



Caston Parish Council

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

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CASTON PARISH COUNCIL 1st September 2014, at 7.30 P.M CASTON VILLAGE HALL

Councillors present: - Mr. J. Chapman - Chairman, Mr. P. Hall - Vice Chairman, Mr. D. Blincow, Mr. P. Chapman, Mrs. K. Farmbrough, Mrs. J. Horner.

Also present: - Mr. S. Hebborn (County) Mr. J. Rogers (Breckland).

1. To accept apologies for absence: -
Mr. C. Bearne (Home Watch & Speed Watch). PCSO Tonya Winsley.
2. The minutes of the previous two Parish Council meetings held on 2nd June & 7th July 2014 were handed out to the public and Councillors as Draft. It was RESOLVED that both sets of minutes could be signed by the Chairman, as a true and correct record.
3. Declarations of Interest from members, in any item to be discussed were noted: - Items 5.G. & 5.L. - Mr. D. Blincow, Mr. J. Chapman, and Mrs. K. Farmbrough.
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. Permission from Breckland Council on 21.07.14.
 - B. ENF/120/14/PAR. Former Peggs transport depot, Caston. Breach of condition. No further information from Breckland Council to date. Updated information about Planning Enforcement to be checked.
 - C. 3PL/2014/0405/F. Lamlow, The Street, Caston. Erection of 2 storey side extension and demolition of outbuilding. Permission from Breckland Council on 08.07.14.
 - D. 3PL/2014/0608/F. Northacre Farm Pool, Caston. Change of use of office & store room to one bedroom caretakers flat. No decision as yet from Breckland Council.
 - E. Possible solar array planned for Rocklands. The Chairman read the letter and circulated it to the councillors to view. It is to be added to the notice board outside the village hall and to the councillors' folder. The councillors questioned the possibility of reflection from the sun on surfaces of the panels which may disturb vision of drivers using the road and also the general visibility from the road. Suggest a high hedge to stop this. The Clerk is to contact the planner.
5. Finance:-
 - A. Payment to RGM for May & June grass cuts. In budget. Proposed by Kay Farmbrough and seconded by Jane Horner.
 - B. Payment to RGM for July grass cuts. In budget. Proposed by Kay Farmbrough and seconded by David Blincow.
 - C. The Clerks wages for June, July and August 2014. In budget. Proposed by John Chapman and seconded by Peter Hall.
 - D. The Clerks expenses for April, May and June 2014. In budget. Proposed by John Chapman and seconded by Peter Hall.
 - E. Donation to Green Spaces society. Proposed by Kay Farmbrough and seconded by Peter Hall. This is to be a one off payment to help their office.
 - F. Donation to British Legion. In budget at £20.00. Proposed by Kay Farmbrough and seconded by David Blincow.
 - G. Donation to Caston Village Hall Committee for hall insurance. In budget at ~~£485.00~~ corrected to £450.00. Proposed by Peter Chapman and seconded by Peter Hall. The letter requesting a donation will be given to the Clerk tomorrow from the new treasurer. This payment was agreed in principle as it was already in the budget and usually paid in September.
 - H. Donation to Watton Citizens Advice. In budget at £100.00. Proposed by Peter Chapman and seconded by Peter Hall.
 - I. Donation to Wayland Partnership. In budget at £100.00. Proposed by Peter Chapman and seconded by Peter Hall. Mr. Rogers explained that moneys had been given to villages by Wayland partnership a few years ago for village projects. The Clerk explained that they also provide various services at the offices for local people and have exhibitions with free entry.

- J. Donation to Wayland First Responders (public volunteers with car). In budget at £100.00. Proposed by David Blincow and seconded by Kay Farmbrough.
- K. Donation to Norfolk Accident & Rescue (Qualified Dr. & paramedics volunteers). In budget at £100.00. Proposed by John Chapman and seconded by Peter Hall.
- L. Donation to the Village Hall for refurbishment. Proposed by Peter Chapman and seconded by Peter Hall. The Chairman read the letter from Mr. Graham Penfold who is the fundraising officer for the refurbishment of the village hall. Other representatives of the Village Hall Committee were also present including: - Mr. Frank Brown and Mr. Brian Brooker. At the Chairman's invitation Mr. Penfold explained the processes the committee were currently going through to obtain funding, including applying for Charitable status for the village hall. The new storage room would be added first, so that it could be used as a temporary kitchen. This would keep the drop in coffee morning going each week during the refurbishment, as this event continues to bring in much needed funds. They would like to show a "positive" attitude towards their input so that the external funding sources would look favourably upon them. They requested that if the Parish Council could make a donation towards the VH funds as soon as possible from their allocated monies, then "Match funding" could be sort sooner. The Clerk referred to the PC Allocated Funds accounts for 2014/15. This shows minuted references for past meetings where the funds for the village hall were discussed. This is made up of £5,000.00 from the Highway Surveyors Savings Account with CAF bank and £8,000.00 from the Parish Council Barclays Business Saver account. Mr. Peter Chapman asked if the VHC could give the PC assurance that this money would be refunded if not used. Pre-supposing adequate grant aid was received, this would be in proportion to any other funds used and not needed. There was more general discussion between the PC and the VHC.

