

WALCOTT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council

held on Monday 19th September 2011 in the Coastline Village Hall, Ostend, Walcott

Present: J Deakin (Chairman), V R Gardner, P I Howard, D Mason, C Mead, M Rosendale, J Seber;
in attendance: Cllrs P Morse (NCC), L Walker (NNDC) and 2 members of the public.

1. The Chairman, J Deakin welcomed all those present to the meeting. Apologies for absence were received from K Porter, PCSO E Dack.

2. Declarations of interest - none

3. The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on Monday 18th July 2011 were approved, proposer PH, all in favour, and signed.

4. Matters arising

4.1 NCC; highways matters – NCC had acknowledged most of the points raised following the last meeting, with nil further advised. The Clerk would follow up about the issue of lying water on the main road.

4.2 NCC; footpaths; no further advice had been received about the NCC policy change on footpaths. VG was monitoring the situation and options for volunteer services were reviewed.

5. Planning

5.1 Incatern Ltd, outbuildings conversion, Barrington Farm, Walcott (2011/0979) – the Council had no objection.

5.2 Janith Homes, conservatory, The Rookery, Walcott (2011/1058) – the Council had no objection.

5.3 Mr Mrs Williams, extension, Hayfield Cottage, Walcott Green (2011/0806) - permitted

6. Finance

6.1 Financial report the Clerk reported that the HMRC had provided the Council with the tax coding to be used for the Clerk's pay so the Council is now operating the PAYE system. The External Audit had been completed by Mazars satisfactorily with no items to be brought to the attention of the Council. The Notice of Conclusion of the Audit had been displayed.

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

- Mazars, audit fee	£144.00 (cheque 0056)
- Clerk's expenses (Mar-Aug)	£217.63 (0057)

The cheques were signed.

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The Chairman opened the meeting for public comment and the Council heard about concerns that the bus services were considerably diminished especially at the Coastline Village, for services to Gt Yarmouth and Norwich. Cllr PM gave the background from the NCC perspective and the Clerk outlined the Community Transport options provided by NWACTA. The Clerk would write to NCC to express concern over the lack of services in Walcott, and display NWACTA information. An enquiry was raised over the installation of a mirror to improve visibility on private land. Cllr LW talked about the grant funding available for serving or ex-service families. Cllr PM indicated that he was active on school transport funding, on footpath access issues and that NCC funding was tight generally. He alerted the Council to a NCC highways/parish fund which has just been launched with bids due by January. The meeting resumed.

7. Matters before the Council

7.1 Coast Road (sea front improvements): the Chairman the Council led a discussion and reported on the suggestions made to her since the last meeting; a traffic priority system, breaks in the double yellow lines to ease passing, 'NO PARKING' for HGV's enforcement, a footway to the Lighthouse PH and a 20 mph speed limit had all been voiced. With these as possible improvements for consideration the Clerk would raise these with NCC; Cllr PM offered to champion the cause.

7.2 To further consider a request from the Allotments Society for funding towards a gate/fencing; also grass cutting/maintenance; costs of the work were advised by the Clerk and Chairman; the Council debated the need for the work and agreed that there should be a formal frontage to the allotments. The longer fencing proposal was put on hold whilst the quote from A M R Services for a new gate with a short rail fence was accepted, proposer PH, all in favour. The Clerk would progress the work with Tom Brown as the main contact.

7.3 To consider the installation of a bus shelter at the Coastline Village – costs were now available for this and the Clerk advised that it had been confirmed by NCC that no grant funding was available in the present year; accordingly the Council reviewed the need for the shelter and would look to achieve further cost reduction before deciding upon the expenditure. The Clerk would liaise with Cllr LW, and report back.

8. Reports

8.1 Allotments - nil further

8.2 Clerk's report – the Clerk reported on a letter from N Lamb MP about the Coastal Communities Fund which he would place on circulation for members; the Clerk advised his holiday dates.

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

DM asked about the Community Speedwatch scheme; the Clerk would pass his contact details to the PCSO.

The pros and cons of street lighting were aired.

VG asked about obtaining replacement dog bin lids which the Clerk would check on.

The meeting closed at 21.20.

Signed: Chairman

Date:2011