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**The Minutes of the Meeting of Walsoken Parish Council held in
Walsoken Village Hall on Tuesday 25th February 2014 at 7pm**

PRESENT

Councillors Fred Leach (Chair), John Woolley (Vice Chair), Andy Houghton, Frank Smith and Clive Bettison.

County Cllr Fred Agnew

Peter Humphrey and Grace Humphrey (daughter).

17. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Peter Humphrey introduced himself as owner of Peter Humphrey Associates Ltd., an architectural business in Wisbech and explained he lived next door to Tony Grey, who was also a client. He gave a brief history of the site known as Grey's Yard which consists of a scrapyard, bungalow with a restriction on it and a brick built building formerly a piggery. He had submitted a pre-application to Kings Lynn Borough Council to convert the brick building to a residential dwelling and revoke the scrapyard, this was refused. He asked the Parish Council for their support. Chair thanked him and pointed out that this would be discussed further later on in the meeting.

Peter and Grace Humphrey left the meeting at 7.15pm.

18. APOLOGIES AND REASONS

Cllr Harvey – hospital check-up, Cllr Landall – church meeting, Cllr Snow – family issues, Cllr Joanna Woolley – working, Borough Cllr Long – Borough Council meeting, Borough Cllr Groom – recovering from pneumonia and County Cllr. Humphrey – Borough Council meeting.

19. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

20. NOTIFICATION OF MATTERS TO BE PUT ON THE AGENDA UNDER 'AOB'

Clerk had item of correspondence regarding the Joint Parish Council.

Cllr Houghton had a fly tipping item under Highways.

Cllr Houghton had an item regarding Police contact under Urgent Business.

Cllr Landall has asked for an item regarding the ground maintenance under Churchyard.

21. TO CONFIRM MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 7th January 2014

The Minutes of the meeting held on 7th January 2014 had been circulated.

Cllr Smith proposed they be accepted as a true copy, seconded Cllr Woolley, unanimously agreed.

22. MATTERS ARISING

a) To approve the Minutes of the Public Meeting 24th January 2014 and any Matters Arising - the Minutes of the Public meeting held on 24th January 2014 had been circulated.

Cllr Woolley proposed they be accepted as a true copy, seconded Cllr Smith, unanimously agreed.

Cllr Houghton reported that he had met with Cllr Humphrey and Bridget Wall and they had decided that a group name needed to be discussed, along with setting up a website and forming a Steering Committee. He had received three responses from people wanting to be involved. He asked if any councillors wanted to be added to the list for general correspondence and Cllrs Leach and Woolley asked to be added. Cllr Houghton stated he will Chair the group but was not sure of his time restrictions.

b) Removal of street lights outside 109 Chapnall Road and 67 Larkfield Cottage – Clerk read out the quotes received from Westcotec dated November 2013 quoting £55 + VAT per light (total £110 + VAT) with a reduced monthly charge of £49.55 + VAT – a reduction of £36 per annum. E.ON had quoted a reduced annual charge of £845.62 – a reduction of £51.32 per annum. The total overall saving would be £87.32 per annum. After discussion it was decided that the Clerk should write to the occupiers of Larkfield Cottage (getting the Council's approval first) giving notice of the Council's intention to disconnect and remove the pole and bracket. Their response to be discussed at the next Council meeting in April, at which time a decision would be made regarding the Chapnall Road light.

23. PLANNING

a) Planning Applications – The Planning Report had been circulated and was read out and noted. The new application 14/00260/O was discussed and recommended for approval.

b) Grey's scrapyard, Wheatley Bank – After discussion it was decided to reply to Peter Humphrey's letter stating that at this time if an application was forthcoming the Council would be in favour of relinquishing the scrapyard and replacing it with residential buildings.

c) Training sessions – Cllr Leach had attended and gave a brief summary of the meeting, which was split into two parts. The first part concerned changes to the planning system this summer which will give more

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power to Planning Officers and will mean in some circumstances the Parish Council's advice will not be needed. The second part was about the general Local Development Framework for the whole of West Norfolk.

24. HIGHWAYS

a) Highway Rangers – Clerk advised that they would be commencing work in the village during the week beginning 31st March 2014. Clerk was asked to report the following pot holes – Biggs Road outside Strattons Farm and halfway between Strattons and Broadend Road and also Burrett Road outside 22, 18 and 10 where large cracks are appearing in the road.

b) Argyl Gardens – Clerk was asked to chase the situation of temporary repairs pending Highway's long term proposal to join the footway across the access.

c) Fly tipping – Clerk was asked to report the following sites – Burrett Road – 3 or 4 kitchen appliances on the edge of the road in between 144 and Pippin Lodge and also Wheatley Bank. It was decided to put fly tipping on the April Agenda to see if Cllr Long can assist with this problem.

25. STREET LIGHTING

Nothing to report.

26. ALLOTMENTS

Nothing to report.

27. CHURCHYARD AND WAR MEMORIAL

Cllr landall had asked Cllr Leach to meet him in the Church grounds to discuss additional maintenance now that the elderly gentleman who had previously done the work voluntarily was unable to continue. The Landscape Group had provided three quotes as follows -

1. £185 + VAT for removal of existing planting and turfing 20 square metres, reduced by £35 + VAT if seeded rather than turfed.
2. £95 + VAT to clear the north boundary fence line.
3. £95 + VAT per tree for deadwooding, minimum 5 trees per order.

Clerk advised that a decision could not be made, only an agreement in principle, as the matter had not been notified early enough to be included on the Agenda. It was decided to email the quotes to all councillors and ask for their comments on the three quotes, pending a decision being made at the April meeting.

28.FINANCE

a) Payments for approval – the payments on the attached schedule had been circulated. Cllr Smith proposed they be accepted Cllr Bettison seconded, all in favour.

29. SNAP MEETING FEEDBACK

Cllrs Leach and Snow had attended. The next meeting is at 7pm on 12th March at Magdalen Primary School, Clerk to send out reminder to councillors. Fly tipping to be raised.

Cllr Agnew left the meeting at 8.35pm.

30.CORRESPONDENCE

The correspondence was available for viewing prior to the meeting.

a) Joint Parish Council – The Clerk to Emneth Parish Council had asked if the Walsoken councillors were interested in attending future meetings. It was decided to reply stating that they wouldn't be attending in the future as the Norfolk part of the village owned no assets so did not have the same issues as other Councils, but to contact Walsoken if necessary regarding any relevant matters.

31.URGENT BUSINESS

A discussion took place regarding the reporting of vehicles seen speeding in the village and details were given to the Clerk to report to PCSO Chris Lorraine.

32.AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING (15th April – Annual Assembly)

Removal of street lights.

Churchyard quotes for grounds maintenance.

Fly-tipping.

Next meeting is Tuesday 15th April 2014 (Annual Assembly) at 7pm at Walsoken Village Hall.

Meeting closed at 8.50pm

Annette Williams, Clerk

Chair..... Date.....2014