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Minutes of Weston by Welland Parish Council Meeting held in the St. Mary the Virgin Church on Monday 18th March 2024 at 7.30 pm.

Members Present	Cllrs B Roberts (Chair), S Grandidge, M Whitehouse, N Garratt, A Cowling, V Score and S Emery.
Others in Attendance	Mrs J Medwell (Clerk) and NNC Cllr D Howes

Minute	Action	Action
441	<p>The Chair opened the meeting by advising the Council of the untimely death of local resident Tony Sluman. The Council expressed its sorrow and wished to acknowledge Mr Sluman's service to the village during his time as both parish councillor and Chair to the Council. The Council agreed to send a condolence card to Mr Sluman's family.</p> <p>To receive and approve apologies: There were none.</p>	BR
442	<p>Member's declaration of interest in items on the agenda and any changes to the members Register of Interests: Cllr Score declared an interest in planning matters. There were no changes to the Members' Register of Interests.</p>	
443	<p>To approve and sign the minutes of the last Parish Council meeting: The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 10th January 2024 were agreed as a true record of that meeting and were duly signed by the Chair. Proposed Cllr Garratt Seconded Cllr Cowling All in favour.</p>	
444	<p>Matters Arising from the last Parish Council meeting: The Chair advised that he had sent a card of condolence on behalf of the Council to the family of NNC Mike Tebbutt.</p>	
445	<p>Open Forum and Exchange of Information: There were no members of the public present.</p> <p>NNC Cllr Howes advised that NNC had a balanced budget for the coming financial year but due to increased pressure on the statutory Children's Services and Adult Social Care, council tax would be rising by 4.99%. He also informed the Council that a by-election for the vacant NNC Councillor position was set for 4th April.</p>	
	<p>Specific Matters: (a) Recreation Area: Cllr Grandidge informed the Council that two further grants from the NNC Rural Needs Fund and the Rural Community Capital Fund had been applied for. Langton Homes will quote for the footpath and may be in a position to contribute towards this. The working group had explored options for setting up charity status and should be able to utilise the existing one set up in the village. The</p>	

Minute		Action
446	<p>next steps will be to reactivate the bank account and change the trustees. Cllr Cowling will put together a governing document to amend the purpose of the charity.</p> <p>(b) Report from Environment Working Group (EWG): Cllr Cowling informed the Council that a date is to be set for the river warden training. Cllr Garratt advised that the tree warden had planted oak trees and holly bushes around the village.</p> <p>(c) Report from Highways Working Group (HWG): Following attendance at the Kier drop-in sessions, Cllr Score advised that the Council is awaiting information from NNC on criteria for when potholes are filled and also the mowing schedule. Cllr Emery advised that the TVAS had been put on the new 'police check area' sign on Ashley Road and that gritting on the Welham Lane still needed to be looked at. Disappointment was noted that the dog fouling and parking signs had been removed. It was also noted that the run-off from the farm drive on Welham Lane had been addressed by the farmer but that the road drains were still a problem. The HWG will convene a meeting before the AVM to look restructuring the group. Chair thanked Cllrs Score and Emery for all their persistence with Highways Issues.</p> <p>(d) Village Maintenance: Cllr Emery advised that he was ready to start restoring the village sign once the weather had improved. Agreement from the church had been received.</p> <p>(e) Safety Review of Parish Assets: The Chair had carried out and circulated the asset check. It was noted that the new bench at the top of Sutton Hill still need to be fixed in. Cllr Cowling will pursue.</p> <p>(f) To agree new website provider: The Council agreed to sign a new contract with Cuttlefish as its website provider. The Clerk will submit the necessary Proposed Cllr Garratt Seconded Cllr Whitehouse All in favour</p> <p>(g) Review of Risk Assessment: The Risk Assessment had been circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting. This was reviewed and approved then duly signed by the Chair. Proposed Cllr Score Seconded Cllr Emery All in favour.</p> <p>(h) Arrangements for Annual Village Meeting 2024: This is taking place on Wednesday 1st May in the Wheel and Compass at 7pm. The Chair will invite contributions from the various village groups and liaise with the pub. The meeting will take the form of an informal evening with a quiz at the end.</p> <p>(i) Arrangements for D Day June 2024: The Chair updated the Council with current arrangements for the D Day commemorations. The beginning of the event, which will take the form of a 'bring your own picnic', will be marked by the ringing of the Church bells with the end being marked by the lighting of the beacon. The bunker will be open, and both the air cadets and Deputy Lieutenant of the County will attend. A music licence will be required if music is to be played at the event. The Chair asked the Council to consider whether to purchase a 'one day' or a year fee to perhaps be shared with the church and community group. The Chair will explore options for this and will put together a risk assessment for the event.</p>	<p>AC</p> <p>AC</p> <p>JM</p> <p>BR</p> <p>BR</p>

Minute		Action
	<p>(j) Welland Wanderer: The Chair gave an update on the Welland Wanderer. Matters are proceeding towards the launch of the new service; target launch date is expected 1st June. It was hoped that the existing service would continue until then, subject to the receipt of funding from NNC. As no parishes will be contributing there will be no timetable changes. The Chair expressed thanks to Cllr Nick Richards from Wilbarston Parish Council for all his outstanding work in supporting and managing the service over the years.</p>	
447	<p>Financial Matters: (i) Payments The following were presented to the Council and unanimously agreed: ICO – Data Protection £40.00 Cuttlefish – Website £274.80</p> <p>ii) Financial Statement and Bank Reconciliation Current Account £7,224.06 Ring Fenced Environment Grant £1,490.68 Rec Area Fund Raising £1,002.00 Total Balance of Reserves <u>£4,731.38</u></p> <p>The Bank Reconciliation was unanimously approved and signed by the Chair.</p>	
448	<p>Planning: There were no applications to consider.</p>	
449	<p>Correspondence: There was no further correspondence to consider.</p>	
450	<p>New items for inclusion on the agenda for the next Parish Council meeting: 2023/24 Accounting and Governance.</p>	
451	<p>Date of next meeting Monday 20th May</p>	

The Meeting Closed at 8.56 pm.

Signed Chair Dated