Mrs. Jane Horner proposed that the Parish Council pay the Village Hall Committee £13,000.00 as stated in the account summary as soon as possible. This was seconded by Mr. Peter Hall.

6. Matters to report: - Clerk

- A. To consider co-opting for the vacancy of Councillor on Caston Parish Council.
Two candidates had applied for the position of Parish Councillor. After a secret vote was taken and independently counted by Mr. Hebborn and Mr. Rogers, the result of nil votes for each candidate was recorded. The PC therefore could not co-opt either candidate. It was also noted that neither candidate had attended any recent PC meetings. The Clerk is to inform Breckland Council.
- B. Speed control on Stow Bedon Road. Item to be moved to the next agenda.
- C. Update on information from last month: -
 - Information on notice boards for village green to go to Councillors folder for consideration.
 - The PC wished to thank Mr. Roy Horner for cleaning and painting and the notice boards on the Village Hall.
 - The 1914 remembrance events in the village recently included a display erected around the edge of the village War Memorial. This told the stories of the soldiers from this village who had given their lives during the battles in the First World War. Several villagers had asked if the PC had given permission for the erection of the display, as the grass had been disturbed. Also, was the item on any past agenda as it not been on one recently? The Clerk said she had checked the minutes from past meetings and could not find any reference to this. The Chairman stated that he had personally been asked by Mrs. Horner, who designed the display, if any permission was needed to erect it near the Memorial. He said that as the display was not a permanent one and best suited to the commemoration day when a service was to be held on The Green, he felt it was suitable and a good addition to the event. The display was removed soon after. It was very well received by villagers and visitors, many stating that it could have been left on display longer. The items were not intended to be on show outdoors long term so they were removed before they became untidy and the grass replaced to its original condition. It was agreed by the Councillors that it was a very good tribute to the soldiers and their families.
 - The hedge at Coronation Terrace - the existing tall old portion. Mr. Hall asked if he could trim this hedge area. The PC thanked him for doing this. It was also noted that Ms. Maxwell has told the Clerk that a few of the saplings in the new hedge have died. The Clerk was given permission to purchase new ones to replace them. Next agenda.
- D. Any urgent information for PC to consider. None

7. Correspondence from: -

Breckland Council, Police, NCC and others, including local events etc. to be posted to the village notice boards and web sites. Items sent to The Councillors' Folder - to be circulated for information only - CPRE info, NALC conference, Kick Start info, Heating oil price with NRCC, letters etc.

- 8 Caston Speed Watch Team monthly report. Mr. Bearne's was absent. Mr. Bearne was absent tonight. To volunteer for the Speedwatch team contact 01953 48396.
- 9 Caston Home Watch co-ordinator Mr. C. Bearne was absent so Mr. John Rogers said that the Police had reported that Catalytic converters (silencers) on cars were being ruthlessly targeted locally. 6 in one day. Oil tanks were also targeted. If you are going away please tell a neighbour or friend or contact Homewatch on 01953 483961 keep watch on your property.
- 10 Matters for future discussion to be noted. Items mentioned above.
- 11 The next meeting date is agreed as Monday 6th October 2014 in Caston Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm.

CHAIRMAN: -

DATE: -

CLERK: -

Alison Skipper 1st September 2014

- 12 County Councillor Mr. Hebborn said that there was no NCC meeting in August. He also said that Griston and Caston will be getting fibre optics next month. You need to check with your broadband service provider to check to see if you speed would improve. Breckland Council has provided £950K for better Broad band in Norfolk. Vodaphone said that indoor signals are not needed when a landline can cover this. The public need to let them know about signal strength. Vodaphone will add boosters to homes but there is a cost involved. Mr. Hebborn does not agree that they should charge for this as they are not the only service provider and some people do not have accounts with them.
- 13 Mr Hebborn is available to answer any questions by email stan.hebborn@norfolk.gov.uk
District Councillor Mr. John Rogers said that there was no BC meeting in August. He is available at all times to answers questions. Email him on john.rogers@breckland.gov.uk & his other contact details are on the PC website, and on the village hall notice board.
- 14 Participation & questions from the public: - several parishioners are concerned about the size and use of the building in Dukes Lanes. The size of the building, the use and the small road leading to it is not suitable for heavy traffic. They would like to see this used as a temporary structure, not for permanent use and not for a site office.