

Weybourne Parish Council

DRAFT MINUTES of the Parish Council Meeting held on
Wednesday 14th July 2021, 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Present: Lyndon Swift (Chair), Charlie Harrison, Robin Woodhouse, Steven Todd, Penny Taylor, Peter Gallally, Ruth Gallally, Val Stubbs and Dan Howes (Clerk & RFO)

Also present: Cllr Victoria Holliday, Cllr Eric Vardy, Philip Turner (Chestnut) and seven members of the public.

1. **(a) To confirm that this meeting will be recorded, and that Members of the Council and general public are reminded they should behave appropriately as if in a general meeting.**

Cllr Swift read this statement out. No issues.

(b) To receive and consider apologies

No apologies.

(c) To receive Declarations of Interest on Agenda items and consider requests for Dispensations.

Cllr Todd declared his wife has an interest in Chestnut Group and asked for a dispensation to comment on this subject. This was granted by all councillors.

Cllr Woodhouse declared an interest in the planning application for Beck Close (to be included with section 7b). Cllr Woodhouse to leave the room during this period with no comment.

2. Minutes

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 2nd June 2021.

The minutes were **agreed** as a true record of the meeting.

3. Public Participation

(a) The meeting was adjourned to allow correspondence from members of the public and any councillors with prejudicial interest to speak.

A resident spoke in regard to windfarms – stating they had spoken to Equinor etc. about the cable routing, which will be placed metres from their property. Cllr Swift confirmed that the resident was happy to contribute to the windfarm section of the meeting.

Another resident spoke in regard to the speeding issues on Station Road and the footpaths being extended through the village. Cllr Swift stated that the latter enquiry would need to be placed in writing to us as this would be a County Council matter. The resident asked if the VAS speeding signs could be placed further up the road past Beck Close.

(b) To receive reports from the County Councillor, District Councillor and Police.

Cllr Swift welcomed the County Councillor; Eric Vardy, to the meeting.

Cllr Vardy stated that as the deputy chairman of the County's Planning & Regulatory Committee, he was very pleased that permission was granted for a new 170 place special school in Easton. This free school will be run by The Bridge Trust and is part of Norfolk CC's £120m five-year transformation programme which has pledged to create 500 new specialist education places.

Norfolk Libraries have launched "Wild World Heroes" summer reading challenge, helping kids 4-11 to enjoy reading while learning about nature and how they can make a difference to the environment.

Norfolk CC is looking to triple the number of Roadside Nature Reserves. Fewer cuts to rural roadsides, a pollinator action plan and 188 more roadside nature reserves are all on the cards as part of the plans to boost biodiversity along roads and paths.

Cllr Vardy suggested that the PC to contact him again if there were any further issues with the cutting back on Beach Lane.

Cllr Swift stated that road signs are getting overgrown, with not enough being cut back. Cllr Vardy has regularly meetings with Norfolk CCs Highways department and will bring this up.

Cllr Vardy stated he can be contacted via the Clerk over any issues that he can help with.

Cllr Holliday to arrive later in the meeting.

The Police cluster newsletter had been received.

Cllr Vardy left the meeting at this point.

4. Co-opt Councillor

To co-opt a new councillor to the council –

- (a) Applicants can, if they wish, introduce themselves briefly to the councillors and give some background etc. to support their application.**

Both applicants introduced themselves to the councillors within the meeting.

- (b) Note that all applicants and members of the public present will need to leave the meeting whilst the council make their decision**

After discussion it was agreed that Johnny Seago will be our new councillor and his first meeting will be on the 1st September. Clerk to send relevant co-option paperwork for completion.

Going forward it was agreed to hold brief interviews for future co-options.

It was agreed to bring section 7c to this part of the meeting.

The Maltings' new owner to address the council on the vision for the site

Cllr Swift introduced Philip Turner of the Chestnut Group to the meeting. Mr Turner went over the presentation; which will be included with these minutes.

Mr Turner stated that the time frame for the project will be approx. 12 months. In the Studio the intention is to rebuild the windows as a celebration to the history of the building. Mr. Turner welcomed any memorabilia of the building to be put on display and stated the name of The Maltings is still under discussion (though the consensus in the room seemed to be a preference for retaining the current name).

