**Minutes of the WALCOTT ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

**held on Monday 13th May 2019 in the Kingfisher Café, Walcott**

Present:

G French, T Love, P McCarthy, K Porter, P Porter (Chairman), J Ransom

In attendance: Cllr E Seward (NCC) – pt-time , Cllr C Stockton (NNDC) and eight members of the public

1. Welcome and apologies for absence were received from J Husselbee,

2. The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on May 21st 2018 were taken as read.

3. Report from the Chairman of the Walcott Parish Council

Walcott Drains - Five additional drains were installed last year. Everyone was amazed at how well they worked when we had overtopping earlier this year. We have asked if we can have some more and the answer was yes. We just need to arrange a meeting with the working party, NNDC and NCC.

Bacton Gas Sandscape - Well it’s almost here, the sandscape project that we have waited so long for. Work has commenced with the installation of site offices. Beach nourishment to the villages should commence during August and completed by the end of August. The beach levels may be slightly higher now than they were but we will still get the same allocation of sand. It will be at the same height as initially planned but if necessary will go out to the sea further than 150 metres.

I feel very positive about the future of our village. The toilets are being revamped, hopefully we will have a new village sign, a car park and a fantastic beach.

4. Other reports

4.1 Norfolk Police – no report

4.2 Walcott Village Hall – no report

4.3 North Norfolk District Council – Cllr Clive Stockton introduced himself.

4.4 Norfolk County Council – Cllr E Seward talked about a climate change resolution at NNDC, the planned drains, libraries, the local bus service, sandscaping and the financial climate at NCC.

4.5 Walcott Flood wardens (WEVA) – no report

4.6 Walcott PCC - Walcott Church Secretary’s Report –

Usually I tell you about how eventful last year was but this time I can say that 2018 has been a wonderful year for the PCC of All Saints Church. The year starts with Church Services being held in the Village Hall as nobody likes a cold Church

and often the ground is very wet to be walked or driven on safely. January saw Cafe Chat started again in the Village Hall, open to everyone with cups of tea, lots of chat and even plenty of knitting, if only to stop fingers going to the biscuits too often. The 100 Club continued to raise much needed funds and both are thriving. In February LEPRA Cookies for cures coffee morning was our first charity fundraising event. The 4 Lent group sessions were focused on Paul’s letter to the Philippians. In March, the Womens’ World Day of Prayer should have been on the 2nd in Walcott Church, but unfortunately due to the huge pile of snow in front of the Church entrance, it had to be postponed to another day. Mothering Sunday was held at the Village Hall and Palm Sunday was a United Service at Sea Palling. April was a busy month, Easter Sunday was held in the Church.

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The Spring Fair had lots of people staying to enjoy tea and cakes and spending money. There was also a Gardeners Question time evening which was well attended and went well. In May ‘Thy Kingdom come’ week of Prayer, took place between Ascension and Pentecost, (10th to 20th May), when people were invited to pray for our Village. The Trinity Praise had Major Durrant from the Salvation Army as a guest speaker. Mrs Irene Green left Walcott Church a bequest which was used to buy a new crystal cruet set (one for water, one for wine). The family were invited to the Service where Eiler had blessed the set. There was a Coastal Walk with Catholics praying the Rosary all along Britain and the local group used the Church for prayer, and appreciated the shelter and refreshments. June saw the start of the garden sales, the first one at Beverley’s and it was an enjoyable morning.

Save the Children Songs of Praise was held in the Village Hall and Walcott House again held an Open Garden to raise money for the Church Bell Fund. The end of the month was Strawberry Teas, but unfortunately it wasn’t very well attended, even though the food was lovely. August means Open Churches weekend and flower festivals. This time the theme was ‘well known television series past and present’ where visitors had the chance to guess the name that the flowers represented. As usual the displays were fantastic and I was stuck for an answer on a few. There was also a different display of handmade poppies by the War Memorial which was intended as an example of the kind of display we were going to have in November to mark the end of the First World War. It was wonderful weekend, we had 180 visitors and 49 people did the quiz. They also gave lots of positive feedback. The final two garden sales were at Sam’s and Eiler’s with Grand Draw. The Holiday Praise was held in the Village Hall for locals and holiday visitors. September was the second charity fundraiser for MacMillan Cancer care coffee/tea afternoon and held in the Village Hall. In October our appeal for poppies for our display to be handed in was made. Harvest Festival was celebrated and followed by lunch. We had a Quiz and Fish Supper at the Lighthouse Inn which raised £300 and was a very enjoyable evening, well attended and Steve gave us some lovely food.

November is usually a quiet month, but not this time. At the local firework display Steve had a full-sized Tommy to commemorate the end of the First World War and had asked Catherine if she would do an Act of Remembrance there, where she read out the names of the fallen. On Sunday 4th afternoon All Saints Praise candle lit service was held with Elwyn playing the organ. Monday and Tuesday saw a small group thoroughly decorate the Church with 4500 poppies. On Wednesday 7 th, the children from Bacton School came to see the poppies they had made displayed in the Church and had a small service in front of the memorial. On the 8th November we were privilege to be at Happisburgh Church for Prayers with the Archbishop of Canterbury, including other local Bishops. It was such a special morning and I couldn’t believe how down to earth he was. Saturday 10th all those who had helped in the poppy appeal were invited to see the display we had created and enjoy some refreshments. The Remembrance Service on Sunday was well attended with photos of WW1 pictures on display too. Bishop Alan came twice to the Coastal Group with a United Service on the 18th at Happisburgh and on 22nd he joined other for lunch in the Lighthouse Inn. He also went to Walcott Church to see the display of poppies and where he said Prayers standing around the font. Our annual Christmas Fayre in the Village Hall was certainly busy with visitors and locals. With the year nearly at an end, December is always a busy month. The evening of Carols at the Lighthouse Inn was well attended and there were quite a few people who were not locals. This was followed on Sunday 16th by a Service of Lessons and Carols in the Village Hall and Christmas Eve was the Crib Service in the Church where the children helped Eiler put the figures into the Crib and finally a Family Holy Communion Service on Christmas Day. What a fantastic year.

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4.7 Walcott Allotment Association - we have 12 allotments and have lost one gardener and that allotment has been relet so we are working at capacity but if anyone is interested they should let me know their details as we have no-one at the moment on a waiting list. This year’s rent has been paid to the council

4.8 Coastline Village Residents Association – no report

4.9 MOD Police – no report

4.10 Community First Responders – (The Stalham and Smallburgh group which covers Walcott) - many thanks for the Parish Council again supporting us in the last year – I can report I have been on call for 2617 hours in the last 12 months and attended 24 calls to Walcott out of 113 in the year – accepting my colleagues also cover Walcott it would be safe to assume we attended around 30 and in all cases arrived before the ambulance crews.

5. Open meeting - the meeting had a short discussion on affordable housing; then the proposed car park provision in Walcott was discussed and two items were earmarked for discussion by the parish council – overnight parking at Walcott Gap and speeding traffic along the coast road.

The meeting closed at 21.40.

Signed: .............................................................. Date: July 2019

Chairman of the Parish Council