



Caston Parish Council

CHAIRMAN:- Mr. David Blincow VICE CHAIRMAN: - Mrs. Jaki Porter

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CASTON PARISH COUNCIL

MONDAY 1 OCTOBER 2018

CASTON VILLAGE HALL at 7.30 pm

Councillor's present:- David Blincow, Kay Farmbrough, Frank Brown, Peter Chapman, Brian Brooker, Rob Lond-Caulk

Also present:- 8 members of the public

1. **Apologies for absence:** received from Jaki Porter and DC Cowen.
2. It was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 3 September 2018, be signed, by the Chairman, as a true and correct record. Proposed by Cllr Brown and seconded by Cllr Farmbrough. All voted in favour.
3. **Participation and questions from the public, session 1:**
None.
4. **Guest Speakers:** CC Claire Bowes

"The County Council has launched an eight week consultation into proposals to which could change how early childhood services are delivered to children aged 0-5 and their families.

The proposed service would:

- Bring the services out of the buildings and into the community, to the children and families who need them most
- Help communities and parents offer local activities and groups
- Make it easier for families to access the information and advice they need, through providing better joined up online and digital services
- Change how we work to make sure we deliver in the best way for today's families.

Account a quarter of those families who live in areas of greatest need are not accessing children's centre services at the moment and we want to develop a service that gives them the support and help they need for their children.

(Some Breckland villages including ones in Wayland have been identified as among the most deprived rural villages in the country).

The current contracts for children's centres were originally awarded in 2011 and come to an end next year. The council wants to use this opportunity to create a new service that is consistent across the county and meets the needs of today's families.

The proposed new model is one element of a wide programme of transformation in Children's Services, aimed at working with families earlier and targeting services where they can have the greatest impact.

In developing the suggested model, the County Council has explored what works elsewhere in the country and researched which people are using Norfolk's current children's centres and how they access them. It includes proposals for a base in each district of the county, in one of the county's current children's centres.

CHAIRMAN.....

DATED:

The base will be a touch down space for staff working out in the community, as well as provide some space to deliver activities for families in need.

The Council also wants to look at how any buildings that are no longer needed as children's centres can continue to be used for children and families.

The consultation runs until November 12 and is available online at www.norfolk.gov.uk/childrenscentres. There will also be a range of public drop in sessions."

Ben Rayner is stepping down from Highways and CC Bowes will be meeting with his replacement shortly.

The 6/7 October see the final Hazardous Waste Days at several Refuse Centres across the County.

There is a large deficit across the County in road maintenance and matters are being prioritised.

5. **Caston Speed Watch Report by Co-ordinator Colin Bearne – Contact 01953 483961**

"There have been 3 sessions since the last council meeting. 505 vehicles were observed of which we were able to log 34 as speeding. These figures still reflect the fact that yet again we are failing to persuade drivers to treat the village with respect by observing the legal speed limit. Obviously other measures need to be taken in addition.

Our human resources have increased by one new volunteer.

Please join us if you are concerned about speeding in the village. It takes only 1-2 hours of your time every alternate week."

6. **Caston Neighbourhood Watch Report by Co-ordinator Colin Bearne – Contact 01953 483961**

"There is nothing to report this month.

A light on in the house. Especially with the curtains/blinds drawn, not only helps you to see what you are doing but tells a would be burglar that there is likely to be someone in the house. Think about it.

For Neighbourhood Watch ring 483961. For reporting suspicious activity and seeking advice use 101".

The Chairman reopened the Council meeting.

7. **Declarations of Interest:-** Cllr Farmbrough, item 8B, Cllr Lond-Caulk, item 8A.
Dispensations from Council Members: - None

8. **Planning Applications:-**

A. **3PL/2015/1080/F** – The Barn, Dukes Lane. Cllr Lond-Caulk advised that the building was now down but there is no firm date for its removal to Carbrooke.

B. **3PL/2017/1267/0** – Land adjacent to Caston Primary School – erection of five dwellings and car park for Caston Primary School. Cllr Farmbrough read the following personal note:-

"I have declared an interest at council meetings as I live adjacent to the site and have kept a low profile in a professional manner, however, I would like to say how I feel about this latest planning application in our village. I have lived in Caston for 30 years and been a Parish Councillor for 25 years. I have always worked for what is best for the whole Village to maintain its appearance and wellbeing and it is why I took on a Village appraisal.

CHAIRMAN.....

DATED:

I opposed the development of the Attleborough Road site which is similar to the proposed site being out of the settlement boundary and near a stream, I also opposed the inappropriate building at Home Farm, Northacre which went to appeal and lost, and also the School View development on the site of the White House whose cellars used to flood.

