

Weybourne Parish Council

DRAFT MINUTES of the Parish Council Meeting held on
Wednesday 1st September 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, Johnny Seago and Dan Howes (Clerk & RFO)

Also present: Cllr Victoria Holliday, Cllr Eric Vardy and 13 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.**

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 Harrison declared an interest in the planning application for The Barn (section 6 (a) ii.). Cllr Harrison to leave the room during this period with no comment.

2. Minutes

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 14th July 2021.

The minutes were **agreed** as a true record of the meeting. Going forward a copy of the minutes will go up on the notice board.

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 member of the WVHMC spoke about potentially implementing a village newsletter; similar to High Kelling PC; with printing costs from advertising and distribution by volunteers. It was **agreed** that this will be added to next month's agenda for discussion.

A resident spoke in regards to many residents opposing to the grass verges not being cut etc. Cllr Swift stated that the parish council agreed unanimously to this project and there has been a majority of residents hugely in favour of the project.

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

Cllr Vardy (County Councillor) stated that our SAM2 doesn't record speed etc. so will look into loaning one that does. This will help with monitoring the speeding issues through the village. Cllr Swift stated there is no police presence in the village which Cllr Vardy will bring up in the next SNAP meeting.

Cllr Vardy also stated that Norfolk's economic recovery from the pandemic has received an extra boost with the extension of Norfolk CC Employer Training Incentive Programme (ETIP). This now allows all types of businesses that are self-employed, small, and medium to apply for funding. The size of the up-front grant has changed too, increasing from 50% to 75% to help employers retain and upskill their staff. This means that businesses only have to fund 25% of the course cost themselves. The scheme helps businesses to fund training opportunities from essential training for new recruits to courses to learn new skills. The aim is that the training helps boost productivity, diversification or growth. Training can cover courses on almost any topic a business might need.

Cllr Vardy at this point left the meeting.

Cllr Holliday (District Councillor) stated that bin collections are late and toilets are to be emptied.

Signage on the beach: need to confirm with the RNLI if there is a riptide, so will know more in October.

Motorhomes on the beach car park: this will be brought up with NNDC.

The Local Plan is coming to its end at the end of December 2021 so the consultation for this is coming up, and it is vital that the Parish Council voices its views again.

The dead whale on the beach will be removed at the end of this week.

Cllr Holliday gave an update on the opposed planning application - PF/21/1523 - Beck Cottage, Station Road, Weybourne, Norfolk, NR25 7HE - Retention of garage. Cllr Woodhouse left the meeting at this point. The application has been temporarily suspended for 21 days whilst the land ownership is resolved. Cllr Swift stated if there are any further comments regarding this application to pass them onto the Clerk who can pass these onto NNDC. Cllr Woodhouse came back into the meeting.

The Police cluster newsletter had been received.

4. Windfarm Developments

(a) To receive any updates regarding the offshore wind developments

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

The update included Ørsted will carry out survey work (boreholes) on Weybourne Beach from 3rd September. Cllr Todd asked if Ørsted would need planning permission to do this; which Cllr Holliday will investigate further with NNDC.

In regards to SEP/DEP, another letter has been sent from the 22 parish councils highlighting further flaws in the consultation process. There has been very minimum response received from previous letters.

BEIS began a consultation process in July, which closes on 8th September which is primarily aimed at the offshore wind industry. Cllr Stubbs stated the PC needs to put in a response before the 8th September, so will put something together. BEIS has divided existing/potential wind farm schemes into groups based on how far advanced the plans are. The Equinor projects fall within the Early Opportunities stream. Within this, the government is pressurising companies to coordinate their activities and may make some changes to the legal framework, but there will be no coercion or central planning. Unfortunately, this means that Equinor effectively has carte blanche to continue with its current onshore plans.

In the Pathway to 2030 stream, the government is planning to create a generation map that would show where all prospective projects are planned to be built and connected, and to coordinate these projects, with the aim of reducing the required infrastructure and reducing impact, which would be likely also to speed up the planning and consenting process. It is to be hoped that this over-arching view might prevent any plans to bring further cables onshore at Weybourne in the future. One of the tools that would be used in decision-making would be a Holistic Network Design in which four criteria would be taken into account, including the environmental impact and the impact on local communities.

