

WALCOTT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council

held on Monday 20th January 2014 in the Coastline Village Hall, Ostend, Walcott

Present:

J Husselbee, T Love, D Mason, P McCarthy, K Porter, P Porter (Chairman), M Rosendale;
in attendance Cllr E Seward (NCC), Cllr L Walker (NNDC) and 18 members of the public.

1. The Chairman welcomed all those present including the members of the public; apologies were received from V Gardner. The Clerk explained the process by which a member ceases to be a member of the Council through non-attendance.

2. Declarations of interest – PP for item 6.2 (payments)

3. The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 18th November 2013 were approved, proposer PMcC, all in favour, and signed.

4. Matters arising

4.1 NCC; highways matters – nil further.

4.2 NCC; footpaths matters – nil further.

4.3 Village sign – TL advised that its removal for drying was in hand.

5. Planning – no business

6. Finance

6.1 Finance report - the Clerk advised that the Council had received payments of £5000 each from Interconnector, Shell and Nationalgrid and that he had provided bank details to Perenco. The Chairman had passed £42 (monies handed to the caravan) to the Clerk which he had banked; she handed over a further cheque for £20. In addition the Clerk had banked a cheque for £278.68 from a Stalham Town Hall event in December. He read the covering letter and asked the Council to confirm that both amounts would be held by the Parish Council, which was agreed. The Clerk had received an Appeal letter from the CAB, and the Council deferred this item until March.

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

- NPTP, training course (PP)	£40.00	(cheque 0102)*
- Clerk, Web time	£48.92	(0103)
- Coastline Vill Residents Assoc, hall hire	£40.00	(0104)
- P Porter, mileage to courses	£52.20	(0105)

The cheques were signed (* signed outside the meeting).

(item 7 was taken after item 8)

7. Review of the events during and after the tidal surge in December

Immediate impact and clear up/repairs – the Chairman praised that contribution from NNDC being far more attentive than in previous events. A thank-you letter would be sent to the CEO, singling out the contribution of the Housing Officer. Cllr ES identified areas for the NCC to address, which

WALCOTT PARISH COUNCIL

20.01.14

page 2

would involve many agencies including NNDC but he wishes NCC to take a co-ordinating role, including lobbying central government for funding support. Cllr LW reinforced the concern for external funding.

TL stressed the high cost to the gas site companies from the road closure for over a week. The impact of this was discussed.

The Chairman, reflecting on the contribution and assistance by many agencies asked that letters of thanks are sent to the Red Cross, Bacton Parish Council and the Lighthouse PH.

The meeting was adjourned for public comment and the arrangements for the administration of the Relief Fund were explained. All those (individuals and community organisations) with a claim of loss were encouraged to apply. The Pathfinder project was mentioned as a possible solution to future stability from coastal surge; it was understood that the current scheme is closed. The coastal risks to the gas site were explored. Comment was made, given the inevitability of coastal surges, that the emphasis should be on a swift clean-up program with large numbers of volunteers. There was a need for householders to have an emergency checklist for use before evacuations; the existing material would be up-dated. The different approaches by insurance companies to building reinstatement was explored. A general discussion ensued covering the road closure issues. A roll-back option was explained using a high embankment along the length of the village with a gated coast road.

8. Reports

8.1 Allotments – the Clerk had been attempting to contact Peter Fuller following the flood. TL advised that there had been some contamination by salt water.

8.2 Clerk's report – the Clerk advised members of a local training session for parish councillors in March. The Clerk advised the dates of the scheduled meetings this year:

March 17th - May 19th - July 21st - September 15th - November 17th

8.3 Members' reports (inc village developments and projects) –

PP had received a letter about the condition of a property in Helena road; the Clerk would pass the information to NNDC.

DM reported that the dog bin on The Crescent needs to be re-posted; this would be deferred due to beach works.

JH had alerted the Clerk to the absence of the notice board on the Coast Road so he would liaise with PMcC over its repair and reinstatement.

DM pointed out that the seat at Walcott Gap was no longer there so this would be revisited at the March meeting.

MR suggested the installation of a defibrillator at the Coastline village which would be considered at the March meeting.

KP offered to arrange a get-together with Bacton Parish Council to strengthen the bond between both Councils for mutual benefit in the future.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 20.10.

Signed: Chairman Date:March 2014