

WALCOTT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Walcott Parish Council held on Monday 18th January 2016 in the Coastline Village Hall, Walcott

Present: J East, G French, C King, P McCarthy, K Porter, P Porter(Chairman), J Ransom;
in attendance: Cllrs E Seward (NCC) [p-time], L Walker (NNDC) [p-time] and 6
members of the public.

1. The Chairman welcomed all those present. Apologies were received from J Husselbee, T Love and PCSO E Dack.

2. Declarations of interest – none

3. The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 16th November 2015 were approved, and signed, proposer CK, all in favour.

4. Matters arising

4.1 NCC - highways matters – the Clerk had spoken to the Highways Engineer about the dip in the coast road opp. Poplar Drive and he would inspect and come back to the Council. Resurfacing along the seaside is planned for the spring. The Clerk would confirm with NCC that the new drains are on a scheduled flushing routine.

4.2 NCC - footpaths matters – nil further

4.3 NNDC – dog bins, environmental health – nil further

4.4 Village sign – the Clerk had asked for a News item and had posted advertisements.

4.5 Generator at Lighthouse PH – PP advised the Council that more prices are being sort while agreements are in draft.

4.6 Coastal Protection update – PP advised that Trimmingham and Overstrand had formed a 'local' coastal erosion group to better advance their case and their concerns so she would attempt to see if Walcott could benefit from joining the group.

The meeting was adjourned to hear from Cllr ES who covered budget consultation, libraries, the CAB, coast road drainage and coastal erosion including further damage at Ostend and the gas site options which would need both consultation and consent. Cllr LW referred to the Pathfinder scheme, planning issues and shared services. There were general questions about road conditions and beach access. The Clerk would contact NNDC about the steps access and their condition. The meeting resumed.

5. Planning

5.1 Mr Mrs A Robinson, retention of dwelling, The Glen, Helena Road, Walcott (15/0503) – application refused.

5.2 Mr Mrs B Richardson, extensions, Genesis, Ostend Gap (15/1626) – the Council had no objection – and the application had been permitted.

5.3 New vehicle access, Lighthouse PH (15/1473) – application permitted.

WALCOTT PARISH COUNCIL

6. Finance

6.1 Finance report; new audit procedures – the Clerk advised that from 2017 a Sector Led Body will be appointed by tender to audit small councils (ie Walcott). The Clerk asked the Council confirm that it would not seek to opt out of this arrangement, which was agreed. In 2017 the Council will still need to complete and publish an Annual Return, but will no longer be required to submit it for audit. The Information Commissioner had confirmed the Council’s 2016 Registration. The Clerk would present a letter for the Council to approve at the March meeting which would formalise the Council’s advice to the Clerk in respect of the new Workplace Pensions Regulations. After that the Council can declare formally that it has complied with the relevant Pensions Regulations. The Clerk issued an analysis of the grants issued by the Council over the last four years and an item would be placed on the next agenda to allow the Council to discuss making any further grants.

6.2 The following payment due was approved and the cheque signed.

- SLCC, annual renewal (1/3) £39.33 (cheque 0135)

7. Council’s Standing Orders – Standing Orders were agreed as unchanged and signed. The Clerk had circulated the Council’s existing Financial Regulations and these were discussed; subject to a £250 limit under para 2.4 the Financial Regulations would be presented to the next meeting for confirmation.

8. Reports

8.1 Allotments, Village Hall – no report

8.2 Clerk’s report – the Clerk passed a back-up disk for the Council’s computer files to the Chairman for safe-keeping. He advised the dates/venues of future meetings (all at 7.00 pm):

2016:	March 21st (CVH)	May 16th (Village Hall), to include the APM	
	July 18th (CVH)	September 19th (CVH)	November 21st (Village Hall)
2017:	January 16th (tba)	March 20th (tba)	

8.3 Chairman’s and Members’ reports (inc village developments and projects)

CK asked about the environmental issue at the Coastline Village so the Clerk would contact NNDC again.

KP reminded everyone that website updates can be advised to him or the Clerk.

JE raised the issue of fishing/parking on the coast road footway.

Speeding through Walcott was a concern so the Clerk would ask the PCSO if spot speed checks can be carried out (ideally after 6.30 am and after 4.30 pm).

PP reported on her attendance at the Coastal Forum and the Bacton Gas Site Liaison Committee, where traffic issues had been raised.

The meeting closed at 20.05 and there followed a general discussion on planning issues and policies.

Signed: Chairman

Date: March 2016