Mr Turner stated moving forward that the company would like to work in conjunction with the parish council.

At this point Cllr Holliday entered the meeting.

Back to section 3b – Cllr Holliday stated the Coastal Partnership has been awarded £8 million.

The toilets at Weybourne beach would be opened the next day.

There are no brown bins in stock at the moment. Emptying litter bins has been busy but more manageable.

There is a pre-app for social housing in Sheringham but awaiting more information on this.

The old 'Splash' will be reopening in September.

5. Windfarm Developments

To receive any updates regarding the offshore wind developments

Cllr Stubbs had sent around an update to all councillors before the meeting, which were all received.

A resident spoke in regards to the cabling potentially being placed nearby their property and proposed starting a petition and a letter to go to every resident in the village to try and show what potential impact the cabling could have on the village and to potentially get the legislation changed so the companies could work together.

Cllr Swift outlined everything the PC is working on already; from petitioning our MP, SoS etc, speaking to Equinor etc.

Cllr Swift stated that if residents wished to set up a group to petition, send letters/leaflets to residents then this is something that the parish council would back.

Cllr Stubbs stated that she is not convinced that it is feasible that both companies could use the same channels.

Though this is not something that the parish council has pushed and it will be looked into further.

Cllr Stubbs stated that it has been agreed to organise a meeting about the OTN which will allow Parish Councils to engage directly with the authorities. This is due to take place on July 22nd and will include representatives from NGENSO (National Grid) and the Offshore Wind Industry Council's ONTR workstream lead. BEIS (Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy) will not participate as it is holding its own consultation process on July 22nd. Cllr Stubbs confirmed she will be attending both meetings.

Cllr Stubbs stated that she is still pushing hard on the OTN and that a group of parish councils are doing the same thing. There is no room for complacency, and the more opposition and holdups we can put in Equinor's way to slow down the process the better. This would have the twin benefits of making the OTN a more attractive proposition than onshore cabling, and allowing more time for the construction of the OTN. Cllr Stubbs stated if there were any further questions from residents about this subject then please contact her outside of the meeting.

Cllr Stubbs confirmed that Equinor had held their second consultation and will be looking over this. Then in November/December they will put in an application to the SoS and then there will be a further consultation which will be the SoS's consultation; which again the PC and residents can contribute to.

Cllr Swift stated it would be good in the Autumn to have Equinor come along to a parish meeting. This will be discussed further in our September meeting.

Residents and councillors thanked Cllr Stubbs for all the work she is doing in this area and making it understandable to all.

Going forward Cllr Stubbs' updates will be added to our website and Facebook page.

6. Finance

(a) To note the bank reconciliation to –

- i. 23rd June 2021

The bank reconciliation was noted.

(b) To note the account summary's to -

- i. 23rd June 2021

The accounts summary was noted.

(c) To approve the following invoices for payment:

i.	D Howes	Salary for June	£ 339.00
ii.	D Howes	Salary for July (post-dated cheque)	£ 339.00
iii.	E.On	Streetlight Electricity (June)	£ 74.50 (VAT£3.55)
iv.	D Howes	Expenses/postage/stationery for June	£ 58.86
v.	Edward Farrow	VAS maint & relocation (Nov-June)	£ 320.00
vi.	H Carrier	Internal Audit	£ 55.00
vii.	Gardenaid	Churchyard & Cems Maint (May)	£ 352.00
viii.	V Stubbs	Expenses – No Mow May/Verge notices	£ 9.25
ix.	TT Jones	Street lighting maint (July-Sept)	£ 57.30 (VAT£9.55)
x.	Secret Gardens	Verge cutting – June	£ 156.00
xi.	Shrublands Gdn Servs	Cems work (shed and soil removal)	£ 645.00
xii.	Weybourne PC	HDPF funds to move from current account to premium account	£ 4747.66*

*(For info - £4K donation from HDPF back in Sept 2019 and £1,677.04 from the dissolution of the HDPF Committee. The premium account currently totals £929.38. The cheque for £4,747.66 is the difference).

