

A meeting of the Planning & Development Committee was held in the Pavilion, Manor Park Sports Club, Hackthorn Road, Welton, LN2 3PA on Monday 27th January 2025 at 7:30pm.

Present: Cllrs M Powell (Chairman), Mrs S Watson, Mrs M Chapman, N Hornsey, R Lobley, D Pikett and Cllr G Briggs (Chairman of the Council)

Also Present: Mrs H Bell (Administration Assistant) and 2 members of the public

Clerk: Mrs Julie Murray

A public participation session took place prior to the official start of the meeting during which Steve Gibson, Chairman of Welton & Dunholme Cricket Club (WDCC) addressed members, with a draft plan for the inclusion of a cricket pitch and other sporting facilities to be considered within the options for the use of Welton Country Park.

25/01/22 Chairman's remarks

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

25/01/23 Apologies

On a proposal from Cllr Powell, seconded by Cllr Hornsey, it was unanimously **RESOLVED** following a vote to accept apologies from Cllrs Bailey and Mrs Grimble having considered and accepted their reasons for absence.

25/01/24 Disclosure of pecuniary interests

None

Please be advised that these are notes of the meeting taken by the Clerk and cannot in any way be regarded as the official minutes of Council proceedings until they are approved and signed at the next meeting.

25/01/25 Minutes

On a proposal from Cllr Hornsey, seconded by Cllr Mrs Watson, it was unanimously **RESOLVED** following a vote that the notes of the meeting held on 1st July 2024 were approved and signed as the minutes.

25/01/26 Welton Country Park

A draft plan for the inclusion of a cricket pitch and other sporting facilities to be considered within the options for the use of Welton Country Park had been presented to members prior to the start of the meeting. At this stage members acknowledged that the presented plan needed to be treated purely as another option, together with the original plan, and any other plans or ideas that may emerge in response to future public consultation. The meeting heard that good consultation was about active engagement and the Council's openness to listen and consider issues on their merits. This meant explaining all of the context, options, opportunities and limitations of what the Council had considered previously and what any suggestions from the community needed to appreciate if they were put forward as amendments or substitutions.

So, what will happen to the draft plan put forward? Consideration will need to be given as to why we think more allotments is a good idea? Why do we think more football pitches are needed? Why is a new cricket facility a good thing? Other features could be a trim trail, observation mounds, boules pitch, dog walking area, padel tennis courts, landscaping etc. This could become a fabulous community asset for our residents.

There are many issues that the PC will need to consider once it has clarified and consolidated its future plans for Welton Country Park. These include, funding sources to enable our plans, be those infrastructure design, delivery and then ongoing maintenance.

At a previous meeting, a representative from WLDC stated that funds to assist the consultation process may be available and they could also offer advice and assistance with it. The Clerk was requested to pursue this with WLDC.

It was agreed that the Annual Parish Meeting in May would be used to kick start the consultation process together with a survey to residents. Working in partnership would be key to a successful consultation process and a consultation plan and timetable will be drawn up. Developing some assessment criterion that the Council can use to assess and validate any conclusions it draws from consultations and a survey would aid transparency to the final decision making process.

On a proposal from Cllr Briggs, seconded by Cllr Powell, it was **RESOLVED** following a unanimous vote that in agreement with the WDCC, the draft plan would remain unpublicised until the first consultation event.

The Council had received correspondence from WLDC by and Beal Homes confirming that they were satisfied that the appropriate commitment to take over the ownership of the recreational land at Schedule 4, Part A, Paragraph 8 had been received and that satisfied the requirements in the S106 and to remove the need for the land to be offered to any *'other body or organisation'*. On a proposal from Cllr Briggs, seconded by Cllr Hornsey, it was **RESOLVED** following a unanimous vote to commence the process of securing the transfer of the land with regard to a legal agreement and other obligations.

The Clerk will write to Beal Homes to arrange for the legal process to commence.

25/01/27 Neighbourhood Plan

- Regular meetings have been held over the last year, with a break over Christmas, and the next meeting is scheduled for Monday 10th February.
- Consultant Gary Kirk from YourLocale has been engaged and he has already met the team and given valuable experience and insight into changes needed on the Neighbourhood Plan.
- Grant funding bid achieved for £7,500 on 21/11/24 which will pay for the consultancy fees, a Design Code document and a Housing Needs Assessment.
- An initial Teams meeting has been held with John-Michael Chidwick, an urban designer at Aecom with regards to the Design Code document and a site meeting has provisionally been set for Tuesday 11th February.
- An initial Teams meeting has been held with Ben Catell at Aecom with regards to beginning the Housing Needs Assessment.
- Hazel has updated the Neighbourhood Plan as far as possible (Louise has been creating the maps needed using Parish Online) and is now awaiting input from the rest of the group for sections such as Housing and the Environment.

Cllr Powell expressed his thanks to the NP Working Group consisting of himself, Cllr Lobley, Chris Thomas and Graham Nicholls and in particular to Hazel for all her hard work and commitment to the project.

Chairman

Date