

WELTON LE WOLD PARISH MEETING

Minutes of the Meeting held in St. Martin's Church, Welton le Wold,
at 7.30 p.m. on Thursday, 19th October, 2023

Present: Margaret Stubbs (Chairman), Peter J Taylor (Clerk), Lesley Smith (Treasurer), Lynne J Blakey, Karen Couves, Christopher North.

1. **Chairman's Opening Remarks:** The Chairman welcomed those present.
2. **Apologies for Absence:** Nigel Evens, Victoria Evens, Margery Ward, Chris Wedge, Andrew West and District Councillor Richard Fry.
3. **Minutes of the meeting on 20th April 2023** were approved unanimously, proposed by Christopher North and seconded by Lesley Smith.
4. **Matters Arising from the Minutes, not on this agenda:** There was some discussion about rubbish near the corner at the foot of Dark Lane, mentioned in Item 18 of those Minutes. Some rubbish has been removed, but there remains some rubble and new grass cuttings. Margaret Stubbs agreed to investigate, because it is unclear whether it is on the verge or private land including farm land. **Action: Chairman**
5. **County and District Councillors' Reports:** None.
6. **Correspondence:** The Clerk referred to various questionnaires emailed from Local authorities and Neighbourhood Alert. He had forwarded them to households.
7. **Financial Business:**
The Treasurer had spent some three hours on the telephone with Barclays Bank, resolving problems including the provision of proof that the Parish Meeting exists. Finally they accepted a copy of the insurance receipt from Zurich Municipal.
The Treasurer distributed copies of a spreadsheet showing receipts and payments since 31st March 2023. Receipts comprised the parish precept of £295.00, and payments totalled £378.11. The closing balance at Barclays Bank and in Petty Cash was £831.33. Acceptance was proposed by Karen Couves and seconded by Peter Taylor. Peter Taylor requested payment to the church for heating and light, and it was decided to pay £15.00. It was agreed to pay a £200 honorarium to Ian Ward in recognition of his work in cutting grass verges this summer, well beyond the extent of his own frontage. The meeting agreed a Parish Precept of £5.00 per Band D equivalent property for 2024/25, proposed by Christopher North and seconded by Peter Taylor. **Action: Clerk and Treasurer**
8. **Website Report:** Andrew West reported that the village website continues to be used by residents and visitors, with more than 1800 views so far during 2023. Recently the most popular page has been the Welton Waders information (stream clearance working party).
9. **Village WhatsApp group:** This is agreed to be well used and useful.
10. **Neighbourhood Watch:** The Clerk said it has 33 member households, of 50 households in the parish.
11. **Working Parties:** The chairman thanked the volunteers who have cleared weeds and debris several times this year. Another such event may be held this year if necessary.

12. Unbalanced tree leaning across road opposite The Washdyke:

The Clerk said that on 3rd May Colin Horton, Arboricultural Officer at East Lindsey District Council, reported: “I viewed the tree today and carried out a Basic level of assessment. At this level, if a tree doesn't have an obvious risk feature to trigger taking a closer look, the risk is Acceptable, and I didn't find any obvious tree risk features.

The tree exhibits good vitality – crown density, shoot extension and bud development are good, as are branch unions, response growth, and the height/diameter ratio. There have been no changes in exposure or the load, and no obvious tree risk features to cause concern. There are no indications the tree is suffering from any disease or decay that would significantly foreshorten its anticipated long life-expectancy.

Please note we do not accept any legal liability or responsibility for maintaining privately owned trees – that rests with the owner of the tree.

I hope this helps and I am, of course, happy to discuss this with you should you have any queries.”

Other threats to electricity supply:

A gale in July blew a tree down across Dark Lane, causing power loss for over 24 hours to several properties, and two much shorter interruptions to a number of others. Northern Powergrid provided a generator for one vulnerable resident, and paid £150 compensation to households that suffered the over-24-hour outage, also the Church.

13. Maintenance of public right of way on Footpath 303:

The Clerk said that contractors for Lincolnshire County Council (LCC) had, more than once, cut back the briars across this path, which runs between Binbrook Road and the A157. LCC also keep the Clerk informed of the dates of clearance operations.

14. Any other Business: None.

15. Date of next meeting: Either Thursday 18th or 25th April 2024, to be decided.

The meeting ended at 8.30 p.m.