The 12 invoices/payments were **approved** for payment.

(d) To approve payment of invoices received since the publication of the agenda:

i.	Gardenaid	Churchyard & Cems Maint (June)	£352.00
ii.	Community Heartbeat	Defibrillator pads	£46.80 (VAT£7.80)
iii.	Norfolk ALC	Councillor training	£72.00 (VAT£12.00)
iv.	E.On	Streetlight Electricity (July)	£72.10 (VAT£3.43)
v.	Graphic Edge	Cems signs	£35.00

The five invoices were **approved** for payment.

7. Planning

(a) To consider the following planning applications

- (i) PF/21/1336 - The Keep, Beach Lane, Weybourne, Norfolk, NR25 7AH
Detached outbuilding for use annexe

It was **agreed** that the Council **supports** this application but will need to abide by the Dark Skies Agreement.

(b) To consider planning applications received since the publication of the agenda

- (i) PF/21/1523 - Beck Cottage, Station Road, Weybourne, Norfolk, NR25 7HE
Retention of garage

Cllr Woodhouse left the meeting at this point.

It was **agreed** that the Council objects this application due to inappropriate materials and within a conservation area.

Cllr Woodhouse re-entered the meeting.

(c) The Maltings new owner to address the council on the vision for the site

This was covered earlier in the meeting

(d) To discuss Parish Partnership 2022-23

Councillors to think about possible projects which will be discussed at our next meeting.

(e) To receive any updates on affordable housing

No updates

8. Highways & Footpath matters

(a) To receive any updates on the streetlighting replacements

The columns on Pine Walk have been replaced, connections still needed to be completed.

Information regarding quotes was sent to all councillors prior to the meeting regarding the further faults.

It was agreed that Cozens will be contacted to complete this work.

(b) (Not included on the agenda)

(c) To receive updates on verge cutting

Cllr Stubbs sent around an update to all councillors prior to the meeting.

Overall good support from residents regarding the verge cutting. All councillors in agreement that it's going well apart from the unsightly area by the bench.

Cllr Swift stated that he, led by Cllr Stubbs, with Cllr P Gallally and Cllr R Gallally were taken on a village tour to see what flowers, plants etc. are now appearing in these areas.

Cllr Swift stated that he and the Clerk will draw up a village map stating which authority is responsible for each part, and bring this to the next meeting. This will help in clarifying this information to residents.

(d) To discuss the purchase of some wildflower plants to improve the visual appeal of the unmown verges

Cllr Stubbs had spoken to the Norfolk Wildlife Trust in regard to the area by the bench; they suggested to mow this area back and to either sow this with wildflowers or wildflowers will just grow. Also been to Natural Surroundings who suggested potentially sowing prettier wildflowers in this area; which will not come into bud until next Spring, but for now it can be cut back. Also, the sinkhole area on Pine Walk to be mowed back.

Cllr Harrison stated he would liaise with Cllr Stubbs about using his strimmer to cut away and keep tidy smaller areas around bins etc.

All in agreement to carry on with the project.

Cllr Stubbs to look into prices for planting/seeding and will be discussed at our next meeting.

It was agreed that the negative correspondence be responded to with an explanation that the council has discussed this thoroughly, that the council is in full agreement to carry on with the programme and that there is really positive feedback from the village survey. Clerk to respond.

(e) To discuss correspondence from a resident regarding parking on All Saints Close

All correspondence was sent to all councillors prior to the meeting. The parking issue has been raised before in previous years, but the council had been unable to make any difference as it does not have authority over the area, but it was agreed that the Clerk will again contact Norfolk County Council, the County Councillor and Flagship with the resident's enquiries.

(f) To discuss an offer of free no parking cones

It was **agreed** that we will have 25 parking cones. Cllr Holliday to sort.

At this point Cllr Holliday left the meeting.

9. Allotments

To discuss the role of Allotments Co-ordinator going forward

It was **agreed** that the former councillor; Andy Crawford, will carry on as the Allotments Co-ordinator. The Clerk to officially inform him.

