

WALCOTT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council

held on Monday 16th September 2013 in the Coastline Village Hall, Ostend, Walcott

Present: J Husselbee, T Love, P McCarthy, K Porter, P Porter (Chairman),
M Rosendale and 4 members of the public.

1. The Chairman welcomed all those present including the members of the public.

In an adjournment to hear a briefing on coastal management studies and their impact on the future management of the shoreline R Goodliffe and B Farrow of the NNDC Coastal Team referred to a study to establish if government monies can be sought for major coastal protection projects. It was thought that grants would only be available for limited schemes. The impact of flooding on inland areas was discussed and the speakers were urged to liaise with Natural England. RG advised that a Marine Licence had been obtained to extend the seafront steps to the sand and it was hoped to complete the work in the current financial year. Whilst beach levels are lowest in memory BF explained how the erosion takes place and that some recovery had been noticed recently. The limited impact of sand replacement schemes was explained. With public comment the need to access the beach by the apron was stressed, although it was not built as such. Concerns for the coming winter were aired and BF stressed the value of early weather warnings. BF agreed to check the coast road drainage under the footway; for the future NNDC were endeavouring to maintain good links with parishes. The Chairman thanked the NNDC officers for coming to take part in the meeting.

2. Declarations of interest – TL for item 5.2 (planning application) and highways/footpaths matters.
3. The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 15th July 2013 were approved, proposer KP, all in favour, and signed.
4. Matters arising
 - 4.1 NCC; highways matters – NCC had advised that they would inspect the footway between the Village Hall and Walcott gap. NCC are putting together a proposal for the revision of road markings etc on the seafront strip, which the Council would await.
 - 4.2 NCC; footpaths matters – nil further
 - 4.3 Walcott seafront – NNDC had given broad agreement for an additional seat between Walcott gap and Ostend Gap. MR and JH would progress this, identifying a suitable location. The Walcott Gap seat is still on the agenda.
 - 4.4 Village sign – this would be removed for drying prior to its restoration.

5. Planning

5.1 Janith Homes, amendment to door, window, Barrington Farm (13/14112) – amendments have been approved. The Chairman deferred item 5.2 until the end of the meeting.

6. Finance

6.1 Finance report - the Clerk confirmed that the External Audit had been completed with no matters for the Council's attention; an audit fee is payable this year.

WALCOTT PARISH COUNCIL

16.09.13

page 2

6.2 Clerk's salary review (wef 1.4.13) – the Clerk had circulated the award details and the Council approved the 1% increase in the hourly rate. A letter to the bank to amend the Standing Order was signed.

6.3 The following payments due were approved en bloc with all in favour:

- Mazars, audit fee	£120.00	(cheque 0096)
- Clerk's expenses (Mar-Aug)	£263.48	(0097)
- NALC, training (PP)	£65.00	(0098)

The cheques were signed.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting for comments from the public and the Council heard about the obstructed view from the Coastwatch tower due to a waste pile. TL fielded the question. The 'sea side' bus stop on the coast road appears to have had the drop kerb removed whilst still having paving for the partially sighted. The Clerk would pass this information to NCC. There was concern over increasing traffic levels in Walcott.

7. Consider and prioritise issues to be raised with NNDC at the November meeting – the Council reviewed some of the issues which concern the Council at the current time; these included:

- coastal issues and the need for adequate funding, concern for the coming winter
- planning policy preventing development in Walcott, consigning the village to demise
- liaison between NNDC and NCC (highway drains across NNDC seafront)
- low recycling rates
- the sale of personal data

8. Reports

8.1 Allotments – TL advised that he had arranged for the 'spraying off' of some unused allotments, for which the Council is grateful.

8.2 Walcott Civil Contingencies Co-ordination – a plan needs to be formulated.

8.3 Clerk's report – the Clerk advised the Council of his holiday dates. Following the circulation of the latest Coastal Access proposals, there was no feedback so the Council would make no further comments. He had been asked by NNDC if the Council wished to be involved in the Review of the Standards Regime for Councillors. The Council agreed that they would express an interest at this stage, favouring a visit from the Monitoring Officer to a Council meeting. The Clerk read the short update from Shell on vehicle movements.

8.4 Members' reports (inc village developments and projects)

- there being no further reports, T Love withdrew from the meeting, and business returned to

Planning item 5.2:

5.2 T Love, two wind turbines, The Chimneys, Ostend Road (13/0963) – the Council had no objection to the scheme.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 20.55.

Signed: Chairman Date:November 2013