identified as a highway issue which the Clerk would contact NCC about.

Tony Nash introduced himself and Jack Sadler from NCAPTC, welcomed Walcott as a new parish and talked about the role of the County Association; he offered the first year membership free as well as a free 'whole council' training evening in Walcott. Jack Sadler added warm words of welcome. The Chairman thanked them both for attending.

The meeting closed at 21.20.

Signed:

Date:

Chairman