10. Cemetery matters

To receive updates on any maintenance matters

Cllr Swift confirmed that the shed has now gone and the side with the earth has been cleared. Cllr Swift proposed advertising for donations towards a new shelter; and to potentially have the shelter as a memorial. The Clerk to add this to the website and Facebook page.

Signs are now complete and Cllr Swift will add these to the outside cemetery wall.

11. Village Hall

To receive the Weybourne Village Hall Management Committee report

A report was received by all Councillors.

12. Harry Dawson Playing Field

(a) To receive report regarding the playing field weekly inspections and consider any recommendations

Cllr Harrison gave the reports to the Clerk.

Cllr Harrison stated that the concrete middle of the football pitch needs some work. The Clerk to contact Gary Wells to get this work completed.

Cllr Swift stated that the working party hadn't gone ahead because of poor weather but will be looked over during Summer/Autumn.

(b) To appoint a member/s to carry out the weekly playing field inspection between 15th July 2021 and 1st September 2021

It was **confirmed** that Cllr Swift will carry out the weekly inspections in July and Cllr Todd to do them in August. Cllr Taylor stated that she will do the inspections in September.

(c) To receive any updates in regards to funding possibilities and future developments at the HDPF

The Clerk now has the wording for 'GoFundMe' to set this up. Cllr Swift stated that in the Autumn we will send letters to holiday companies. The Clerk to investigate who owns holiday cottages, businesses etc.

(d) To receive the quotes for the inspection fees

Two out of three quotes were received. It was agreed that The Play Inspection Company will carry on with the inspections for the next year. Clerk to find out if Cllr Gallally can join the inspector for the visit in September.

13. Weybourne Community Fund

To receive the Weybourne Community Fund report

Cllr Woodhouse stated there is a meeting this week and will discuss possibility of small events.

14. The Beach

To discuss a proposal of signage for beach safety

Cllr Stubbs sent around details to all councillors in regards to a similar sign at a nearby parish.

It was agreed that the Clerk will contact NNDC to proceed further with a site visit to update the signage.

Cllr Swift stated that tomorrow he will attend the new toilet opening on the Beach Car Park. Cllr Stubbs on behalf of all councillors wanted to thank Cllr Swift for his persistence on finally obtaining the toilet for the village.

Cllr Swift stated we need to make a record of our successes over the last few years and going forward.

15. Governance:

(a) To receive any updates on broadband fibre funding

Cllr Todd stated that Openreach had confirmed that this work will be rolled out in the village in the next 12-36 months.

(b) To review the current Planning Application Policy, Health and Safety Policy and Training Policy

Deferred to the next meeting

(c) To receive any updates regarding the dead trees issue in Weybourne Caravan Park

Cllr Stubbs stated that this can be brought up again if and when the caravan park applies for permission for more caravans. To be taken off the next agenda.

(d) To receive any updates regarding the restoration of the pond on Beach Lane

No updates. Cllr Stubbs to look into this further.

(e) To receive any updates regarding a flag pole for the village

Clerk read out the following from Norfolk CC – 'If we wish to have written confirmation of whether permission is required then we require to submit a Lawful Development Certificate for a proposed development or use. We would need to submit a completed form, location plan, scaled drawing of the proposed flagpole and a fee £117.00, if permission is required, we will then need to submit a full application, accompanied by the above details/plans and a fee £117.00.'

Cllr Swift stated we can not move further on this until we know further information from the village hall committee.

(f) To receive any updates on the village emergency plan

Cllr Swift stated we need to work with NNDC to update plans and that the role for this work will be reallocated in our next meeting.

(g) To receive any updates on the village survey

Cllr Swift confirmed we received 124 responses with some interesting responses. Both speeding and parking were the two biggest issues. Cllr Todd volunteered to go over this information with Cllr Swift.

(h) To discuss a textile bank opportunity from NNDC

It was **agreed** not to pursue this further.

16. Correspondence to consider and respond to the following:

(a) Items received since the publication of the agenda

Off the back of Cllr Todds training, it was agreed that the Clerk will look into the Local Council Award Scheme and bring further information to all councillors to discuss for our next meeting.

17. To confirm the date of the next Parish Council Meeting

The next parish council meeting was confirmed as Wednesday 1st September 2021.

There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 9.42pm