



APPROVED

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CASTON PARISH COUNCIL
4th MARCH 2016, at 7.30 P.M CASTON VILLAGE HALL
SPECIAL MEETING

Councillors present: - David Blincow, Kay Farmbrough, Brian Brooker, Frank Brown,

Also present: - Members of the Parish of Caston.

- 1. To accept apologies for absence: - Peter Chapman, Jaki Porter, Clare Bowes.
2. To record any Declarations of interest on items on the agenda and to consider any requests for Dispensations from Council Members. None.
3. To Discuss Planning Application Appeal Planning Inspectorate number: - APP/F2605/W/15/3137812
On refused Breckland application 3PL/2014/1253/0
Proposal: - Residential development of up to 180 dwellings, provision of recreational facilities, site access & associated works
Location: - Land at Thetford Road Thetford Road, Watton

The Secretary of State has ordered an appeal for the proposed building of 180 houses adjacent to Barn Ruche, Thetford Road, Watton. The appeal will take place on the 8th March at 10:00 a.m. in the Queen's Hall, Watton

The Chairman opened the public participation session.

Public concerns included: -

- There are already many other housing developments in the area which have been approved, being built or about to be built. Quote numbers from Local Plan (over 600). Check.
• Together with this development, there will be added traffic passing through the village trying to access the A11. There is already excessive speeding in village - Speedwatch - speed reduction currently being looked into. Sat Nav's send vehicles through Caston. Dangerous bends on the road A1075 - deaths and accidents- increased traffic - dangerous crossings. Delivery trucks and vehicles taking short cuts to Attleborough through Caston.
• No 6th Form school provision locally. Secondary school may also be over subscribed due to number of new properties in Watton and the surrounding area.
• Lack of local good quality employment other than factory work. No business units or large industrial estate for work in Watton.
• Doctors and dentists provision - not sufficient locally - locals already turned away. Travelling distance to others places - need own transport as no local buses to East Harling or Attleborough.
• Parking in town and size of shops not adequate.
• Buses and transport to colleges and UEA may or may not be provided so more cars used. Breckland is trying to reduce car use.
• Environmentally not good as takes away green fields. Very close to Wayland Wood - historic natural environment - could have adverse effect on tranquillity and natural habitat of flora and fauna. Local Plan wishes to enhance local character not remove it. Car pollution increased due to more cars on road.
• Development is the same size as Caston and Northacre - size of a new village.
4. The PC wish to send in a formal objection letter to the Planning Inspectorate. The councillors discussed the items of concern above. The Clerk was asked to amend the letter, previously drafted by the Chairman and councillors earlier this week, to include the above concerns.
The emphasis should be placed on the detrimental effects of the excess traffic passing through the village of Caston to get to the main A11 and towns and cities. The letter should clearly state that Caston PC does not support this development and suggest the planning application appeal should be rejected.
The letter should then be sent to the Chairman for approval before forwarding to the Planning Inspectorate, What Watton Wants Forum, Councillors Clare Bowes and Phil Cowen, and also Breckland Council planning department today.
It was agreed that if possible the PC would be represented at the public hearing on 8th March at 10:00 a.m. in the Queen's Hall, Watton. Frank Brown or Brian Brooker may be able to attend.
5. The next PC meeting date is MONDAY 7th MARCH 2016 in Caston Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

Alison Skipper Clerk