Equinor organised a meeting about the OTN in July 2021. As well as Equinor itself, it included representatives from NGENSO and the Offshore Wind Industry Council's ONTR workstream lead. The webinar was largely a series of presentations with very limited opportunity for questions to be asked and even fewer answered. One piece of information that Cllr Stubbs did get after pressing Equinor is that it is attempting to coordinate with Ørsted (Hornsea 3) regarding where the two companies' cables would cross, so that preparatory work would be done for SEP and DEP when the Hornsea 3 cable trenches are dug at the Muckleborough Collection and the area north of The Street in Weybourne.

Cllr Stubbs stated that we need to continue to challenge Equinor on its emphasis on the potential for two-phase construction of the SEP and DEP projects, which would more or less double the length of the disruption to the community, tourism and the environment. Our MP is pushing hard for the SEP/DEP wind farms to become a Pathfinder for increased coordination by committing to carrying out both projects as a single construction.

Cllr Stubbs stated that 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. That said, the odds are definitely stacked against us. It is vital that we continue to apply pressure both at a political level and on Ørsted/Equinor.

It was **agreed** that Cllr Todd will assist Cllr Stubbs going forward.

(b) To agree to respond to Ofgem's Consultation on the OTNR

It was **agreed** by all councillors

5. Finance

(a) To note the bank reconciliation to –

- i. 23rd July 2021
- ii. 23rd August 2021

The bank reconciliations were noted.

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

- i. 23rd June 2021
- ii. 23rd August 2021

The accounts summaries were noted.

The Clerk to add into next accounts which account is funds for HDPF.

(c) To approve the following invoices for payment:

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|----|---------|-------------------|----------|
| i. | D Howes | Salary for August | £ 339.00 |
|----|---------|-------------------|----------|

ii.	E.On	Streetlight Electricity (August)	£ 74.50 (VAT£3.55)
iii.	D Howes	Expenses/postage for July/Aug	£ 69.54
iv.	D Howes	Payback for HDPF Bark (Travis Perkins)	£ 177.79 (VAT £29.63)
v.	Secret Gardens	Verge cutting - July	£ 194.00
vi.	Cozens	Streetlight replacements & add.work	£ 4,566.00 (VAT £761.00)
vii.	WVHMC	Village Hall hire (June & July)	£ 36.00
viii.	Gardenaid	Churchyard & Cems maint (July)	£ 352.00
ix.	NNDC	Dog bin emptying	£ 873.60 (VAT £145.60)
x.	Play Inspection Co.	HDPF Operational Inspection	£ 81.00 (VAT£13.50)

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

The Clerk stated that a letter from EON stating a price rise on the kilowatts per hour fee from 1st September. Clerk to look into the renewal date and the possibility of shopping around.

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

None

6. Planning

(a) To consider the following planning applications

- i. PF/21/1831 - Flat Five, Weybourne Hall, Temple Drive, Weybourne, Norfolk, NR25 7EX
Detached Installation of rooflights to north and west roof slopes

It was **agreed** that the Council supports this application.

- ii. PF/21/1957 - The Barn, Bolding Way, Weybourne, Norfolk, NR25 7SW
Single-storey extension to front of dwelling

Cllr Harrison left the meeting at this point.

It was **agreed** that the Council **supports** this application.

Cllr Harrison re-entered the meeting.

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

None

(c) To discuss Parish Partnership 2022-23

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

(d) To receive any updates on affordable housing

No updates.

- i. **To discuss attending an online event – ‘Making rural housing more affordable’ on 17th November**

It was agreed that both Cllr Swift and Cllr Harrison to attend this event. Clerk to sort.

It was **agreed** that Cllr P Gallally, Cllr R Gallally and Cllr Harrison to take on future planning work.

7. Highways & Footpath matters

(a) To receive any updates on the streetlighting replacements

All replacements etc. have been completed.

(b) To receive updates on verge cutting

Cllr Stubbs sent around an update to all councillors prior to the meeting and read this out in the meeting.

It was **agreed** that the contractor will cut back on their first cut of the verges in September. Cllr Stubbs will arrange signage regarding the arisings being left on the verges, with the Clerk adding this to both the website and social media. Cllr Stubbs can arrange hay rakes to assist with raking and will arrange a date for volunteers to assist. Cllr Harrison stated that he can dispose of the cuttings.

Cllr Stubbs proposed sprinkling yellow rattle to help parasitise grasses and help wildflowers grow. This was **agreed** by all.

Cllr Stubbs thanked all who helped cut back the area by the bench.

