

WALCOTT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council **held on Monday 18th July 2011 in the Village Hall, Walcott**

Present: J Deakin (Chairman), V R Gardner, P I Howard, D Mason, P McCarthy, C Mead, K Porter, M Rosendale, J Seber; in attendance: Cllr P Morse (NCC), and 4 members of the public.

1. The Chairman, J Deakin welcomed all those present to the meeting. Apologies for absence were received from Cllr L Walker (NNDC).

The meeting was adjourned to hear from Mr Brian Farrow, Principal Coast Protection Engineer NNDC who began by outlining the history of the Walcott seafront and its defences. He gave an update on the work planned for the repairs and improvements to the Walcott Gap to Poachers Pocket section. The merits of 'rock armour' were discussed and he explained the impact of tidal drift and the impact that beach works can have at the site and further along the coast. He was monitoring the drops below the new steps in the hope that time would resolve the problem; however he conceded that extensions would need to be fitted if the sand level does not come back up. The Chairman thanked Mr Farrow on behalf of the Council for his time and work for Walcott.

2. Declarations of interest - none

3. The minutes of the First Meeting of the Council held on Monday 16th May 2011 were approved, proposer PH, all in favour, and signed.

4. Matters arising

4.1 NCC; highways matters – current matters were in hand with NCC and further points had been passed on for the Highways Rangers team to address; the Clerk advised that he would place NCC advice about footway repairs on the sea front on circulation.

4.2 Bus shelter for Coastline Village; MR had undertaken a survey; the base quotes were awaited and the Council were minded to proceed with the grant application.

4.3 Parish Council noticeboard at Village Hall – this had been delivered and installation had been completed; the Council expressed its thanks to those involved.

4.4 NCC; footpaths – the Council awaited advice from NCC on a policy change; Cllr PM commented on the expected change in policy.

4.5 Parish Council Annual Report – JD had arranged printing and members had made deliveries to all households.

4.6 Replacement dog bin – this had been delivered and installed.

5. Planning

5.1 Mr Mrs Hardy, retention of garden shed, White Horses, Poplar Road (2011/0468) - permitted.

5.2 Mr Mrs Williams, extension, Hayfield Cottage, Walcott Green (2011/0806) – the Council had no objection.

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6. Finance

6.1 To receive a financial report: the Clerk advised that the Internal Audit had been completed satisfactorily and he had submitted the Annual Return to the External Auditors; registration of the Council with HMRC for PAYE had been completed and the process for administering this should to be established soon. The Clerk had received and banked £15.00 further in allotment rents.

6.2 The following payments due were approved en bloc, proposer PH, all in favour:

- Harry Stebbing, noticeboard	£700.80*	(cheque 0050)
- HSBC Invoice, dog bin	£74.88	(0051)
- Break, Ann Report printing	£34.00	(0052)
- Broker Network Ltd, insurance premium	£265.00	(0053)
- K Benford, Internal Audit	£25.00	(0054)
- Walcott Village Hall	£10.00	(0055)

KP proposed a vote of thanks to the Internal Auditor for his work. The cheques were signed.
(*signed outside the meeting)

7. To consider matters before the Council

7.1 Main noticeboard – the condition and exposure of the Coast Road notice board was discussed and the Council would await guidance/quotes as to how the board could be restored to fuller use for both the Council and public notices.

7.2 Coast Road (sea front) – the Chairman explained that it was necessary for the Council to present a coherent wish list of change(s) to NCC or other authorities based on a clear set of objectives. She asked all members to solicit views and ideas from residents.

7.3 Allotments Society request for £600 towards a gate/fencing; the Council deliberated the issues, setting the cost against other capital expenditure planned within the village. The Chairman stressed the need for all projects to build towards creating a better image of Walcott. Grass cutting arrangements were also considered. The Allotment Society would obtain a second quote and the Council would consider it further at the next meeting.

8. Reports

8.1 Allotments – see 7.3

8.2 Clerk's report – he advised that he had been contacted by and replied to an Ostend Place resident regarding obstruction by vehicles on Ostend Place and dog fouling on the beach. He had circulated future meeting dates to members. He asked new members to contact him if they would like to attend a training course in the Autumn/Winter.

8.3 Members' reports, inc recommendations for village developments/projects:

KP outlined the changes to the website and requested further village input. VG suggested a website link to the Happening partnership. PH asked if the gas site project was still on schedule. JD indicated that the Jubilee project to plant daffodils would enhance the village's appearance in Spring. CM suggested that the PCSO come to the next meeting to give a police update. There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.30.

Signed: Chairman Date:2011