

WALBERSWICK PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the special meeting of the Parish Council held in the Village Hall annex at 7.30pm on Tuesday 19 July 2011.

PRESENT: Councillors Mr D C B Webb (Chairman), Mr A E Hunt (Vice-Chairman), Mrs A Aldridge, Mr N J Crocker, Mr B Tibbles, Mr K G Webb, Mrs R Woodcraft (from 7.35pm) and Miss M Verneti and Mrs J Gomm (joint Clerks).

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** there were no apologies.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS:** none were declared.

3. **MOTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC FROM THE MEETING**

Cllr BTibbles proposed and Cllr A Hunt seconded the following motion:

To exclude the public from the meeting because publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted pursuant to section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960. The motion was **agreed** unanimously.

4. **REVIEW OF EXCLUSION NOTICES:**

The Council had given exclusion notices to Mr J MacCarthy, Mr A Walpole, and Mr H Gilby, on different dates applying section 14 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to their requests for information on the basis that the requests were repeated and vexatious. The Council had also given a similar notice to Mrs S Harvey on the basis that her requests for information were repeated. All the recipients of the exclusion notices had requested the Council to review its decisions. Cllr N Crocker (because he was not a member of the Council at the time the decisions to give the exclusion notices had been made) had considered all the correspondence up to the various dates of the exclusion notices and had prepared a written and oral report for the Council's consideration. After a very careful review Cllr B Tibbles proposed and Cllr A Aldridge seconded the following resolution:

- To accept the report of Cllr N Crocker.
- To inform the complainants and the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) that the review confirms that the procedures carried out by the Parish Council were correct and supports the Parish Council's original decision to issue the exclusion notices. Nevertheless, in order to try to move forward, to inform the complainants (with a copy to the ICO) that the Parish Council wishes to draw a line under the affair and is therefore prepared to withdraw the exclusion notices with respect to correspondence received after 19 July 2011. This is on the assumption that the individuals concerned will not recommence repetitive and/ or vexatious demands for historical information or complaints.

The resolution was **agreed** unanimously.

The meeting closed at 8.23pm.

Signed.....

Date.....