

# WALCOTT PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Walcott Parish Council held on Monday 20th March 2017 in the Coastline Village Hall, Walcott

Present: G French, J Husselbee, C King, T Love, K Porter, P Porter (Chairman), J Ransom and four members of the public.

1. The Chairman welcomed all those present. Apologies were received from P McCarthy, J Husselbee and Cllrs E Seward (NCC).

2. Declarations of interest – none

3. The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on January 16th 2017 were approved, proposer TL, and signed;

4. Matters arising

4.1 NCC - highways matters – the Clerk gave the NCC feedback on current issues; there are no current defects on the coast except near the Poplar Drive junction where the road will be scheduled for work this year.

4.2 NNDC /new seat – the Clerk advised that he was in touch with NNDC over permission for the siting of the seat on the hatched area at Walcott Gap, and the Council asked him to proceed with the project.

4.3 Village sign – nil further.

5. Planning

5.1 Mr Cooper, extension, 13 Ostend Place, Walcott (16/1758) – application permitted.

5.2 Mr G Dunningham, workshop/annex, Breakers, Poplar Drive (17/0023) – the Council had no objection and the application has been permitted.

5.3 Mr Mrs C Mitchell, extensions, Malthouse Cottage, Ostend Road (17/0065) – application permitted.

5.4 Mr J Sharp, earth bund, Slate Bungalow, Coast Road (17/0101) – application permitted.

5.5 Removal of holiday restriction, 4 Beaumont Place (17/0134) – the Council had no objection.

5.6 Outbuildings, Shemara, The Crescent (17/0147) – the Council had no objection.

5.7 Poplar Drive – PP and TL briefed the Council on a site meeting with residents when proposals were agreed to improve banks to the rear of the properties to minimise flood risk. Separate to this the Council asked the Clerk to set up a site meeting with NNDC and the new Highways Engineer to discuss drainage works and both end of the coast road which would alleviate a further flood risk.

5.8 Other planning business (new consultation procedures from 1.4.17) - the Clerk issued guidelines to assist members using the new procedure.

*In a short adjournment for public participation the issue of an ineffective sewage manhole cover in Poplar Drive was raised and once residents had logged the issue for Anglian Water to rectify it the Clerk would add the council's support/concern. The meeting resumed.*

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## 6. Finance

6.1 To receive a finance report; the Clerk had received 'thank-you' letters for the donations agreed in January; he advised the Council that the bank balance was £45376.

6.2 To consider a grant for the 'Walcott Hangout Club' – the Council awaited further information before agreeing to make a donation.

6.3 To approve the Clerk's pay award for 2017 - members had been notified during 2016 of the second phase of the Clerk's pay review, due April 1st 2017, awarding a further 1% increase in the hourly rate, which was agreed by the Council and an amended Standing Order letter signed. The Council supported the Clerk's proposal to use a payroll agency to ensure compliance.

6.4 Council purchase of an electricity generator (location: Lighthouse PH) – details had been circulated to members and the purchase was confirmed by a majority vote, proposer KP. The bank payment instruction for a transfer of £9240.00 was agreed, and signed.

6.5 The following payments due were approved by the Council:

- HMRC, paye	£27.00	(cheque 0156)
- Clerk's expenses (Sep-Feb)	£195.39	(0157)

The cheques were signed.

7. New Standing Orders for Walcott Parish Council (planning consultation amendment) - the Clerk had circulated amended Orders and these were agreed, proposer KP, all in favour, and signed.

8. 'Speedwatch' in Walcott – the Council deferred this item until six volunteers could be identified. The Clerk would promote a scheme on the notice boards and website.

## 9. Reports

9.1 Allotments, Village Hall – for the Allotments Society George Cooper advised that all allotments were occupied and that rents were due on April 1st.

9.2 Clerk's report – the Clerk had received advice from NNDC about the Community Housing Fund which could benefit Walcott; he would circulate the letter to Members. TL expanded on the NNDC aims to be active in promoting housing along the coast as landowners had been contacted. The policy needed to be reconciled with a 'fallback' strategy.

The next NN Coastal Forum on Tues 28<sup>th</sup> March at Cromer would include a presentation on the Vattenfall Project, also be available at Bacton Village Hall on April 1<sup>st</sup> (11-4.30).

Following the Code of Conduct complaints the Monitoring Officer offered the Council Mediation. The Clerk would circulate the letter and the offer was left on the table.

9.3 Chairman's and Members' reports (inc village developments and projects)

JR was concerned that NNDC enforcement policy may result in the loss of important parking space during peak times.

KP alerted the Council and Clerk to the impact of stricter data protection regulations.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 20.40.

Signed: ..... Chairman

Date: ..... May 2017