There are many residents who live near the school who have objected to the plans on the grounds of flood risk as they have similar foundations to The Old Chapel which is nearly 200 years old. The new White House is already showing some cracks, is this due to being in the flood zone area.

The EA only look at a site plan and have told me they will not visit the site or look at or take the surrounding area into consideration. Another major concern is highway safety. At a meeting we had here in the Village Hall the Head of Breckland Planning told us we can challenge Highways on their decisions.

Looking back at our original PC meeting, the Village Appraisal and the comments on the Breckland website how our parishioners care about the Village we live in and how many objected to changing it with further inappropriate development, soon there will be no green space for wildlife and will be a continuous lines of houses. We must act now and do what is best for our village and those who live in it."

The Chairman opened the meeting to the public.

A member of the public read the following personal note:-

"Flooding and how it affects my property has always been one of my biggest concerns. Before the school was built there was a pipe that ran under the road allowing water from ditches on our side to disperse into the stream. Some of that ditch was piped and covered which blocked the drain across the road, after that there was only one place that the water could go which was into the ditch alongside my property. The water levels of that ditch then became dangerously high prompting me to spend a lot of money having a concrete flood barrier wall built. This has, so far, stopped the ditch water overflowing onto and into my property but it has on many an occasion been very very close to the top of the wall. This development, if it is allowed to progress, in its present form, will reduce the sites ability to soak away water by about 50% and in heavy rain my property will probably flood and like many of the other older houses close by it does not have proper foundations so will suffer very serious damage. The new School View development has already increased the flood risk and no one will ever convince me that a lined pond measuring 10x5 metres (about the size of my lounge) will stop and hold the surface water produced from this development. It must not be allowed to proceed."

Cllr Blincow advised the meeting that the Council had been invited to attend a meeting with the Planning Officer and the Agent for the developer, Ian Reilly. The matter was due to be before the Planning Committee today but had been postponed to enable the meeting to take place.

Cllr Lond-Caulk suggested that, even given the flood risk, the application is likely to be approved. Cllr Lond-Caulk suggested that the Council could compromise and suggest two linear properties rather than those proposed.

Cllr Blincow acknowledged that it is likely there will be some form of building approved for this site however, there are many other issues namely flooding, school etc and whilst the Diocese applauded the offer of the car park, the school do not. Cllr Blincow was hopeful that the meeting would enable the parties to find some common ground to be more fitting with the street scene.

A member of public advised that there had been no previous knowledge of a suggested compromise of two properties. It was advised that as a response to Breckland was required in between meetings, the Council had to make their submissions but the comments were available on the Breckland website in the normal way.

The Chairman closed the meeting to the public.

CHAIRMAN.....

DATED:

- C. **3PL/2018/0862/HOU** - Post Box Bungalow Northacre Caston NR17 1DG - Single storey extensions to front, side and rear of bungalow with new pitched roof over existing adjoined garage. Permission has been granted.
- D. **3PL/2018/0853/VAR** - Land adjacent Walnut Tree Cottage Attleborough Road Caston NR17 1DJ - Variation of condition 2 on pp 3PL/2017/0438/F - repositioning of garage/carports and discharge of conditions 3, 5, 6, 7 and 16. This matter remains undecided.

9. Finance – to approve and report the following expenditure:-

- A. To approve the salary payment including holiday pay allowance to the Clerk, Mrs Joanne Blackman, for the month of September in the sum of £212.52. Proposed by Cllr Brown and seconded by Cllr Farmbrough, all voted in favour.

10. To discuss propose and vote on the following subjects:

A. Proposed play area

Cllr Lond-Caulk provided a draft proposal for the play area. Cllr Lond-Caulk advised that there is around £5,000 currently available and there may be other funding available. Various quotes have been sought and funding options considered. A further update will be provided in due course. Cllr Lond-Caulk advised Cllr Porter had sent an email setting out the proposal and agreed to forward this to Councillors. *Item for next Agenda.*

11. Matters to Report

A. Update on original Village Cross repairs.

The Clerk reported that the contractor has installed the fencing and work on the mortar was being carried out off site. The contractor's wife has just had a baby so he may not be on site for a week or two. *Item for next Agenda.*

B. Financial Balances.

The Clerk reported the current account balances. *Item for next Agenda.*

C. Update on telephone boxes.

No update was available. *Item for next Agenda.*

D. Matters for the Rangers

The Clerk advised that all matters had been reported to the Rangers. Cllr Brown suggested to CC Bowes that the Council may consider passing the budget to carry out the work of the Rangers direct to the Parish Councils to ensure that the works required are prioritised and carried out expediently. *Item for next Agenda.*

E. Update from Claire Bowes re 20mph flashing signs outside the school.

CC Bowes advised that the signs had been ordered but she still did not have an installation date but would keep us informed. *Item for next Agenda.*

F. Complaint letter to Leader of the Council in respect of Planning Committee Meeting held on Monday 12 February 2018 re 3PL/2017/1267/0 – Land adjacent to Caston Primary School – erection of five dwellings and car park for Caston Primary School.

