



Caston Parish Council

CHAIRMAN: - Mr. J. Chapman VICE CHAIRMAN: - Mr. P. Hall

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CASTON PARISH COUNCIL 2nd DECEMBER 2013, at 7.30 P.M CASTON VILLAGE HALL

Councillors present: - Mr. J .Chapman - Chairman, Mr. P. Hall - Vice Chairman,
Mr A. Bunn, Mr. D Blincow, Mr. P. Chapman, Mrs. K. Farmbrough, Mrs. J. Horner.
Also present: - Mr. C. Bearne (Home Watch & Speed Watch)

1. To accept apologies for absence: - Mr. J. Rogers (Breckland), PCSO Tonya Winsley. Mr. Stan Hebborn (County).
2. The minutes of the previous Parish Council meeting held on 4th November 2013 were handed out to the public and Councillors as Draft. It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting could be signed by the Chairman, as a true and correct record after any corrections to 5.A. were made and shown in red ink.
3. Declarations of Interest from members, in any item to be discussed were noted: - None
The meeting was adjourned at 7.35pm to allow the Mr.P, Mr.S & Mrs. Childerhouse to explain their planning application for building a new family home at Carbrooke Farm. They wish to provide accommodation for the owners' son so that he can be on site to look after the family business. This property would be outside the settlement boundary but would be providing accommodation for essential workers on the farm. It was noted that the Clerk had a telephone message from Mr. Rogers stating that he supports this application. The councillors requested that this new house has an "agricultural occupancy" restriction added to it. The meeting was reconvened at 7.45pm.
4. Planning:- The following decisions were noted:-
 - A. 3PL/2013/0835/F New plot next to Red Lion, Caston. Minor Material amendments to plans 3PL/2010/0108/F. Vary window sizes, clad east elevation, increase ridge height, solar panels to garage. Awaiting a decision from Breckland Council.
 - B. 3PL/2013/0916/F Abbotsgate, Northacre. Internal alterations to form annexe. Permission from Breckland Council on 15.11.13.
 - C. 3DC/2013/0142/DOC. The Mill House. Discharge of conditions 3 & 4 on PP 3PL/2013/0519/F. Awaiting a decision from Breckland Council.
 - D. 3PL/2013/1049/F Carbrooke Farm, Caston. Erection of essential workers dwelling. Currently under consideration by PC.
5. Finance:-
 - A. Payment to RGM October grass cutting. This was already paid in November the clerk showed the cheque stub and the list of work completed to the councillors.
 - B. Payment to Rob Summers for maintenance of planters (spring payment). This payment is to be added to the February Agenda when re-planting of the pots has been done. The Clerk is to write to Mr. Summers to check that the planting is still possible due to his recent illness and what type of plants would be planted. It was agreed that other villages have better looking plants in there planters and Caston needs to improve its show.
 - C. Clerk's wages and expenses for Oct and November 2013. Proposed by Jane Horner and seconded by David Blincow. Item to be added to the councillor's folder for information only.
 - D. Request for heated gloves or hand warmers for Speed watch team. It was agreed that the speed watch team are out in all weathers and writing the forms is difficult with numb hands. Hand warmers for gloves were considered and rechargeable ones were agreed to be tried by Jane Horner. If they were any good the PC would consider buying them for the team.
 - E. Extra item - SLCC membership fee for 2014. In budget. Proposed by David Blincow and seconded by Kay Farmbrough to pay the fee of £64.00.
 - F. Precept 2014/15. All areas of the budget were discussed. The PC will no longer receive a grant from Breckland for £282.06 due to a change in Government legislation in April 2013. The will most likely be an increase in the cost of the PC insurance's as this year is the end of the 3 year price hold. The amount allowed for mowing the village greens needs to be increased, due to an increase in the contractors price, this year the PC did not have enough in the budget to cover this. The donations were discussed and it was agreed that these should be for the services which parishioners will directly benefit from in an emergency. No more charities are to be added in 2014. The planters cost and condition of plants in them was thought to be quite poor for several months of the year. Could sponsors be found to help pay for better plants? The clerk is to write to businesses in the village. Also the possibility of keeping the planters empty of flowers in the winter to help keep costs down was considered. It was agreed that the Precept for 2014/15 to be raised to £7200.00 - this works out at

under a£1.00 per week for a Band D household.

6. Matters to report: - Clerk
 - A. Parking on The Green - Letters have been given to residents of The Green regarding parking on the grass. Also placed on the notice boards, website and to the PC Chairman.
 - B. Hedge planting - The PC would like to thank all the volunteers who helped to plant the hedge at Coronation Terrace. The grass cutting contractor has been told about the hedge and that the PC would be maintaining it. A 30 mph sign will be moved to accommodate the hedge. NCC highways have been notified about this.
 - C. Water on road from Dukes Lane corner towards the Village Hall. - A meeting at the problem area with NCC Highways, residents, councillors and the Clerk was held on 22.11.13. NCC Highways stated that they may not be able to sort this problem out until 2015 due to the high cost and priority of other jobs. Residents complained bitterly about the flooding. It has been present since Barhale and Anglian Water added sewage pipes to the village. This part of the road, despite being resurfaced has collected a large amount of water when it rains. This causes a hazard to traffic, residents using the footpath and crossing road. The water does not drain away effectively. NCC will look at adding a new drain to send the water into the ditch. Item to be added to the next agenda.
7. Correspondence from: - Breckland Council, Police, NCC and others, including local events etc. were read out and public information notices have been posted to the village notice boards and web sites. Items sent to The Councillors' Folder - to be circulated for information only.
8. Caston Speed Watch Team monthly report. The team had 4 sessions since the last PC meeting. 329 vehicles were recorded, 17 were speeding. The percentage of speeders is average, but the speed of those exceeding the limit is still unusually high; 2 were cars were travelling at 48mph and 55mph. The flashing temporary speed sign can only be used in the village where there is enough space to stand it on solid ground. It can no longer be used at the front of Coronation Terrace due to the new hedge. There are 10 "SLOW DOWN in our village" sticky labels for dustbins still available. These cost £1.10 each. Please contact the PC clerk.
9. Caston Home Watch co-ordinator Mr. C. Bearne monthly report. There are no problems to report this month. The Home watch phone number if you are going away is 483961.
10. Matters for future discussion as noted above.
11. The next meeting date is agreed as Monday 3rd February 2014 in Caston Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.

CHAIRMAN: -

DATE: -

CLERK: - Alison Skipper 2nd December 2013

- 12 County Councillor Mr. Hebborn to report. Absent.
- 13 District Councillor Mr. John Rogers to report. Apologies for absence sent.
- 14 Participation & questions from the public: - None.