

WELTON LE WOLD PARISH MEETING

Minutes of the Meeting held in St. Martin's Church, Welton le Wold, at 8.00 p.m. on Thursday, 25th April 2024

Present: Margaret Stubbs (Chairman), Peter J Taylor (Clerk), Lesley Smith (Treasurer), Jason Parker, Rebekah Stubbs and District Councillor Richard Fry.

1. **Chairman's Opening Remarks:** The Chairman welcomed those present.
2. **Apologies for Absence:** Lynne Blakey, John Blakey, Nigel Evens, Victoria Evens, Christopher North, Margery Ward and Andrew West.
3. **Minutes of the meeting on 19th October 2023** were approved unanimously, proposed by Lesley Smith and seconded by Rebekah Stubbs.
4. **Matters Arising from the Minutes, not on this agenda:** None.
5. **County and District Councillors' Reports:** Richard Fry, East Lindsey District Councillor, said that ELDC's finances are in very good order, with reserves of about £20,000,000, invested mainly in land banks and secure deposit accounts. The District Council had received £70,000,000 of government money to be spent on improving coastal resorts, where that money had been spent to good effect.
6. **Correspondence:** Nothing of importance.
7. **Financial Business:**
It was agreed to pay £15 to the church for heating and lighting for today's meetings.
8. **Website Report:**
Andrew West reported that traffic to the village website continues to be steady, with around 2400 views during 2023, which is very similar to the previous year. Popular pages include 'visitor information' and the various pages of historical information.
9. **Village WhatsApp group:** This is agreed to be well used and useful.
10. **Neighbourhood Watch:** Member households remain at 34, of 49 dwellings listed on the Electoral Register. Peter Taylor as Co-ordinator has received fewer Alert messages than in previous years, and forwards only those that seem important. He explained the difficulty of making membership attractive to new residents. As a stranger knocking on their doors with no appointment, he does not feel he can request, or expect them to provide, an email address or telephone number. Instead, he gives them the Clerk's address weltonlewold@gmail.com on a card, and asks the new residents to send him an email. Usually they don't.
11. **Working Parties:**
A stream clearance event was cancelled to prevent the disturbance of wildlife including at least three mallards' nests. Another is provisionally planned for 4th May.
The meeting thanked Rebekah Stubbs for cleaning the bus shelter, which she found in a poor state.

12. **Any other Business:** Councillor Richard Fry was asked whether ELDC would supply and empty dog waste bins. His reply was that we can apply for general waste bins, into which dog waste bags can be put, and ELDC would empty them. The meeting agreed to request two waste bins, one to be placed at School Corner and the other opposite the derelict weighbridge. **Action: Clerk**

The Clerk raised the issue of mobile telecommunications being completely cut during most power cuts. The 4G mast by the A157 was built for O2, but also carries Vodafone services. Most of the many homes on low ground in the valley receive no mobile signal from any other mast, such as EE or Three, nor any more distant O2 or Vodafone masts. Only those with a landline can make or receive telephone calls, and then only if they have an auxiliary power source, or a handset that does not need power. The Clerk agreed to write to O2, detailing the unreliability of their mast and explaining its necessity in providing the only means of communication for many in a power cut. **Action: Clerk**

13. **Date of next meeting:** Thursday 17th October 2024.

The meeting ended at 9.00 p.m.