- i. **To approve applying for a grant from NNDC’s Sustainable Communities Fund for the improvement of the area by the bench**

Cllr Todd suggested applying for this grant. Cllr Stubbs proposed the grant would covering the costings for planting spring-flowering bulbs, sowing some wildflower seeds (cornfield and perennial mix), use some Beebombs (to get the

community involved). To actively promote working to counter biodiversity and climate change then it would be good to erect a noticeboard to post information etc to be placed behind the bench in Station Road.

To stop people parking on the verge, she proposed placing bunting.

It was **agreed** by all councillors that Cllr Stubbs can move forward with the proposals and to apply for a grant.

ii. To discuss organising a community work party to gather up and dispose of the arisings when the unmown verges are cut in September

Discussed previously.

(c) Keeping signs in village and the speed sign clear

Cllr Swift to complete a plan of the village to show which authority takes responsibility for all areas. Any problems with keeping areas clear then contact the Clerk or Norfolk CC Highways.

8. Allotments

(a) To receive the allotments report from the allotments co-ordinator

Cllr Swift had contacted Andy prior to the meeting and a report will be ready for our next meeting.

(b) To receive any updates about the raised beds

Andy to contact a local company in regards to completing this in October.

(d) To discuss the broken notice board

All fixed, thanks to Andy and Tony

9. Cemetery matters

(a) To receive updates on any maintenance matters

Cllr Swift stated that the soil removal has been completed. There has been an issue with moles.

The signs have been completed and just need to be placed.

The paths will need to be looked at into next year. Cllr Taylor to speak to Tony about options going forward.

(b) To discuss installation of a new pagoda and water butt

The Clerk to contact the Sheringham Men Shed in regards to a new pagoda and to investigate The Sustainable Communities Fund. At present there is £20 on the Go Fund Me page.

10. Village Hall

(a) To receive the Weybourne Village Hall Management Committee report

This was received by all councillors

(b) To discuss potential work at the 'Memorial Garden'

Cllr Swift confirmed that the area of the 'Memorial Garden' is land owned by the parish council. WVHMC to send around a plan of the proposed garden, which will be discussed further at our next meeting.

11. Harry Dawson Playing Field

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

Cllr Todd stated it would be good to see a future plan. Cllr Todd, Cllr Seago and Cllr Taylor to liaise together to move things forward.

(b) To appoint Cllr Taylor to carry out the weekly playing field inspection between 1st September 2021 and 6th October 2021

It was **confirmed** that Cllr Taylor will carry out the weekly inspections.

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

Over a thousand pounds have been raised on the Go Fund Me page.

A resident has stated interest in doing a cake stall to generate funds.

12. Weybourne Community Fund

To receive the Weybourne Community Fund report

Cllr Woodhouse stated the Community Field will be cut back/kept tidy when possible.

No fundraising plans at the moment.

13. The Beach

(a) To receive any updates on the signage for beach safety

The Clerk read out a response from NNDC – 'The RNLI confirmed that there is a sign in the car park with 'No Swimming' on it. There are two smaller access points without signage, however they believe that the majority of

people will enter the beach via the access with the signage as it is flat there. The PRE (public rescue equipment) and phone were in good condition.'

As stated previously the RNLI will again respond to us in October so will await their response.

(b) To discuss the waste emptying in the beach toilet

CLlr Swift confirmed that this is not the responsibility of the parish council and any problems to contact NNDC

(c) To discuss the issue of motorhomes in the car park

This was covered earlier in the meeting.

It was **agreed** to add CLlr Seago to any beach issues alongside CLlr Woodhouse.

14. Governance:

(a) To receive any updates in regard to applying for the Local Council Award Scheme

The Clerk sent around information prior to the meeting. The overall majority **agreed** to move forward with the application.

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

No updates

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

The Clerk to send around all information held to all councillors for our next meeting.

(d) To receive any updates on the village survey

CLlr Swift stated that this is being worked on and should have information by October.

(e) To discuss a village newsletter

It was agreed that CLlr Swift, CLlr P Gallally and CLlr R Gallally will get together to produce an achievement newsletter. The Clerk to go over the last two years of minutes to supply any further information.

(f) To discuss the bonfire location for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee

To be deferred to next meeting

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

The Clerk sent around all information prior to the meeting with any necessary changes. All **agreed** happy with the changes and the Clerk to update and circulate to all councillors

15. Correspondence to consider and respond to the following:

Items received since the publication of the agenda

CLlr Taylor thanked CLlr Stubbs, CLlr Swift and CLlr Todd for their continuous work.

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

The next parish council meeting was confirmed as Wednesday 6th October 2021.

There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 9.45pm