**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Walcott Parish Council**

held on Monday 20th January 2020 in the **Coastline Village Hall, Ostend**

Present: G French, P McCarthy, J Howell, K Porter, E Hardy, T Love, P Porter (Chairman), J Ransom;

In attendance: Cllr E Seward (NCC) – p/t time and two members of the public

1. The Chairman welcomed all those present. Apologies were received from J Husselbee, and Cllr C Stockton (NNDC).

2. Declarations of interest - none

3. The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on Monday 18th November 2019 were approved, proposer KP all agreed and signed.

4. Matters arising

4.1 NCC; highways matters – nil further

*The meeting was adjourned for public participation and Cllr E Seward Cllr advised that Justin Le May had returned as highway engineer for the area. He gave an update on the coast road drainage extension and gave timetable for the road closures in N. Walsham. Council tax (NCC) would rise 3.99%. With no other issues the meeting resumed.*

4.2 NCC; footpaths, inc shore path improvements; the Council had received preliminary advice about proposed improvements to the coast path through Walcott; the Clerk asked for any comment for inclusion in a Council response to consultation to be carried out by NNDC.

4.3 Village sign – item deferred.

4.4 NNDC issues – the Clerk was arranging for a talk at the March meeting on the impact of the sandscaping project. PP confirmed that the proposed community dog warden scheme would not proceed.

5. Planning

5.1 Summerholme, Coast Road, two storey rear ext (19/2021) – comments awaited.

5.2 Walcott House Ground source heating system (19/1968) – the Council has no objection to this application.

5.3 Vikings, Poplar Drive, conservatory, porch (19/1909) – application approved

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6. Finance

6.1 Finance Report – the Clerk advised that an ICO certificate had been issued until December 2020; he presented the latest bank statements for initialling. He would ask the Council to appoint a new Internal Auditor at the March meeting.

6.2 To review the Council grants budget and make awards as appropriate – a history statement had been circulated to members and requests relayed to members, including ones from Walcott Village Hall and the Seal and Shore Watch; the Council awarded grants as follows:

NNCT £100, proposer PP, all agreed

CAB £200, proposer TL, all agreed

Following discussion and two proposals not carried; Seal/Shore Watch £100, proposer PP, carried.

The Clerk would reply to the Village Hall committee giving the current thinking of the Parish.

6.3 The following payments due were approved, all agreed:

- HMRC,paye payment £179.60 (cheque 0218) Council

- Clerk’s SLCC subscription (50%) £53.00 (0219)

- Clerk’s pay (Dec, Jan) £257.61, £257.41 SO’s

The cheques were signed.

7. Council business

7.1 To consider a proposal for managing a co-option when a vacancy on the Council arises – the Clerk provided briefing papers for members including a form for use by any applicant for co-option. The Council agreed to apply the new proforma with additional information (eligibility, attendance) when the opportunity next arises.

8. Reports

8.1 Clerk’s report – the Clerk advised that NNDC had objected to the removal of the telephone box in Walcott; further information is awaited. He advised the Council about the NNDC plans for VE Day celebrations in May 2020; a meeting was to be held at NNDC on 20.1.20; he advised the Council about a police meeting to be held on 24.2.20. The Clerk gave the next date for a North Norfolk Forum Meeting. The Clerk read the brief gas site report from Shell UK.

8.2 Member’s reports (inc recommendations for village developments/projects)

GF advised the Council that the defibrillator at the toilets was no longer serviceable. He would endeavour to have a new cabinet fitted. The Clerk would let members know when costs are available.

With no other business the meeting closed at 20.20.

Signed: ................................... Chairman Date: ............ March 2020