

WALCOTT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on Monday 16th November 2009 in the Village Hall, Walcott

Present: T Brown, J Deakin, V R Gardner, P I Howard, P McCarthy, T Love (Chairman), K Reades, D Sanderson; in attendance Cllr L Walker (NNDC) and 5 members of the public.

1. The Chairman welcomed all those present to the meeting; apologies were received from K Porter and Cllr P Morse (NCC).

2. Declarations of interest – none.

3. The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Monday 14th September were approved, proposer TB, and signed.

4. Matters arising

4.1 NCC, Highways matters – the Clerk read the reply from NCC regarding flooding near Whites Farm.

4.2 Walcott sea front issues – the Clerk read the reply from NNDC on the matters of new steps, handrail, life belt and turning space at Walcott Gap.

4.3 Bus shelter proposal for Coastline Village – the Clerk had heard from NNDC that planning permission would be required since the land is not owned by NCC. The Clerk would progress the application, first writing to the Coastline Village Management to gain their consent.

4.4 Walcott 'blue flag' status – the Clerk gave the reply received about the lengthy procedure; Cllr LW would lend her support.

5. Planning

5.1 S/s extension at Cecilia, Coast Road (20090749)- permitted

5.2 Lighthouse PH, continued use of car park (20090813) - permitted

5.3 Janith Homes, extension at The Rookery, Walcott (20090947)- the Council had no objection

5.4 Extension at 26 Ostend Place, Walcott (20091027) – on circulation

5.5 Any other planning matters – the Clerk relayed the verbal message from NNDC about the developments in Ostend Place; the Clerk was asked to write to the householder expressing the Council's concern over the loss of turning space.

6. Finance

6.1 Budgets for 2009-2010 (up-dated) and 2010-2011 – these had been circulated in advance and their preparation and aims were outlined by the Clerk. The Chairman asked the meeting to take item 7, then item 6.2 to further the understanding of the complete financial position:

7. Allotments – TB outlined the background to the formation of the Walcott Allotments Society and the issues of the rents and the responsibility between them and the Council were explored. A grant from the Happing Partnership of £200 was handed to the Council and it was agreed that this should be paid on to the Society, proposer PH, all in favour. Councillors felt that costs of development of

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the allotments should be weighed against other demands for improvements in the village. Currently the Village Hall and a proposed bus shelter were the other large items for consideration.

6.2 Request for funding - following a proposal by TB to award £2000 to the Village Hall and counter-proposals of £1000 by P McC and of £1500 by JD the award of £1500 was carried by 6 to 5 votes. In addition the Council awarded the N Walsham CAB £50.

6.1 (continued) Returning to item 6.1 subject to these decisions the budgets were adopted, proposer DS, all in favour.

6.3 Precept for 2010-2011 – after a discussion on the need for ‘reserves’ the Council decided to set a precept of £7000, proposed by JD, all in favour. The demand was signed.

6.4 The following payments due were approved en bloc, proposer TB, all in favour:

- NALC, Councillor training	£40.00	(cheque 0017*)
- ICO registration renewal	£35.00	(0018)
- Walcott Allotment Society	£200.00	(0019)
- N Walsham CAB	£50.00	(0020)

The cheques were signed. (* cheque signed outside the meeting)

6.5 Clerk’s annual salary review w.e.f. 01.04.09 – the Council confirmed the adjustment as advised by the County Association for spine point 22, proposer PH, all in favour; the amendment letter to the bank was signed.

7. Allotments – see above; TB undertook to ask the Society to look at suitable guidelines on sheds to ensure the allotment garden retained attractiveness.

8. Reports

8.1 Clerk’s report – the Clerk advised of the NALC/NNDC Planning meeting at Southrepps on 23.11.09 at 7 pm. JD would attend. NCC had asked if Walcott wished to be associated with the CARS scheme (Caring About Rural Speeds) but there was no support for this. The Clerk gave details of a special meeting of the Happing Partnership on Dec. 14th. He circulated a letter from NCC about flood sirens which would be included on the January agenda.

8.2 Members’ reports – PH reported on the gas site expansion presentations; the Clerk would relay the Council’s concern over increased traffic levels to NCC, including the need for a lay-by on the Stalham side of Walcott.

VG raised a parishioners request for street lighting.

TB referred the Council to a derogatory item about Walcott in the N Norfolk News.

TL reported on the discussions to improve parking at the church.

PMcC asked the Clerk to advise NNDC that a part of a groyne was missing. She asked if the bottle banks could be moved as they were noisy late at night and early in the morning; the Clerk would contact NNDC.

The meeting closed at 21.25

Signed: Chairman

Date:2009