

A meeting of Welton-by-Lincoln Parish Council was held in the Pavilion, Manor Park Sports Club, Hackthorn Road, Welton on Monday 13th January 2025 at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllrs G Briggs (Chairman), Mrs M Chapman (Vice-Chairman), R Lobley, D Pikett, Mrs C Grimble, Mrs S Watson, M Powell, A Lowen, N Hornsey, C Seal, R Fletcher and A Bailey

Clerk: Mrs J Murray

Also Present: 1 member of the press

A public participation session took place prior to the official start of the meeting.

25/01/01 Chairman's remarks

The Chairman reported that he and the Clerk had an informal meeting with Steve Gibson of the Welton & Dunholme Cricket Club on the 11th December 2024. It had been constructive exploring a positive way forward in the longer term which will be discussed at a future Planning & Development Committee meeting. He hoped that everyone had had a good festive season and is looking forward to some good opportunities in 2025.

25/01/02 Apologies

District Cllrs Mrs D Rodgers and S Hague sent their apologies.

25/01/03 Disclosure of Interests

None

25/01/04 Minutes

On a proposal from Cllr Mrs Chapman, seconded by Cllr Hornsey and **RESOLVED** following a unanimous vote that the notes of the meeting held on 9th December 2024 were approved and signed as the minutes.

25/01/05 District Councillors Reports

District Cllr Mrs D Rodgers had sent a report:

"I have read your reports and note that you have donated money to the Welton Larder, after a successful pre- Christmas event. It was such a pity that we were not there. In recognition of the extraordinary efforts of the Welton Larder, I donated £1000 from my Local Councillor Initiative Fund to support them during this particularly challenging time of the year. WLDC Media Team sent out a press release about them on 23rd December and I have asked Graham Nichols if he would kindly include it in the next edition of the Welton News."

District Cllr S Hague had sent a report that Ian Knowles, CEO & Head of Paid Services at WLDC is leaving in the summer. More information will be given at the February meeting.

25/01/06 Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported that a new interim arrangement for working days and hours has been arranged with the Facilities Manager on a trial basis until the 31st March. A New Year's card has been received from the Council in Moncé en Belin and a Planning & Development Committee meeting will take place on Monday 27th January 2025.

25/01/07 Finance Matters

a) Members received details of income and expenditure to 31.12.2024 and Cllr Fletcher reported:

At the end of the third quarter we find ourselves with a betterment to budget amounting to £42k. Income stands at plus £57k. Expenditure shows an overspend of £14k although there was £20k worth of accruals used to offset this

The positive performance of income remains:

Increase to bank interest £8k

CIL monies £3k

VAT refund £23k

Forecast expenditure above budget for the final 3 periods is £10k. Forecast income is expected to be in line with budget. This will reduce our overall surplus at year end to £32k.

Given that expenditure typically increases over the last 3 periods of the year, we need to hold steady to achieve the required £20k to accrue into year 25/26 to offset the agreed support to the Village Hall project manager post.

- b) On a proposal from Cllr Briggs, seconded by Cllr Hornsey it was **RESOLVED** on a unanimous vote to sign and witness the precept demand of £222,190 for the financial year 2025/2026 for submission to WLDC. This represents a 4.31% increase on last year. An analysis of the breakdown will be sent to WLDC for inclusion in the Council Tax Booklet.
- c) On a proposal from Cllr Bailey, seconded by Cllr Seal it was **RESOLVED** on a unanimous vote it was agreed to increase the number of drivers on the van insurance.
- d) The Internal Auditor's report was received.
- e) On a proposal from Cllr Briggs, seconded by Cllr Seal it was **RESOLVED** following a unanimous vote to ratify the accounts paid:

25/01/08 Planning

- a) Cllr Powell read out the Planning Report recording applications for consultation and decisions made by WLDC since the last meeting which had been circulated with the agenda.
- b) Comments/observations on the following planning application:
WL/2024/01022 – Lincolnshire Showground – Variation to planning permission 145260 granted 1st Dec 2022 – No comments/observations
WL/2024/00485 – Land off Cliff Road – Additional Information relating to Biodiversity Net Gain and efficient buildings and partial retention of hedge alongside the access – the hedge is being reduced by 50%, clearly to pre-empt permission being granted to make visibility better for the access road – no reason to object.
WL/2024/01043 – Lincoln City Football Club Heath Lane – Application for the siting of 1no. modular building within the existing training ground site – No comments/observations
WL/2025/00016 – 11 Sudbeck Lane – Notice of tree works to Ash tree – fell. Within the Conservation Area – Cllr Powell has visited the property and in his view he cannot see anything wrong with the tree, it appears to be quite healthy and questions why it is being felled? On a proposal from Cllr Powell, seconded by Cllr Mrs Grimble it was **RESOLVED** following a unanimous vote to write to WLDC.
- c) A request has been received from Stokes Welton Café to enhance their signage by adding a sign with their logo above the current sign. A discussion took place, and it was generally felt that when Stokes took over the running of the café, they knew it was hidden from general view and therefore might not receive the footfall other establishments in the village get. The proposed position for the sign is exactly behind where the Council’s summer flower baskets and flags hang, so it would be obscured for six months of the year. There is also a sign with their logo that hangs across the footpath. Planning permission may be required from WLDC. On a proposal from Cllr Lowen, seconded by Cllr Powell it was **RESOLVED** following a majority vote (11 for, 1 against) not to support an additional sign on the exterior of the Parish Office.

- d) LCC has written to the Council asking for any further comments regarding the proposed waiting restrictions to be imposed on Manor Lane, a number of the objections made by the Council have been rejected and they are requesting clarification on the Council's position in light of these. On a proposal from Cllr Lowen, seconded by Cllr Powell it was **RESOLVED** following a majority vote (8 for, 4 against) that the Council's view remains unchanged.
- e) Correspondence has been received from WLDC regarding the transfer of land off Prebend Lane confirming that they are satisfied with the Council's commitment to take over ownership of this area of land.

25/01/09 Reports and Notes of Meetings

There have been no Committee meetings since the last meeting.

Village Hall Trust Committee – A meeting took place in December. There was support for the decision for the engagement of a Project Manager. Further meetings are planned over the next three months to discuss the position further and formulate a specification for the post.

Welton Moncé Family Twinning Group – No meeting has taken place.

Christ's Hospital Endowment Trust – A meeting took place prior to this meeting and the committee is looking at different ways of using the funds for educational programmes.

25/01/10 Council and Committees:

- a) Guidance has now been released regarding celebrations to commemorate the 80th Anniversary of VE Day on 8th May 2025 – still waiting to hear if a Bank Holiday is to be allocated either in May or August. There are many options for celebrating the event and on a proposal from Cllr Briggs, seconded by Cllr Bailey following a unanimous vote it was **RESOLVED** to purchase a Light of Peace at a cost of £55.00 which Cllr Greenway said he would pay for and a commemorative flag at £37.33.
- b) The letter of resignation was received from Cllr Alan Greenway. The Clerk has notified WLDC.
- c) On a proposal from Cllr Briggs, seconded by Cllr Hornsey following a unanimous vote it was **RESOLVED** to adopt the following statutory policies:
 - Dignity at Work Policy
 - Flexible Working Policy
 - Maternity Leave and Pay Policy
 - Paternity Leave and Pay Policy
 - Pensions Policy
 - Sexual and General Harassment Policy
 - Shared Parental Leave Policy

25/01/11 Councillors' Reports

None

Signed: Date:

Chairman, Welton-by-Lincoln Parish Council