It was agreed to await the outcome of the meeting with the Planning Officer and Agent. *Item for next Agenda.*

CHAIRMAN.....

DATED:

G. Update from Highways re No Stopping Signs

The Clerk advised that Highways had advised that the matter was being monitored. CC Bowes agreed to follow this up. Cllr Lond-Caulk suggested that this needed to be addressed otherwise it would set a precedent for anyone to install their own signs. *Item for next Agenda.*

H. Update re possible purchase of a second SAM2 sign

No update was available. *Item for next Agenda.*

I. Parish Council Website

Cllr Brooker advised that he had made a start on the village hall website. Cllr Brooker advised that the Parish Council website will be quite involved as lots of documents need to be uploaded. It was suggested and generally agreed that three or four years of Minutes are sufficient and the historic Agendas should be dropped.

Cllr Brown suggested that unless the current events section is kept up-to-date, this should also be dropped from the website or needs to be structured properly. *Item for next Agenda.*

J. Defibrillator**The Chairman opened the meeting to the public.**

Cllr Blincow advised that Tony Ash ('TA') maintains the defibrillator and previously provided training for the use of a defibrillator. TA emphasised the importance of the defibrillator and is concerned that very few people are aware of the code to open the defibrillator box. If the brain is deprived of oxygen for more than 3 minutes, the chances of survival are heavily reduced. CPR training is also important and TA advised that he would be happy to provide this training however, equipment would be needed to do so, such as a mannequin, training defib and pads and he himself would need to attend updated training. Costs would likely be in the region of £700. TA suggested that at the very least all WI and all Shed members should be aware of the box number.

Chris Riddell ('CR') is a semi-retired GP and provided some statistics for basic life support.

Cllr Blincow thought it was a good idea that more people are made aware of the box code but that it should not be published to the wider public.

Cllr Brown agreed it was a good idea to provide training and more accessibility to the box code.

A member of the public suggested that NARS possibly offer training sessions but these would be at a cost.

TA advised that there is also a video available which is worth viewing.

Cllr Bowes agreed to enquire whether Norfolk County Council offer any kind of training/use of equipment.

A member of the public emphasised the importance of the code being available having had recent experience of administering CPR and suggested that it needs to be widespread around the village.

Cllr Brown suggested that an article could be written to be published in the Waylander with a list of things we should do when faced with a situation of requiring a defibrillator.

Cllr Brooker suggested that there was a fine balance of whom should have access to the code.

Cllr Farmbrough also stressed that when calling 999, the code would be provided. TA advised that the time element is the important part.

Cllr Blincow advised that Wayland Response encouraged people to call 999 for the code as an ambulance could be sent at the same time.

CHAIRMAN.....

DATED:

Cllr Brooker proposed that we should send a note to all villagers on our email list and enquire who would like to have access to the code. Cllr Brooker will draft an email in this regard.

TA agreed to speak to NARS and obtain a quote for training. Cllr Lond-Caulk agreed to find out the costs incurred by his business for training.

Cllr Brown reiterated the suggestion of an article for the Waylander such as 'This is what we should do ...'. TA and CR agreed to put something together for consideration. **Item for next Agenda.**

The Chairman closed the meeting to the public.

K. Parking at Jujitsu Centre

It was noted that the parking outside the Jujitsu Centre is particularly bad on Wednesday and Friday nights.

Cllr Farmbrough advised that the parking often goes right up to the sharp bend and is extremely dangerous.

Cllr Lond-Caulk suggested that we allow the Jujitsu Centre to use the Village Hall car park. It was pointed out that there would be occasions when this would or might impinge upon Village Hall needs and that we should await the outcome of the PC letter of complaint to the Jujitsu Centre before deciding if the Village Hall should be approached. **Item for next Agenda.**

L. Hedging at Coronation Terrace

It was agreed that the hedge at Coronation Terrace requires cutting and the Clerk will obtain a quote from RG Maintenance in this regard.

12. Correspondence from:-

Any correspondence and associated information added to the Councillors' Folder for circulation. Public Information notices posted to the village noticeboards and websites.

13. To agree the next meeting date Monday 5th November. Agreed.

The Chairman closed the Council Meeting to permit public discussion.

14. Participation and questions from the public – session 2. None.

15. Matters for future discussion.

- Changes in Bus Routes
- Half Year Financial Statements

*Joanne Blackman
Parish Clerk
22 October 2018*

CHAIRMAN.....

DATED: